

# Self-Plagiarism: How to Define It and Why You Should Avoid It

Well, do you want the short answer or the long answer? If you want the short answer then it's YES. But if you want a long answer and you want to know how to avoid this then you will need to stick with me. First, let me tell you that you need to understand what self-plagiarism truly is. You need to think that if I [Write my essay](#), then what type of content will be considered as self-plagiarism. For this, you need to know what plagiarism truly is.

It's a long train of thought but it will help you write the best essays.

So, let us begin.

## What is plagiarism?

Ok, so. Back to the basics.

Plagiarism is when you copy-paste something from the internet and put it in your essay. Then you say that the copy-pasted content is written BY YOU.

That's plagiarism. That's cheating and it also happens to be illegal. YES!. Do check out your university policies... They say that you cannot submit plagiarized content. AT ALL.

And contract violation is illegal.

So yeah.

## What if I don't say it's written by me?

Then it's not plagiarism.

Suppose that you find a nice quote on the internet and you are about to put it in your essay. DO IT! BUT...

Make sure that you mention that it's not your quote. Here, you will have to mention who said the quote and when. This is called citation and this saves you from plagiarism. [write essay for me](#) online site are available on the internet.

As long as you are honest, there is nothing that you need to worry about.

**So,**

It's the type of plagiarism that you do with your own work. For example, let's say that you wrote an essay on global warming in one semester.

Then in the next semester, you had to write an essay on global warming AGAIN. So, you decide that you do not want to waste your energy as an [essay writer](#). You just go back to the essay that you have written and copy it.

Or, you even change it a bit and submit it.

What you are doing here is cheating. You are presenting your old content and you are saying that it's new when it's copied.

THIS is self-plagiarism.

**But, I have not taken the work of anyone else!!**

That's a fair argument.

You have not stolen the work of anyone else. You have just taken your own work and either modified it or copied it. But the thing is that you have copied it.

Here you can think that plagiarism is copying. If you have copied ANYTHING then it's plagiarism. Your work needs to be original and totally authentic.

So, no copying.

**What if I change the words?**

That's still plagiarism.

When I say copy, I do not JUST mean CTRL+C and CTRL+V. I also mean that the contents of your essays will be the same. Exactly the same. So, if you are talking about global warming and discussing its causes then you can't just discuss the same causes in BOTH ESSAYS.

But if you discuss different causes in both essays and make the introduction and conclusion different then that's not plagiarism.

**Then how do I avoid plagiarism?**

Lemme tell you how you are going to do that. You can easily avoid plagiarism of ANY kind if you follow these tips.

### **Tip #1: No Copying**

You have probably gathered that much by now but let me make it official. You cannot just copy anything that you see on the internet. The professional [essay writer online](#) is the best writer to help us in writing.

You can look for valid points or clues on the internet. That is called researching and that is legit. But if you copy something then that will automatically be detected.

### **Tip #2: Citations**

Use citations.

This means that you need to tell the reader where your quote or even an idea came from. In most citations, you mention the author's name and the year in which they said what you are claiming what they said.

### **Tip #3: Quotes**

If you do want to copy then copy small. Like a few lines only. Try not to use block quotes i.e., quotes longer than 4 lines unless you absolutely have to.

When you use direct quotes and put them in quotation marks then NO ONE can claim that it's plagiarism as you were completely honest about your work.

#### **Tip #4: Plagiarism Checker**

Use a plagiarism checker.

These are specific software that is designed to make sure that there is no plagiarism in your essay. You must have heard of Turn It In, after all. an [essay writer](#) can guide you on how to write an essay in your own words.

Well, get one of these software and check your plagiarism percentage on it. It will tell you WHICH content is plagiarized and you can modify it.

#### **Tip #5: Paraphrase**

Look, if you find a good point on the internet and you want to include it in your essay then you can do it. But you need to say it in your own words.

You need to express it in your way and you need to ensure that you properly link it with your ideas. The ideas that you have presented in the essay.

#### **But, do you truly want to avoid plagiarism?**

If so, then let me give you the best suggestion YET! Try an [essay writing service](#) online and see the results for yourself. They send you a plagiarism report along with your essay so you can check the mistakes for yourself.

This way, you will learn how to write your own plagiarism-free essays. So, why not get started right now?

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