Chapter 3

Plagiarism: An Overview

3.1 Preamble

Before discussing the awareness about plagiarism, the source of plagiarism, attitude towards plagiarism and other facts related to it, a thorough understanding of the phenomenon called plagiarism seems to be relevant. This chapter tries to go a little deeper into it.

3.2 Root of the Word ‘Plagiarism’

There are multiple interpretations available on the origin of the word ‘plagiarism’. The word ‘plagiarism’ derived from the Latin word *plagiarius*, which means abducting, kidnapping, seducing or plundering. It also means, a kidnapper who ensnares children or slaves in a *plaga* (net). In the words of Fleming, “The Roman poet Martial (40-102 AD), fiercely protective of his literary creations, was the first to apply the word *plagiarius* to someone who stole his words with false claims of authorship.”¹⁰¹ This enhanced the literature with the term *plagiary* and then, subsequently, the word *plagiarism*, became popular. The theft of words in literature became a widespread problem amidst the culture of books. The modern concept of plagiarism exposed and contributed to the development of copyright law and the status attached to authorship and originality. In the words of More and Shelar, “The English word ‘plagiary’ first surfaced in 1601 in Ben Jonson’s ‘The Poetaster’, means a literary thief who wrongfully takes another’s words or ideas.”¹⁰² In the words of Vinod, “Although Sir William Shakespeare first used the word plagiarism verbatim, Oxford Dictionary gives the credit to Ben Jonson who used the word in print.”¹⁰³
3.3 Meaning & Definitions of Plagiarism

Different views and definitions of plagiarism given by different people from time to time are mentioned below:

In Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary, ‘to plagiarize’ means

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

In Dictionary.com, plagiarism means, “literary theft. Plagiarism occurs when a writer duplicates another writer's language or ideas and then calls the work his or her own.”

In the words of Rampola, “plagiarism is the act of taking the words, ideas, or research of another person and putting them forward without citation as if they were your own. It is intellectual theft and a clear violation of the code of ethics and behavior that most academic institutions have established to regulate the scholastic conduct of their members.”

According to “American Association of University Professors”, plagiarism means, “taking over the ideas, methods, or written words of another, without acknowledgment and with the intention that they be taken as the work of the deceiver.”

According to Joy & Luck, plagiarism means “unacknowledged copying of documents or programs.”
Colwin & Lancaster define plagiarism as “the presentation of another person’s ideas or materials as if it were one’s own.”

In the words of Park, “plagiarism is a type of cheating where students present the work of others as their own for the purpose of academic credit.”

‘Random House Webster’s College Dictionary’ defines plagiarism as “the unauthorized use of the language and thoughts of another author and the representation of them as one’s own.”

Irving defines plagiarism as “the submission of the part or all of another person’s work as if it were one’s own, without the knowledge of the author, and with intention to deceive.”

According to ‘Office of Research Integrity’ (ORI) plagiarism includes “both the theft or misappropriation of intellectual property and the substantial unattributed textual copying of another’s work.”

According to ‘The University of Queensland, Australia’, “the act of misrepresenting as one's own original work the ideas, interpretations, words or creative works of another. These include published and unpublished documents, designs, music, sounds, images, photographs, computer codes and ideas gained through working in a group. These ideas, interpretations, words or works may be found in print and/or electronic media.”

According to English Literary Society, plagiarism can be described as:

- “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.”

3.4 Types of Plagiarism

It is not easy to define the types of plagiarism. Different organizations and persons have given different types, which are mentioned below:

3.4.1 Types of Plagiarism Identified by Lucas

Lucas identified three different forms of plagiarism in his textbook, “The Art of Public Speaking”, which have been mentioned in Table 3.1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. N.</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Global plagiarism</td>
<td>Global plagiarism occurs when an author steals an entire paper word-for-word from another source and passes it off as his or her own.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Patchwork plagiarism</td>
<td>Patchwork plagiarism occurs when an author copies sections of a paper word-for-word from several sources and then fits them together so that they make sense, more or less.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Incremental plagiarism</td>
<td>Incremental plagiarism occurs when the author fails to give credit for specific parts or ‘increments’ of the paper that were borrowed from other sources.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.4.2 Types of Plagiarism Identified by Turnitin.com

Turnitin.com provides ten types of unoriginal work in the white paper “The Plagiarism Spectrum: Tagging 10 Types of Unoriginal Work”\textsuperscript{117}. The types of plagiarism have been mentioned in Table 3.2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. N.</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Clone</td>
<td>Submitting another’s work, word-for-word as one’s own.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>CRTL-C</td>
<td>Contains significant portions of text from a single source without alterations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Find-Replace</td>
<td>Changing key words and phrases, but retaining the essential content of the source.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Remix</td>
<td>Paraphrases from multiple sources, made to fit together.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Recycle</td>
<td>Borrows generously from the writer’s previous work without citation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Hybrid</td>
<td>Combines perfectly cited sources and copied passages without citation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Mash-Up</td>
<td>Mixes copied material from multiple sources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>404 Error</td>
<td>Includes citations to non-existent or inaccurate information about sources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Aggregator</td>
<td>Includes proper citation to sources, but the paper contains almost no original work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Re-tweet</td>
<td>Includes proper citation, but relies too closely on the text’s original wording and/or source.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The above information has been taken from http://pages.turnitin.com/plagiarism_spectrum.html.
3.4.3 Types of Plagiarism, Identified by University of New South Wales (UNSW)

“University of New South Wales”\textsuperscript{118} mentions different types of plagiarism that have been presented in Table 3.3.

Table 3.3
Types of plagiarism identified by University of New South Wales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. N.</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Copying</td>
<td>Using the same words as the original text without acknowledging the source or without using quotation marks is plagiarism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Putting someone else's ideas into own words and not acknowledging the source of the ideas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment, without appropriate acknowledgement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Inappropriate paraphrasing</td>
<td>Using the exact words of someone else, with proper acknowledgement, but without quotation marks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>This also applies in oral presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Collusion</td>
<td>Collusion is acting with another person (or other persons) with the intention to deceive.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 4. **Relying too much on other people’s material** | Repeated use of long quotations (even with quotation marks and with proper acknowledgement).

Using your own ideas, but with heavy reliance on phrases and sentences from someone else without acknowledgement.

Piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing. |
|---|---|
| 5. **Inappropriate citation** | Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the 'secondary' source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

'Padding' reference lists with sources that have not been read or cited within assignments. |
| 6. **Self-plagiarism** | 'Self-plagiarism’ occurs where an author republishes, his/her own previously written work and presents it as new without referencing the earlier work, either in its entirety or partially.

Self-plagiarism is also referred to as 'recycling', 'duplication', or 'multiple submissions of research findings' without disclosure. |

**Source:** Above information has been taken from https://student.unsw.edu.au/common-forms-plagiarism.

### 3.5 Circumstances of Plagiarism

Plagiarism occur under two circumstances one is intentional another is unintentional. In the words of Palmquist, “plagiarism, a form of intellectual dishonesty, involves unintentionally using someone else's work without properly acknowledging where the idea(s) came from (the most common form of plagiarism) or intentionally copying someone else's work and passing it off as your own (the most serious form of plagiarism).”\(^{119}\)
3.5.1 **Intentional Plagiarism**

Intentional plagiarism occurs if person intentionally copying other material and not citing the source deliberately. It includes, copying other’s work, copying and pasting form online source, purchasing papers from paper mills etc.

3.5.2 **Unintentional Plagiarism**

Unintentional plagiarism occurs when even if a person does not have any intention to plagiarized, but he/she has not given the references in proper manner, then they indulged in plagiarism. “Unintentional plagiarism includes careless paraphrasing, paraphrasing a source without citing, forget footnote etc.”

3.6 **Intellectual Property**

According to World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), “Intellectual Property (IP) refers to creations of the mind, such as inventions; literary and artistic works; designs; and symbols, names and images used in commerce. It is protected in law by, for example, patents, copyright and trademarks, which enable people to earn recognition or financial benefit from what they invent or create.”

3.7 **Copyright**

According to World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), “Copyright (or author’s right) is a legal term used to describe the rights that creators have over their literary and artistic works. Works covered by copyright range from books, music, paintings, sculpture, and films, to computer programs, databases, advertisements, maps, and technical drawings.”

Copyright is protected by Copyright Law. Copyright laws protect the financial interests of the creators, producers, and distributors of original works. When most
people create something – a book, music –whatever. They hope to make money and support themselves. But, if people use those materials and not pay for them, they are robbing the artists, authors, and others of their livelihood! Not only that, they are breaking copyright laws. Breaking copyright laws is called Copyright Infringement.

3.8 Copyright Infringement

“Copyright infringement is using someone else’s work without getting that person’s permission. The author of any original work, including books, essays, web pages, songs, pictures and videos, automatically gets the copyright to that work, even if he/she doesn’t label it with a copyright symbol and his/her name.”

The work must be fixed in tangible form, which means it must be stored on something physical, such as paper, canvas, a CD or a hard disk. The owner of a copyright gets to decide who can legally make copies of that work. It is illegal to copy large sections of someone else's copyrighted work without permission, even if you give the original author credit.

3.9 Fair Use

A fair use exemption allows to legally copying small amounts of someone else's work. The author must be given the due credit. In the words of Pressman, “the fair use doctrine allows the use of copyrighted works without the permission of the copyright owner. Fair use is a legal concept, and the test for determining if a use is fair is contained in the Copyright Act of 1976. But fair use is also an ethical concept because it involves a determination of when it is fair to use someone's property.”
3.10 Difference between Plagiarism and Copyright Infringement

Plagiarism is using someone else’s work without giving proper credit. Plagiarism doesn’t have to include copyright infringement. Dames discussed the difference between plagiarisms from copyright infringement. In the words of Dames, “copyright is a set of laws that governs the creation, reproduction and distribution of original works that can be perceived. Plagiarism, in comparison, is the act of stealing and passing off someone else's ideas or words as one’s own without crediting the source. While a recorded idea can be subject to plagiarism and copyright infringement, a person could use a recorded idea if that use falls under one or more copyright exceptions.”

“The main difference between plagiarism and copyright is one of permission and attribution. Plagiarism focuses on attributing credit to (providing a citation for) ideas borrowed, while copyright centers on gaining permission to copy author’s work.” This has been presented in Table 3.4.

Table: 3.4

“Plagiarism and Copyright Explanatory Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extensively quoting from a work (&gt; 10%)</th>
<th>Violation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>With permission +</td>
<td>With attribution =</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without permission +</td>
<td>Without attribution =</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without permission +</td>
<td>With attribution =</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With permission +</td>
<td>Without attribution =</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Copyright infringement and Plagiarism.
Copyright infringement only
Plagiarism only
The copyright and plagiarism explanation above is based on information from two university plagiarism tutorials: North Carolina State University and Georgetown University."

3.11 Plagiarism Cases Happened in India and Abroad

Plagiarism is a very serious but a common problem in research. There have been many plagiarism cases detected in India and abroad. The purpose of presentation of these cases here is not to criticize or defame or blame others, but the purpose of presentation of these cases is to show the necessity of creating an awareness of consequences of plagiarism. The cases motioned here not only describe the seriousness of the problem but also show that plagiarism can destroy any one’s career.

1. A person\textsuperscript{127} was awarded Ph.D. by the Banaras Hindu University in 1976 for his thesis in English entitled, “A Critical Study of the Suta Samhita”. As per his allegation, almost 80% of his thesis has been plagiarized by another person in Hindi verbatim including footnotes, charts and tables. He submitted his thesis entitled, “Suta Samhita ka Alocanatmak Adhyayan” to Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth University and got a Ph.D. in 1981. After that, the person converted this thesis into a book and got published by a famous indological book publishers, Chowkhamba Vidyabhavan, Banaras. A few sample pages of the original thesis and plagiarist’s book have been presented in Appendix II.

2. More and Shelar\textsuperscript{128} mentioned in their paper, “S.P. Gupta registered for Ph.D. under Romila Thapar in Delhi University on the topic, ‘Disposal of the Dead and Physical Types in Ancient India’ and subsequently got engaged in many other works in India and abroad, meanwhile P. Singh
completed his thesis more or less on the same theme entitled ‘Burial Practices in Ancient India’ in 1968 under the guidance of Prof. A.K. Narain in Banaras Hindu University, which he got published in 1970. Though the approaches of both differ significantly, still when S.P. Gupta published his work in 1972 he had to defend this unintentional act in the Preface in the following words: “To the best of my knowledge, I was the first to take up the subject for the Ph.D. Thesis…Unfortunately, due to my chequered career inside and outside the country, I could not complete it in time and meanwhile my friend and younger colleague Dr. P. Singh did a commendable work in this direction and also published a monograph, which I have only recently seen.”

3. “The book Quantitative Techniques for Managerial Decisions by U.K. Srivastava (a CMA Prof. at IIMA), G.V. Shenoy & S.C Sharma had copied without acknowledgment of the source at least in ten different places including five foreign books and some other Indian books.”129

4. In August 2005, ‘The Tribune’ published from Chandigarh reported a case of plagiarism in a textbook prescribed by Maharshi Dayanand University. It was reported that “the book ‘Sanskrit Bhasha Darshanam’ by Dr Yajna Vir Dahiya published in 2000 by Bhartiya Vidy Prakashan, Delhi had many chapters which were similar to a book Sanskrit Vyakaran Darshan by Dr Ram Suresh Tripathi and published by Rajkamal Prakashan, Delhi in 1975”. It was also reported that another book written by the same author entitled ‘Panini as a Linguist: Ideas and Patterns’ published in 1995 by Eastern Book Linkers, Delhi contained a chapter which was identical to a paper written by Dr. Jag Deva Singh in 1974 in the International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics Vol. 3 pp.287-320.”130
5. On 3 March 2012, the Director of IIM Indore, N. Ravichandran, was asked by the Centre to respond to an accusation of plagiarism against him and another senior faculty member of the Institute, Omkar D. Palsule-Desai. They had submitted a paper - The management case on "Euthanasia: Should it be Lawful or Otherwise?" An Ahmedabad-based researcher K.R. Narendrababu has complained that the paper was sourced heavily from a Supreme Court judgment without adequate attribution. One month later, on 12 April, a veteran industrialist Mr. L. N. Jhunjhunwala, who is also the Chairman of the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Indore's Board of Governors resigned citing major differences with Dr. N. Ravichandran. Another board member and Bhopal-based retired IAS officer Dr. M. N. Buch also resigned.

6. In 2007, appeared another controversy, this time surrounding authors from Anna University and Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR) publishing an article in the Journal of Materials Science. The article written by K. Muthukumar, T. Mathews, S. Selladurai and R. Bokalawela was reported to be a reproduction of an article published earlier in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS) by David Andersson and others at the Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden. In a correction published online, the journal reported that the article 'does not just plagiarize the results presented in the PNAS paper but actually copies most of it word for word'. The journal had started an investigation and is also working with officials at the two institutions. The three authors other than the first author have distanced themselves from the paper and the first author has accepted his mistake.
7. A vice-chancellor resigned in 2003 after he and a student were found guilty of plagiarism of a paper (which formed part of the student's thesis).\textsuperscript{136-137}

8. “Sangiliyandi Gurunathan, a professor from Kalasalingam University in India, has been found to be involved in plagiarism and he has been fired from the job.”\textsuperscript{138}

9. H. Rangaswami and colleagues from the group of Dr. Gopal Kundu have misrepresented data in a paper published in \textit{Journal of Biological Chemistry}. The allegation was that they had rehashed the same set of data which they had published earlier. In November 2010, after an internal investigation by its ethics committee, the Indian Academy of Sciences banned Gopal Kundu from participating in their activities for three years.\textsuperscript{139}

10. Prof. P. Chiranjeevi, Chemistry professor of Sri Venkateswara University (SVU) was accused of plagiarizing more than 70 research papers published between 2004 and 2007. University Executive Council has banned him from undertaking examination work and research guidance. He has been debarred from securing further promotions and appointments to administrative positions.\textsuperscript{140}

11. “Prof. Kalyan Kumar, VC of North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology, NERIST, India and colleagues have been literally copied works of other authors and presenting them in his names.”\textsuperscript{141}

12. Ashok Pandey is a scientist at the National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology of India's Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). He is the editor of several well-known international journals in Biotechnology. He appears in the list of most cited authors and received the Thomson Scientific Citation Laureate Award 2006. His paper

13. A retired academic at Calcutta University, Mahimaranjan Adhikari and his Ph.D student L.K.Pramanik, have been found to be indulging in plagiarism, by the American Mathematical Society.”143

14. “The German Chancellor Angela Merkel Annette Schavan, a member of Merkel’s cabinet and the Education Minister for the country, resigned after her PhD was revoked following an investigation into her doctoral thesis that found evidence of plagiarism.”144

15. “Salami slicing, dual, duplicate or redundant publication and data fragmentation are different types of self-plagiarism. Salami slicing publication is partitioning or dissection of one study and reporting in multiple publications.”145


3.12 Conclusion
These incidents have been reported in this context exclusively for strengthening the researcher’s claim that the area of plagiarism needs utmost concentration and focus in the research works, especially in the field of Library and Information Science. No personal offence meant to any of the scholars mentioned above.

**References**


111. *Random House Webster’s College Dictionary.*


“Rehashing catches up- Once-acquitted biologist barred for 3 years”
*The Telegraph (Kolkata, India.)* November 14, 2010. Accessed April 15, 2014,


http://www.ithenticate.com/plagiarism-detection-blog/bid/91110/German-Education-Minister-Resignation-Plagiarism-or-Politics.

More Trupti and Shelar Vandana, “Plagiarism and Copyright
Violation: A Need of Information Literacy Framewor towards Ethical Use