

ENG202Y L5101 2002-2003
Prof Woodland
Value: 0% (Credit Only)
Due Date: Oct. 1

Plagiarism Assignment

Below you will find a passage from the book *Chaucer's Sexual Poetics* by Carolyn Dinshaw, published by the University of Wisconsin Press in Madison, Wisconsin in 1989. Use it as the basis for the 5 exercises that appear after the quotation. In each of the exercises, you should begin with a sentence or two of your own that help to introduce the plagiarized material, and then insert the passage according to the models provided in the "Plagiarism" handout (see below).

The wife manipulates the classical letter, the body, but does so to suggest something about just such a misogynistic strategy: it deprives not only the female of her significance but the male of self-understanding. (Dinshaw, 127)

1. Plagiarize this passage according to method #4 as described in the "Plagiarism" handout.
2. Plagiarize this passage according to any three other methods outlined in the "Plagiarism" handout.
3. Give an example of the proper use of the passage as a direct quotation.
4. Give an example of a proper paraphrase of the passage.
5. Write a bibliographical entry for the book from which the passage has been excerpted, following the model in the "Plagiarism" handout.

Plagiarism

The following is a somewhat more detailed description of the different forms of plagiarism than that provided in Margaret Proctor's handout, "How Not To Plagiarize." Please remember that there are no "grey areas" in plagiarism. You've either been honest in your work or you haven't.

If for any reason you decide to consult some published material on the work you are discussing in your essay, you **MUST** indicate exactly how this work has influenced your essay. This process involves two simple steps: First, you must include in your list of "Works Cited" an entry for every publication you refer to in the course of your essay. Then, you must ensure that every quotation or paraphrase from each such work is followed by a parenthetical reference to the relevant publication listed in the "Works Cited." There is no such thing as a book or article that has influenced you in a "general way," but to which you make no reference in your essay. If the work in question has influenced your essay, it will be appropriately acknowledged therein through referenced quotations and/or paraphrases.

Such use of secondary material is not a sign of weakness or of a lack of originality, but rather demonstrates good research skills and a willingness to learn as much as possible about the topic. It shows a realization that literary criticism is a conversation among writers interested in the same subjects, and indicates your eagerness to participate in that conversation on an equal footing with more experienced critics. Failure to indicate how you have used such material, on the other hand, contravenes the academic guidelines of the university and will be punished in accordance with those guidelines.

The following examples of plagiarism all involve the misuse of published material. **It goes without saying that the submission of work that makes unacknowledged use of unpublished material written by any person other than yourself (i.e. a friend or a person to whom you have paid money for such work) constitutes plagiarism.**

Plagiarism: Seven Methods

Here is a sentence from a critic who has written a book about Flannery O'Connor. The book is by Richard Giannone; the title is *Flannery O'Connor and the Mystery of Love*.

Throughout her contriving, the grandmother couches self-interest in a language of morals that shifts responsibility onto others.

Now, here are seven different ways in which a student might plagiarize this passage:

Method #1

A student has written the following two sentences as part of an essay. The essay does not contain a list of "Works Cited":

The grandmother seems at first to be a thoroughly unpleasant character. Throughout her contriving, the grandmother couches self-interest in a language of morals that shifts responsibility onto others.

This is plagiarism, since the author's words have been copied exactly from the source, and at no time is the author of that source acknowledged.

Method #2

This time, the student has written the same two sentences shown in version #1, but has included an entry for the source of the second sentence in his/her list of "Works Cited" (normally, this list would be placed at the very end of the paper):

The grandmother seems at first to be a thoroughly unpleasant character. Throughout her contriving, the grandmother couches self-interest in a language of morals that shifts responsibility onto others.

Works Cited

Giannone, Richard. *Flannery O'Connor and the Mystery of Love*. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1989.

The student has still committed plagiarism, since the reader has no idea that the second sentence in the given passage has come from this source. You must separate all quotations from your own text by placing the quoted material within quotation marks or, in the case of longer quotations, by indenting the entire quotation; and it is **essential** that the quotation be followed by a parenthetical reference to the source of the quotation. Listing a work in your "Works Cited" to which you make no direct reference in your essay is tantamount to placing a 36-point boldface banner at the end of the essay that reads "This essay contains plagiarized material." You should never list a work in your "Works Cited" if you have not referred to it in the course of the essay.

Method #3:

The student has indicated the source and page number of the quotation in a parenthetical reference after the borrowed sentence, and given the details about the source in the list of "Works Cited":

The grandmother seems at first to be a thoroughly unpleasant character. Throughout her contriving, the grandmother couches self-interest in a language of morals that shifts responsibility onto others (Giannone 48).

Works Cited

Giannone, Richard. *Flannery O'Connor and the Mystery of Love*. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1989.

The student has still plagiarized the passage, since s/he has failed to place quotation marks around the sentence. The student is thus falsely claiming these words to be his/her own paraphrase of the source.

Method #4

This student has provided what she claims to be a paraphrase of the passage, and given a parenthetical reference to the source listed in the "Works Cited":

The grandmother seems at first to be a thoroughly unpleasant character. For example, she disguises personal wants in a language of ethics that redirects accountability onto others (Giannone 48).

Works Cited

Giannone, Richard. *Flannery O'Connor and the Mystery of Love*. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1989.

This is plagiarism, because the paraphrase is not a true paraphrase; it follows the exact sentence structure of the original sentence, and does not represent the student's own interpretation of what the critic in question is saying. The student has done no original thinking.

Method #5

Again, the student has provided what s/he claims to be a paraphrase of the passage, and given a parenthetical reference to the source listed in the "Works Cited":

The grandmother seems at first to be a thoroughly unpleasant character. For example, she uses a language of morals in which to couch self-interest, and thereby shifts responsibility onto others throughout her contriving (Giannone 48).

Works Cited

Giannone, Richard. *Flannery O'Connor and the Mystery of Love*. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1989.

This sample is still not a true paraphrase; the student has merely rearranged the structure of the original sentence. The student has done no original thinking or writing.

Method #6

Here's another paraphrase, and this time the student has really used his/her own words and sentence structure:

The grandmother seems at first to be a thoroughly unpleasant character. She is extremely manipulative, and, rather than expressing her desires honestly as desires, she transforms them into a series of moral imperatives which others ignore at the risk of being found wanting.

However, the student failed to include a parenthetical reference to Giannone's book (which s/he also failed to include in the list of "Works Cited").

Method #7

Same paraphrase as above, but with one difference:

The grandmother seems at first to be a thoroughly unpleasant character. She is extremely manipulative, and, rather than expressing her desires honestly as desires, she transforms them into a series of moral imperatives which others ignore at the risk of being found wanting.

Works Cited

Giannone, Richard. *Flannery O'Connor and the Mystery of Love*. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1989.

Unfortunately, the list of "Works Cited" does not save the student from the charge of plagiarism, since there is no parenthetical reference to indicate that the second sentence of the passage in question is a paraphrase. And, of course, any dishonest paraphrase (as in versions 4 and 5) without **both** a parenthetical reference and an entry for the source in the "Works Cited" would similarly constitute a case of plagiarism.

How to Cite Sources

Method #1: Direct Quotation

Here's an example of an appropriate use of direct quotation:

The grandmother seems at first to be a thoroughly unpleasant character. For example, Richard Giannone notes that "Throughout her contriving, the grandmother couches self-interest in a language of morals that shifts responsibility onto others" (Giannone 48).

Works Cited

Giannone, Richard. *Flannery O'Connor and the Mystery of Love*. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1989.

Note that the student has introduced the quotation with a short phrase of her own. You should always weave the quotation into the structure of your own sentence. Simply dropping in quotations without any preparation or introduction results in a disjointed and clumsy prose style, as in the following example:

The grandmother seems at first to be a thoroughly unpleasant character. "Throughout her contriving, the grandmother couches self-interest in a language of morals that shifts responsibility onto others" (Giannone 48).

Works Cited

Giannone, Richard. *Flannery O'Connor and the Mystery of Love*. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1989.

This isn't plagiarism, but it's not good writing, either.

Method #2: Paraphrase

Here's an appropriate use of paraphrase:

The grandmother seems at first to be a thoroughly unpleasant character. As Giannone suggests, she is extremely manipulative, and, rather than expressing her desires honestly as desires, she transforms them into a series of moral imperatives which others ignore at the risk of being found wanting (Giannone 48).

Works Cited

Giannone, Richard. *Flannery O'Connor and the Mystery of Love*. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1989.

Note that the reference to Giannone in the student's own sentence lets the reader know, in the absence of quotation marks, *exactly* which ideas are Giannone's and which are the student's.