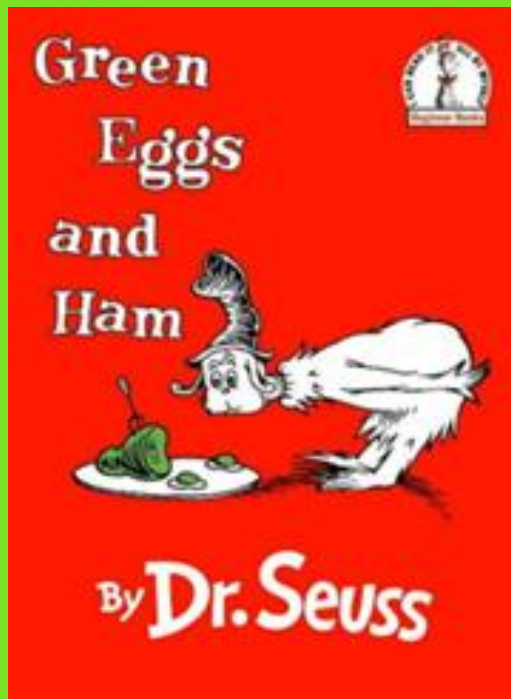


Understanding Plagiarism ... with some help from Dr. Seuss



A plagiarism prevention presentation

by

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(modified slightly by Kerri Moore, MCPS)

Persistent plagiarism problem



Plagiarism is a prominent problem

- Copying seems like an easy way out
 - But it makes instructors shout
- We want students to understand
 - And hope this Powerpoint gives a hand
- We'll begin with an explanation
 - Then turn to Seuss for examination

Persistent plagiarism problem



#1. Clone

Submitting another's work, word-for-word, as one's own



#2. CTRL-C

Contains significant portions of text from a single source without alterations



#3. Find - Replace

Changing key words and phrases but retaining the essential content of the source



#4. Remix

Paraphrases from multiple sources, made to fit together



#5. Recycle

Borrows generously from the writer's previous work without citation



#6. Hybrid

Combines perfectly cited sources with copied passages without citation



#7. Mashup

Mixes copied material from multiple sources



#8. 404 Error

Includes citations to non-existent or inaccurate information about sources



#9. Aggregator

Includes proper citation to sources but the paper contains almost no original work



#10. Re-tweet

Includes proper citation, but relies too closely on the text's original wording and/or structure

http://turnitin.com/assets/en_us/media/plagiarism_spectrum.php

Persistent plagiarism problem



Why does it happen?

- **Lack of knowledge and skills**
 - Students are unaware of procedures for citation and paraphrasing (Estow, Lawrence, & Adams, 2011; Walker, 2008)
- **Authorial identity insecurities**
 - Students are insecure about sounding unimpressive (Ballantine & Larres, 2012)
- **Cultural differences**
 - Martin (2012) found that individualist oriented students were more likely to plagiarize (Western culture is more individualist)
- **Cognitive issues**
 - Students do not perceive what they are doing as unethical (Walker, 2008)

What is plagiarism?



According to www.plagiarism.org:

- “Many people think of plagiarism as copying another's work, or borrowing someone else's original ideas. But terms like ‘copying’ and ‘borrowing’ can disguise the seriousness of the offense.”

What is plagiarism?



“According to the Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary, to ‘plagiarize’ means

- to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own
- to use (another's production) without crediting the source
- to commit literary theft
- to present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source.”

What is plagiarism?



“In other words, plagiarism is an act of fraud. It involves both stealing someone else's work and lying about it afterward.”

(<http://www.plagiarism.org/plagiarism-101/what-is-plagiarism>)

What is plagiarism?



WHAT IS PLAGIARISM?

Deliberate Plagiarism

- Rewriting from books or articles
- copying & pasting from web pages and online sources to create a **patchwork** writing
- buying, downloading, or borrowing a paper



Accidental Plagiarism

- not knowing when & how to cite
- not knowing how to paraphrase or summarize
- not knowing what “common knowledge” is
- recycling an old paper

<http://classguides.lib.uconn.edu/content.php?pid=50827&sid=386249>

Examples of plagiarism



- “turning in someone else's work as your own
- copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit
- failing to put a quotation in quotation marks
- giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation
- changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit
- copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not.”

Is this plagiarism?



Our source and format:

- We will be using *Green Eggs and Ham*, written by Theodor Seuss Geisel (aka Dr. Seuss) in 1960, to help us understand plagiarism.
- We will be using MLA (Modern Language Association of America) citation style.
- For the following examples, imagine that your assignment is to write a paper about perception of unfamiliar food. *Green Eggs and Ham* is one of your sources.

Is this plagiarism?



Please take a look at each sentence and vote for whether or not it is plagiarism.

We will discuss each one as we go.

Good luck!

Is this plagiarism?



Many people do not like green eggs and ham.

- Is this plagiarism?
- **YES!**
- The phrase, “do not like green eggs and ham” was taken directly from someone else’s work, word for word, and was not cited appropriately.

Is this plagiarism?



Many people “do not like green eggs and ham.”

- Is this plagiarism?
- **YES!**
- The phrase “do not like green eggs and ham” is in quotes, showing that it is in fact someone else’s work, but there is no reference listed as a citation.

Is this plagiarism?



**Many people do not like green eggs and ham
(Geisel 12).**

- Is this plagiarism?
- **YES!**
- While a citation is present, the phrase “do not like green eggs and ham” is still taken word for word from Geisel’s work. The lack of quotes implies that these are your words, which they are not.

Is this plagiarism?



Many people “do not like green eggs and ham” (Geisel 12).

- Is this plagiarism?
- **No!**
- The phrase “do not like green eggs and ham” is in quotes, showing that it is someone else’s work, and the correct citation is in place. However, most instructors would prefer you to paraphrase a quote this short and convey the meaning of the source.

Is this plagiarism?



**Many people dislike green ham and eggs
(Geisel 12).**

- Is this plagiarism?
- **YES!**
- This is not adequate paraphrasing. The sentence structure is still too similar to the original quotation, and you can't put this one in quotes because it's not the exact words of Geisel.

Is this plagiarism?



Many people have a strong distaste for forest-colored fowl embryos and cured domesticated pig products (Geisel 12).

- Is this plagiarism?
- **YES!**
- This is still not adequate paraphrasing. The sentence structure is still too similar to the original quotation, and you still can't put this one in quotes because it's not the exact words of Geisel.

Is this plagiarism?



- have a strong distaste = do not like
- forest-colored = green
- fowl embryos = eggs
- and = and
- cured domesticated pig products = ham
- **This is Turnitin's #3 "Find – Replace"**

Is this plagiarism?



Lack of familiarity with particular preparation styles of foods is likely to lead to premature rejection based on ignorance rather than an objective appraisal of the inherent taste qualities of that food (Geisel).

- Is this plagiarism?
- **No!**
- This is an adequate paraphrasing that represents Geisel's intended message, but it's not very readable. In fact, this pretty much represents everything people hate about academic writing.

Is this plagiarism?



When something is unfamiliar or foreign to us, we tend not to judge it fairly (Geisel).

- Is this plagiarism?
- No!
- Finally, we have an adequate paraphrasing that accurately represents Geisel's message and that is clear and easily understood.

Works Cited



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