

## 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Internet Safety Lesson Plan-4

<b>Subject:</b> Intellectual Property	<b>Internet Topic:</b> <i>Research and Plagiarism</i>
<b>Grade Level:</b> 12	
<b>Standards Addressed For This Lesson:</b> 12.8 a, e <span style="float: right;">C/T 9-12.3, C/T 9-12.4, C/T 9-12.5</span>	
<b>Essential Skills:</b> The Student will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- identify the ethical issues of documentation in research writings</li> <li>- collect and synthesize information, using a variety of print and electronic sources</li> <li>- cite sources of information, using MLA or APA style</li> <li>- avoid committing plagiarism.</li> </ul>	
<b>Resources:</b> Grade 12 Article: “Research and Plagiarism”	
<b>Teaching Objectives:</b> Literacy Obj.: Students will read the above article, apply the corresponding vocabulary and answer the questions in correct form.  Behaviour Obj.: Students must avoid committing plagiarism.	<b>Vocabulary:</b> Plagiarism Cursory Breach of contract Intellectual property Veracity Plethora Endeavour Emblazoned Condense information
<b>Timing</b>	<b>Planned Content/ Lesson Outline</b>
5 mins	Discuss: What is copying? What is borrowing? What is stealing? What is copyright? Do any students have a copyright on anything?
5 mins	Read: Research and Plagiarism article
5 mins	Answer questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. True/False It isn't plagiarism if you have paid for the research paper.</li> <li>2. True/False Altering some of the wording on a purchased research paper prevents plagiarism.</li> <li>3. True/False There is a contract between the author and reader that says the work is original.</li> <li>4. True/False The Internet is the only source for information for research papers.</li> <li>5. True/False Wikipedia is a current, popular and accurate source for information appropriate for research paper writing.</li> </ol> 1.) False 2.) False 3.) True 4.) False 5.) False
<b>Differentiation:</b> Pair students for reading. Mark text for stops for Read/Retell summary to facilitate comprehension. Students can be provided with adapted reading materials for struggling readers.	
<b>Assessment:</b> There will be an oral review for understanding of vocabulary terms. Also, any reading comprehension questions can be assessed for correct answers according to the text.	
<b>Extension/homework:</b> Students explore a selection of websites related to plagiarism on the Internet and copyright ethics.	

Grade 12 Article:

### *Research and Plagiarism*

Writing quality research papers is a skill. Anyone with an internet connection and a few library books can craft a decent paper, but it takes more than just a cursory search of any topic to do a great paper. Not everyone wants to devote the time and energy needed to research, outline, write, and edit such a seemingly worthless assignment. The quickest and easiest way to cop out of doing serious investigative research on the subject matter you chose is to steal from someone else. Once you have passed off work as your own, it is considered a contract with all who read it that it is your original thoughts and words. Breach of contract can carry severe punishment, and in a school setting, plagiarism is often a crime a student will commit and receive expulsion from school. For easy reference, equate stealing someone else's work with shoplifting their intellectual property. Even if you purchase it from them or they outright give it to you, you have violated the assignment handed down by the teacher.

Real estate can be bought and sold, but once held by a particular individual, only they have the authority to decide what happens to it. Intellectual property is like real estate in the sense that once the author owns the deed to the property, you cannot just decide to build a house, or in this case, build upon their artistic foundation without their permission. Perhaps you find a research paper online that captures the very essence of your subject better than you could ever hope to achieve. Knowing that outright copying will get you caught, you instead choose to alter the words just enough that it sounds like you wrote it. This is still plagiarism and can be punished with equal veracity as if you had copied the work word for word. Finding sources and crediting those sources are both necessary in producing a quality research paper.

What frustrates teachers most is that there is a plethora of resources to find excellent research materials on nearly any subject right at your fingertips. Most colleges pay thousands of dollars each year for services they offer free to students. For example, Jstor, which is an online archive that provides access to thousands of scholarly journals, costs approximately \$6,500 annually for a large school system to use only one section of its arts and science collection. Add in the cost of schools needing more than just one section and you begin to grasp the magnitude of money spent to provide students with first-rate academic resources. There are also online libraries, many of which will require a subscription, that allow students to browse by subject, title, author, etc., and read available works from title page to index.

Your local libraries have online catalogs that allow you to browse titles and in some cases, reserve books to be picked up later. Most school systems offer a service called Worldcat that accesses hundreds of thousands of libraries across the world. You can request a given book be sent to your school's library and they will find the work in the closest library to you and send it at no cost. If you are covering a topic such as government policy, politics, or military, government Web sites are always helpful. These sites will always end in .gov addresses, so you know they are made by the people who know a tremendous amount about your topic. Sites such as the Internet Public Library (*ipl.org*) post links to nearly any subject that send you straight to resources providing primary sources, texts, and scholarly articles that will enhance your knowledge of a subject and by default, make your writing better. Another overlooked source is museums, which typically have top-notch online resources about the subject they cover. Remember, the people who work in these museums are among the most knowledgeable in their fields.

For all the quality information you will locate on the internet ocean, there is just as much useless or irrelevant information floating next to it. Perhaps the most popular non-academic research is Wikipedia, which allows users to write and update encyclopedia-like entries on any number of topics. Never rely on Wikipedia, or sites similar to it, that are not written or at least

edited by experts in that field. If your topic is U.S. General George S. Patton and the bulk of their information is derived from the movie *Patton*, you can immediately discount it as mostly factually incorrect. The same applies to Web sites that are written by perceived enthusiasts or individuals with enough interest in a given topic to create a Web page. They may know a great deal of accurate information, but you would never want to cite them as an educational source. The best tip to keep in mind while browsing such sites is to check their sources. If they do not cite any, it is best to stay away. The best way to utilize these sites is for basic information you can use as a jumping-off point to a better source; a way to generate key words for refining your search.

There are thousands of acres of intellectual property dotting the artistic landscape waiting to be claimed. By approaching paper writing as an artistic and intellectual endeavour, you will be less inclined to plagiarize; since we all know that plagiarizing is against the law. Use the internet as a tool for locating new research and for finding quality sources. Remember, once you turn in the paper with your name emblazoned on the front, it is like handing over a piece of art with your signature painted neatly in the lower right corner for all who pass it to see. Knowing how to do proper research and condense it for the purposes of a paper will help not only at the next level of education, but in your future career as well. Cheating on papers now may net you only a failing grade, but continue the cycle and one day the stakes will be higher than you could have ever imagined.