Plagiarism

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1. Definition

- Oxford English Dictionary defines plagiarism as:
  - 'to take somebody else's ideas or words and use them as if they were one's own.
  - 'plagiarism is the act of copying, including or directly quoting from the work of another without adequate acknowledgement'

Plagiarism

"In an academic setting, authoring a document constitutes a representation that the author is the source of all ideas and words not otherwise attributed.

Thus, failure to attribute borrowed words or ideas constitutes plagiarism

PLAGIARISM IS BOTH A LIE AND A THEFT"

L.H Edwards, *Legal Writing Process, Analysis and Organization* (2nd ed. 1999) p.10

Plagiarism

- Plagiarism covers ALL INSTANCES in which the work of another is used without sufficient acknowledgement, not just the cases of deliberate copying without acknowledging the source.

2. Referencing

- You avoid plagiarism by ensuring that every piece of writing you create is fully and properly referenced.

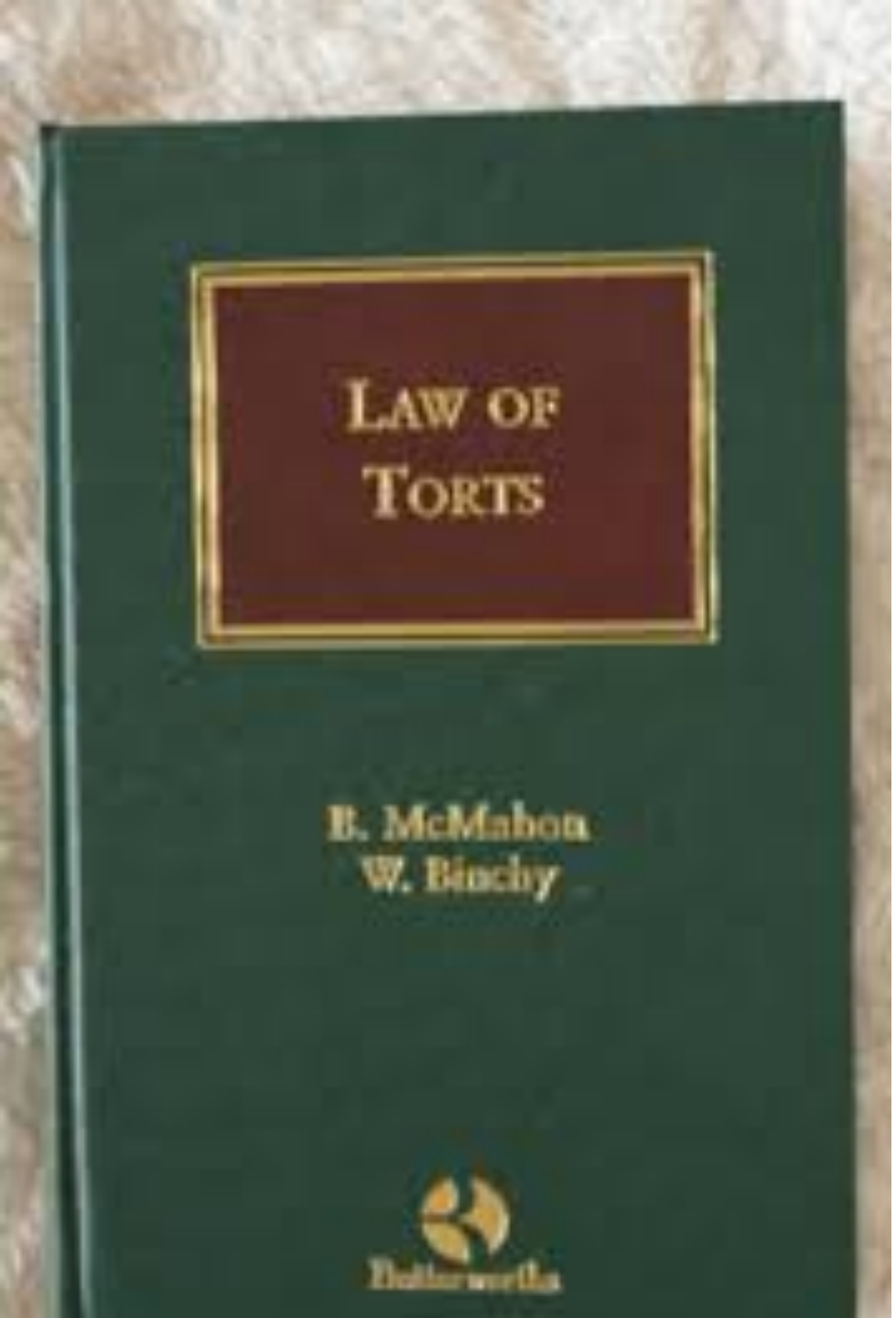
- Further mention of reference and citation style is made below.

Referencing

- When to reference?

AND

- How to reference?



When to reference?

- Books – Example:

- Bryan McMahon and William Binchy, *The Law of Torts* (3rd ed. Butterworths 2000).

When to reference?

2. Direct Quotations

- You must attribute each and every quotation to its author and the book/article/journal from which it was drawn, as well as page number or paragraph number.

When to reference?

- Unless common knowledge, other material must be attributed to its source.

- What is Common knowledge?

3. Incorporation of Another's Work

There are three main ways of incorporating the work of another author into your legal writing:

- Summarising
- Paraphrasing
- Direct Quotation

Summarising

- This occurs when the student rewrites the author's original words in a shortened form, but captures the key points which the author made.

Paraphrasing

- This occurs when the student rewrites the author's original words but retains the original meaning which the original author made.

Direct Quotation

- This occurs when the student writes the author's words exactly.

Incorporation of Another's Work

- All three instances require that the student reference the original author's work because to do otherwise would be plagiarism.

- This is because in all three instances, the work is not the original work of the student but that of the original author.

Incorporation of Another's Work

GOLDEN RULE:

IF IN DOUBT - REFERENCE

4. Common Knowledge

- If the material you include in your legal writing is of common knowledge you are not required to reference the source.

- There is no generally accepted rule or definition as to what constitutes

"common knowledge"

Common Knowledge

AGAIN: THE GOLDEN RULE

IF IN DOUBT - REFERENCE

5. Inadvertent Plagiarism

- Inadvertent plagiarism is poor or lazy referencing resulting in incomplete referencing of another's ideas, words or work in the student's piece of legal writing.

* Please note it is still plagiarism.

6. Deliberate Plagiarism

- Deliberate plagiarism is when a student takes a conscious and deliberate decision to pass the work of another as their piece of writing without acknowledging the original author.

Why do Students Plagiarise?

- Laziness/Sloppiness/Ignorance
- In order to obtain a higher mark
- Poor time management
- Regardless of the reason, there is no excuse for plagiarism

7. Citation

- In order to defeat any suggestion of plagiarism, you must fully and accurately reference your piece of legal writing using an appropriate style of citation consistently.

GOLDEN RULE

- IF IN DOUBT - REFERENCE

Popular softwares for similarity

- DupliChecker
- Copyleaks
- Paper Rater
- Plagiarisma
- Plagiarism Checker
- Plag Tracke
- Viper

Ithenticate

- مشابهت یاب
- ایرانداک (همانند جو)

Feature	Turnitin & iThenticate	Checkfor Plagiarism.net	Grammarly	Plagramme	Viper	Plagtracker	Dustball	Duplichecker	Paper rater
Free/paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Free & Paid	Free & Paid	Free & Paid	Free & Paid	Free	Free & Paid
Database used	Journals, Books, Magazines, Abstracts, Webpages	Journals, Books, Magazines, Abstracts, Webpages	Webpages	Journals, Books, Magazines, Abstracts, Webpages	Journals, Books, Webpages	Webpages, University databases	Webpages	Webpages	Webpages
Report nature	Similarity and sources	Similarity and sources	Similarity and sources	Similarity and sources	Similarity and sources	Similarity and sources	Similarity only	Similarity and sources	Similarity and sources
Offline report	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No

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- The documents could be provided & upload in the form of MS Word file, PDF file or any other text file.
  - The document should be less than 25,000 words. If a larger document with less than 75,000 words or three single documents needs to be checked.
- Thanks to Dr. Kabiri

Each year iThenticate checks 14 million documents for plagiarism

Comparing each submission to our content database including:

82 million

Academic articles, books, and conference proceedings from 47,000 scientific, technical, medical journals and 200,000 US law reviews

135 million

Open Access articles, books, conference proceedings, pre-prints, encyclopedias, and abstracts

90+ billion

Current and archived web pages

The acceptable percentage of similarity?

- 10-15% is accepted but even in 15% similarity, if the matching text is one continuous block of borrowed material, it is plagiarized text

- Thank you very much