

Lesson 8: Plagiarism

Plagiarism is an act of intellectual dishonesty and an unethical behaviour in the academic field. It violates honour codes and may cause an irreparable damage to one's reputation and career. A plagiarized assignment may lead to a failing grade, a suspension or an expulsion. The act of plagiarism may be intentional, reckless or unintentional.

Forms of Plagiarism

Task: Read the definitions (a- i) and complete the table with the following plagiarism forms.

Inaccurate authorship- complete plagiarism- mosaic plagiarism- source-based plagiarism- auto-plagiarism- direct plagiarism- data-fabrication- paraphrasing plagiarism- data-falsification.

Plagiarism form	Definition
	a- The act of submitting someone else's work as one's own. (intellectual theft)
	b- The act of referencing a source that is incorrect or does not exist.
	c- The act of making up data.
	d- The act of changing or omitting data to give false impression.
	e- The act of copying sections of another author word by word without quoting or attribution.
	f- The use of one's own previously published work or significant parts of it without attribution.
	g- The use of someone else's writing with some minor changes in the sentences.
	h- Misleading attribution of the work when an individual contributes to a work without getting credit for it or when an individual gets a credit without contributing to the work.
	i- The act of interlaying someone else's phrases or text within one's own writing.

Tips to avoid plagiarism

- ✓ Take time reading sources and understanding them. Start as early as possible.
- ✓ Make your own outline. Do not follow the outline of the sources.
- ✓ Avoid using unique words from other people's work and especially avoid using their string of words.
- ✓ Avoid using the same structure and organization of ideas found in other people's work. Restate a source in the order that reflects your thoughts about their ideas and use your own tone.
- ✓ Paraphrase without looking at the original text. Write your ideas as though you are explaining things to a friend.
- ✓ Keep track of your sources.
- ✓ Use plagiarism detector.

Answer Key

- a-** complete plagiarism
- b-** source-based plagiarism
- c-** data-fabrication
- d-** data-falsification
- e-** direct plagiarism
- f-** auto-plagiarism
- g-** paraphrasing plagiarism
- h-** Inaccurate authorship
- j-** mosaic plagiarism