

Practice with Preventing Plagiarism

Part One:

Read the following scenarios and decide whether or not this constitutes as plagiarism. Explain why you think this.

1. A professor rewrites a thesis of one his graduate students into an article and lists himself as the sole author. Is it plagiarism? Why or why not?
2. Jenny is struggling with coming up with an idea for her paper. Her friend, Samantha, took the class last year and suggests that Jenny uses her paper. Is it plagiarism? Why or why not?
3. You are working on a computer slide show presentation for your literature class. You want to make the point that Shakespeare's works have been plagiarized throughout the centuries. You capture a painting of Shakespeare from the Web for your first slide. Is it plagiarism? Why or why not?
4. In your paper about Shakespeare's works, you include a snippet of famous dialogue from Romeo and Juliet. Is it plagiarism? Why or why not?
5. You write a paper on the legalization of marijuana for your high school Current Events class. You save that paper and hand it in for your Dimensions paper at CCV. Is it plagiarism? Why or why not?

Part Two:

Read the following excerpt from an original source. Then, read what the student has written in his paper. Determine whether or not the student has plagiarized the work, or if it was cited in proper MLA format. For more information on citing sources, please visit: <https://hartness.vsc.edu/help/citing/>

Original Source

The immense popularity of Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, sustained since the novel first appeared in 1897 and reinvigorated by each additional film, stage, or literary adaptation, is perhaps not an entirely surprising phenomenon. *Dracula* is, at its very core, a deeply engaging novel that is still able to startle and concern contemporary readers even at the distance of more than a century. The impressive status that the text has earned in Anglo-American literary culture as the prime artifact of the horror genre is at least partially dependent on Stoker's masterful storytelling. ... *Dracula* (like the Count himself) possesses deeper secrets and hidden complexities that challenge readers to enter into the dark and profoundly sinister world of the novel prepared for the unexpected.

From: Johnson, Allan. "Modernity and Anxiety in Bram Stoker's *Dracula*." *Critical Insights: Dracula*. Lynch, John. Ed. New York: Salem Press, 2010. The source passage is from page 72.

1. Student sample

Allan Johnson points out that the fame of *Dracula* is not surprising since Bram Stoker not only provided an intriguing storyline, but included deeper meanings and themes throughout (72).

Is it plagiarism? Why or why not?

2. Student sample

Dracula is the "prime artifact of the horror genre" with its great storyline and amazing ability to "startle and concern" readers.

Is it plagiarism? Why or why not?

3. Student sample

Dracula possesses deep secrets and hidden complexities that challenge readers and provide endless entertainment.

Is it plagiarism? Why or why not?