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Aisyah Vanadia Rubianto1, *, Ima Kristanti1, Putri Ayu Berlianingtyas11Accounting Department, State Polytechnic of Malang, Malang, Indonesia*Corresponding author. Email: aisyahvanadia@gmail.comAvailable Online 10 December 2022.DOI10.2991/978-94-6463-026-8_25How to use a DOI?KeywordsPlagiarism; Ethics; Research integrityAbstractThis research aims to explore and identify students' approach to minimize the plagiarism result. The method used is descriptive method with a sample of 241 students' undergraduate thesis and final report from accounting department of State Polytechnic of Malang in 2020. The plagiarism test itself is conducted with Turnitin. Furthermore, before the document is tested, the researchers will first skim over it to make sure that there is no cheat to be found. The result is 139 documents need to be sent back to the students, since it is not feasible to be tested while 29 documents did not pass the plagiarism tolerance of 25%. It can be concluded from this result that students, particularly students in their last year of college in accounting department in state polytechnic of malang, needs to be more aware of how to construct a report in a constructive way and at the same time comply with the academic integrity.Copyright© 2023 The Author(s)Open AccessOpen Access This chapter is licensed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License (, which permits any noncommercial use, sharing, adaptation, distribution and reproduction in any medium or format, as long as you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source, provide a link to the Creative Commons license and indicate if changes were made. Download article (PDF) Reddit and its partners use cookies and similar technologies to provide you with a better experience. By accepting all cookies, you agree to our use of cookies to deliver and maintain our services and site, improve the quality of Reddit, personalize Reddit content and advertising, and measure the effectiveness of advertising. By rejecting non-essential cookies, Reddit may still use certain cookies to ensure the proper functionality of our platform. For more information, please see our Cookie Notice and our Privacy Policy. You are welcome to use the Indiana University Plagiarism Tutorials and Tests for free for non-profit educational purposes. We have designed this website primarily for university students and advanced high school students. You can navigate this website in different ways. You can choose as little or much as you need for learning how to recognize plagiarism. If you want to earn a Certificate, you must first register, and then pass a Certification Test. The tests are difficult to pass unless you can recognize plagiarism--especially when the plagiarism is subtle and well-disguised. Each of the trillions of tests is different with 10 questions selected randomly from large inventories. You are very unlikely to pass a test by just guessing answers (chances are about 1 in 20,000 tests attempted). Approximately half of our website visitors do not register to take Certification Tests. However, the other half--more than 1,664,000 people--have successfully registered since 2016. And, of those, more than 1,323,000 students from all over the world have passed a Certification Test. They have learned how to recognize plagiarism and what is needed to avoid committing plagiarism. These students are Achievers. We have observed learning strategies of 2 major groups of Achievers during the past 9 years. About 1,110,000 are Optimizers. They select different learning strategies according to their own unique circumstances. They try to optimize their choices for guidance of learning--much like the fabled Goldilocks, who chose the porridge that was "just right" for her. On the other hand, about 212,000 are Minimizers. They take more of a trial-and-error approach. Minimizers often believe initially that they will save time doing it this way. And it does work for some of them, although Minimizers typically fail many tests before passing one. Or some eventually change their mindset and switch to an Optimzer strategy when they realize the Minimizer strategy is not working for them. 1. Optimizers: 84% of Achievers Optimizers try some of our online instruction, and/or they engage in test feedback on types of mistakes made on the test before they pass a new Certification Test to become an Achiever. 2. Minimizers: 16% of Achievers Minimizers do not try any of the instruction nor do they view specific test feedback on plagiarism patterns which explain why their answers are wrong. Minimizers become Achievers largely by viewing hints and by trying more Certification Tests until they pass. 3. Dabblers: 0% of Achievers The third group of users are Dabblers. None of the Dabblers is an Achiever. On average, Dabblers are engaged between 3 and 4 minutes with our website. We know little about these users, who seldom register to take Certification Tests. Optimizers are about 5.3 times more likely to become Achievers than are Minimizers (84%/16%). These findings are based on temporal pattern analysis of big data on which parts of this website that students choose to use and whether or not they become Achievers (Frick et al., 2022). We are informing you about what past students have chosen to do and how well those choices worked for them. These observations are grounded in data science, using state-of-the-art Teaching and Learning Process Analytics. You should also know that most students find the Certification Tests challenging to pass. They have told us so over the years; and that's why we now provide answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs), especially this one. Finally, instructors who want to try Certification Tests themselves must also register. On the registration form, instructors should select the answer to the "Why" question: I intend to review this as a learning resource for students I teach. Students should select a different reason according to their own purpose. Reference Frick, T., Myers, R. & Dagli, C. (2022). Analysis of Patterns in Time for Evaluating First Principles of Instruction (Featured research). Educational Technology Research and Development, 70(1), 1-29. top FAQ: I can't register. Where's the e-mail for completing my registration? The most common reason you did not receive the confirmation e-mail: You made an error when entering your e-mail address. This has happened about 96,000 times out of 1,750,000 attempts to register (roughly 1 out of every 18 attempts from 2016 through 2024). What to do? Register again by copying and pasting your correct e-mail address. Some Web browsers may auto-fill the wrong e-mail address, so make sure it's the right one. The 2nd most common reason: Your Internet Service Provider (ISP) blocked the e-mail that we sent to you. Your e-mail address is correct, but the confirmation message never made it to your e-mail inbox because your ISP mistakenly blocked it as spam. If so, try registering with an e-mail address such as Gmail or Yahoo mail. People who use Gmail or Yahoo e-mail addresses are usually successful in activating their registration. Other possible reasons: Your e-mail address is correct, but your e-mail app has routed the confirmation message to your Spam or Junk folder. Look there for a recent message from academy@iu.edu (IU Plagiarism Tutorials and Tests). Or, use Search to find this string: "To complete your registration for the IU Plagiarism Tutorials and Tests". Your e-mail address is correct, but your service provider's e-mail system is slow to respond, or your e-mail app does not check for new mail frequently. Try refreshing your Inbox. Wait a few minutes and try refreshing your Inbox again. Try getting new mail in your e-mail app. It's also possible that certain browser security settings or anti-malware software installed on your device may be blocking the confirmation e-mail we have sent. Try a different e-mail app, web browser, or device. You can only register your e-mail address one time. If you have not yet activated it, click below to send a new confirmation e-mail to: top FAQ: I can't pass the test. I've tried over and over and I keep failing. What can I do? Why don't you tell me the correct answers? We understand that you can get frustrated, especially when you fail repeatedly and don't seem to be making any progress. We get that. Read on. These are not tests of recall. They are not tests of rote memorization of facts. Nor are they tests of carrying out rote procedures. Remembering the right answer to one question won't help that much because you are unlikely to get that exact same question again on subsequent tests. Certification Tests require judgment, which in turn requires reading comprehension and critical thinking. They require applying concepts and principles. They require paying careful attention to details. They are not easy tests either. What makes test questions further challenging is that the student version can contain word-for-word and paraphrasing plagiarism and parts that are not plagiarized; or any 2 of the 3; or any 1 of the 3. See the decision support tool. Strategies for taking tests that may have worked for you in the past may not work here. You may need to try a different strategy. Most people eventually do pass, if they persevere in trying to learn. Learn more and experience success. Our initial advice is to learn from the instruction and try to answer the practice questions. You will get specific feedback on incorrect answers with explanations of why those answers were wrong. If you have already done that, see how to get further help while taking a Certification Test. Students who have passed a test spend, on average, more than 4 times as much time learning from the instruction, when compared with students who have not passed. We know this from tracking pageviews by hundreds of thousands of students who use this website. We also know that students who do complete any of the tutorials usually take several tests before they pass--if they also learn from the types of mistakes they make when they do not pass. It is rare that someone passes on their first attempt, unless they have successfully completed the instruction. Take a break. In addition to learning from the instruction, we advise you to take a significant break and get some rest before attempting further tests. Fatigue and lack of attention to detail can be obstacles to passing a test, even when you can recognize kinds of plagiarism and non-plagiarism. It is virtually impossible to pass a test just by guessing, or if not reading carefully each question. Successful students typically divide their learning time into 3 separate sessions of 25-30 minutes each and take breaks in between. Take your time and read carefully each question on the test. People who rush through a Certification Test in a minute or two while guessing answers will fail it. Even we cannot pass our own tests this way! This strategy is both ineffective and inefficient. Racing through tests and guessing answers just doesn't work. Even after a student has tried 20 to 30 tests like this, they still do not pass. In fact, the chance of passing a test by guessing answers is about 1 in 20,000 attempts. On the other hand, when students spend 8 to 10 minutes (or more) on each test, and take the time to read each question carefully, they are much more likely to pass--when they also understand plagiarism and when they pay careful attention to details. These students typically spend no more than 2 to 3 hours in total, including time spent carefully going through the instruction and practice tests, and then taking Certification Tests until they pass one. Students who already understand plagiarism thoroughly spend an average of 25 to 30 minutes altogether. They still take enough time to read each question carefully. They typically pass after several attempts if they learn from their mistakes. Why no correct answers? We no longer provide correct answers to Certification Test questions because unscrupulous individuals had been posting answer keys on the Web to facilitate cheating. Instructors had complained that Certificates did not validly indicate that their students had learned to recognize plagiarism. And it's not fair to other students who actually have accomplished something. Why should cheaters get the same credit? Using a computer to copy, paste, and search for a match to a test question and its correct answer does not indicate a thorough understanding of plagiarism and critical judgment. It just indicates ability to use a computer for searching. FYI, we actually know what people often search for. Google Search Console reports on our website have been very helpful. Consequently, from 2013 through 2018 we created new, very large test question pools and no longer provide correct answers. We designed new practice questions and mastery tests which do provide explanatory feedback on questions missed, and we developed new, more effective instruction. Graduate students in Instructional Systems Technology at IU helped draft most of the questions for Certification Tests. They did not want cheaters to get undeserved credit either. They also knew about many of the tricks students use to try to disguise plagiarism, yet another form of cheating. Our goal is to make it easier to actually learn about plagiarism and pass a test, when compared to the effort and time it takes to cheat via use of answer keys. And how well is that working? In the first 9 years after the changes, more than 1,323,000 individuals had passed a Certification Test. The most frequently viewed pages have been instruction with practice questions and explanatory feedback on incorrect answers; Certification Tests and feedback on types of mistakes made on a test; test hints; FAQs (this page), registration, and Certificate Validation. Instructors no longer complain about widespread cheating; and students are passing the more difficult tests. Our records indicate that about 81 percent of students who register do pass a Certification Test, often requiring multiple attempts before they do. Rarely do adult students never pass, if they complete the tutorials and practice tests, and if they pay careful attention to the right details and persist. A small minority may take several days until they do pass. We encourage students who continue to struggle to seek extra help from their instructor or a knowledgeable peer. Most of all, we want people to avoid plagiarizing when they write and speak. That's the bigger goal. We ultimately want students to think critically about the sources of information they cite and to question false beliefs and other nonsense perpetuated by dishonest, biased, misinformed, or ignorant people. This includes text generated by AI or bots that have been trained on linguistic patterns inherent in this kind of junk. In other words, to identify the good stuff and discard the linguistic junk and other textual garbage. top FAQ: Can I use AI to get help in passing a Certification Test? AI chatbots in 2025 are unlikely to help you pass one of the Certification Tests. What is more likely to help you is to actively engage with the instruction and practice with feedback. If you do so, you are about 5.3 times more likely to pass a test than are students who do not take advantage of these learning resources, and who do not utilize specific links to plagiarism patterns associated with types of mistakes made on a test not passed. Certification Tests require judgment, which in turn requires good reading comprehension and critical thinking. They require applying concepts and principles. They require paying careful attention to details. Current AI chatbots such as ChatGPT and Gemini lack common sense, do not deeply understand what they read, and they do not reason or think critically as do intelligent humans. For examples, see Marcus (2024) and Marcus and Davis (2020). These kinds of chatbots are highly unlikely to pass a Certification Test, even though they may perform other tasks very proficiently. The same is true for people who lack these skills. See this frequently asked question. Finally, current AI chatbots themselves often plagiarize--by design. Normally, they are trained on massive amounts of text written by humans. When chatbots generate text in conversations with humans, they are combining predictable sequences of words on which they were trained (Wolfram, 2023). Many times these chatbots do not properly cite their sources nor do they provide accurate references because of how they were trained (Frick, 2024). Failing to do so constitutes plagiarism. For more, click here. References Frick, T. W. (2024). Are We Dupes? Limitations of AI Systems: What Should Educators Do with Them? TechTrends, 68(1), 14-26. Marcus, G. (2024). Taming Silicon Valley: How we can ensure that AI works for us (Kindle). The MIT Press. Marcus, G., & Davis, E. (2020). Rebooting AI: Building artificial intelligence we can trust (Kindle). Pantheon Books. Wolfram, S. (2023, Feb. 14). What is ChatGPT doing ... and why does it work? top FAQ: A lot of people are saying (on social media) that the undergraduate plagiarism test is harder than the graduate level test. Is that true? No. It may be true that some people believe this, possibly getting many likes or followers on social media, but that belief is false. Just because lots of people may hold the same opinion does not mean it is true. For thousands of years people used to believe the earth was flat like a pancake, when in fact it is a large sphere. Their belief was based on the method of tenacity, and later the method of authority, not the method of science (Peirce, 1877, 1934). Based on millions of plagiarism tests taken over the past 9 years, the empirical facts are: People take about 2 minutes longer on average to complete each graduate level test, when compared with the undergraduate level test. Items on the graduate level test are more difficult on average, meaning that these questions are answered incorrectly more often than those on the undergraduate test. The likelihood of failing a graduate level test is greater than the likelihood of failing an undergraduate test. Students try an average of 3 more graduate level tests until they pass one, when compared with those at the undergraduate level. Based on this empirical evidence, we conclude that the graduate level tests are harder than the undergraduate ones. How did we collect this evidence? Our plagiarism test software stores logs of individual test results on IU computers. Those logs contain information about the: test ID; number of right and wrong answers for that registrant ID on that specific test; what kind of test it was (undergrad or grad level); how long that test took; when it was taken; each question ID and whether it was answered correctly or not; and whether or not that specific registrant passed that particular test. For example, see Frick and Dagli (2016, p. 268). We later used computers to do statistical analysis of those empirical data (e.g., with SPSS or Excel). We computed arithmetic means (averages) from which we now make the above claims. People who believe that the undergraduate test is harder than the graduate level test hold a wrong opinion. Their opinion is not based on fact. That false belief is contradicted by empirical fact--i.e., a large amount of statistical evidence in this case. How large? Literally millions of unique tests taken over several years. See also: How we protect your data: Logs. References Frick, T. & Dagli, C. (2016). MOOCs for Research: The Case of the Indiana University Plagiarism Tutorials and Tests. Technology, Knowledge and Learning, 21(2), 255-276. ◆ Peirce, C. S. (1877). The fixation of belief. Popular Science Monthly, 12(November), 1-15. Peirce, C. S. (1934). Collected papers, Vol. V, Pragmatism and pragmaticism (C. Hartshorne & P. Weiss, Eds.). Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. top FAQ: I only missed one question. Why did I not pass the test? Is there something wrong with the test? No. Just because there is one link to the type of question missed does not mean you missed one question. The number of links listed in test results does not necessarily equal the number of incorrect answers. For example, you could miss two or more questions on that test which are the same type of plagiarism or non-plagiarism (for example, severed cite). In that case, there would be just one link that points to that type of pattern on the results and feedback page displayed right after the test. You will know when you pass a test, because on the results page it will say, Congratulations! You passed a Certification Test by answering at least 9 questions correctly. There will be no links to types of questions missed. And it will list your name and the e-mail address where your Certificate will be sent when you click the button to do so. top FAQ: My computer crashed right after I passed the test. I never received my Certificate. Will you send it to me? No. If you did pass, then you can retrieve and view your Certificate yourself. We do not send Certificates. The way to get your Certificate is to pass a Certification Test. What is critical is exactly when your computer, smartphone, or tablet malfunctioned (or it lost power or lost your Internet connection). Our Certification Tests are based on software that runs on IU Web servers, not on your computer. If you have answered all 10 questions in your Web browser, and you have clicked or tapped on the button to send your answers for test evaluation, our IU Web servers do the processing required to determine whether or not you passed. Not your device. If indeed you did pass, then the results were stored at IU, associated with your registration info. If you passed, then you should be able to validate, retrieve, e-mail, and view your Certificate (for up to 2 years or so). Even if you no longer use the same e-mail account, you should still be able to login with the e-mail and password you used when registering, and then you can send your unique Certificate to your new e-mail address (or to anyone else, such as your instructor). As long as IU Web servers have received the test answers you submitted, and if you passed the test, those results should have been saved. If there were problems with IU servers, then thousands of people would likely have been affected--not just you. See University Information Technology Services status updates. top FAQ: What mistakes am I making on the test? Missing what's missing Questions on Certification Tests illustrate 15 different patterns of plagiarism and 3 patterns of non-plagiarism. When the student version is plagiarism, it's because of what is missing. You can answer a test question incorrectly due to oversight of something missing in the student version. It can be hard to notice what's absent when you are focused on what's present. This can be frustrating. For additional help, see the decision table and decision support for determining answers to test questions. Misunderstanding the number and types of mistakes you've made If you do not pass a test, links are provided to the specific types of questions you answered incorrectly. Click on those links to see examples of the kinds of errors you made. If you miss two or more questions which are the same type, there is only one link that points to that type of pattern. Therefore, do not infer that the number of links is the number of questions missed on the test. In addition, do not infer that a question that occurs on one test is exactly the same as one on a new test, even though they may look the same. Subtle modifications will determine a different correct answer, such as presence or absence of quotation marks or parts of citations. Overlooking subtle or sneaky plagiarism Read carefully when comparing the student version with the original source. For example, in double-trouble, the text highlighted in purple is paraphrasing plagiarism, while the part highlighted in yellow is word-for-word plagiarism. The correct answer on the test would be word-for-word plagiarism. On the other hand, if paraphrased text lacks a proper citation or reference (or both), and there is no word-for-word plagiarism, this is a severed cite. This pattern of paraphrasing plagiarism is most often missed on a test, especially when other parts of the student version are properly cited and referenced. Not noticing misplaced citations Careful writers tell readers early on when another author's idea is being described and make it clear that it is the other author's idea being discussed in that whole group of sentences. When there is a switch to someone else's idea, including the writer's own idea, then careful writers tell the reader explicitly. When a citation is provided at the end of a group of sentences or at the end of a paragraph, readers could infer that the citation applies only to the last sentence. Earlier sentences which lack attribution of the source might appear to be the writer's own ideas, when instead they are paraphrasing plagiarism (severed cite). Does every sentence paraphrased from the original source require a citation? No, but the writer should make it clear that the citation applies to the whole group of sentences. In addition to proper citation, careful writers provide further cues to their readers which clearly identify whose ideas are whose, in order to avoid plagiarism. Therefore, on the test, you not only need to look for direct quotes, paraphrasing, appropriate citations, and references, but also to look for any additional writer cues that further clarify whose ideas they are. This cannot be done mindlessly. You need to read carefully and comprehend what the writer is trying to say in order to make judgments, particularly when there is ambiguity about attribution of ideas. You can learn more about these subtleties from instruction at the Expert Level. top FAQ: This is not what I was expecting. Why are you making this so hard for me? You may have been expecting to pass a test by answering questions, seeing which ones you missed, going back and changing the answers to correct them, and then immediately passing the test. You may have been expecting this task to be easy and to take very little time. Instead, it has been more difficult and time-consuming than you had anticipated. Or, you thought that you already understood plagiarism very well, but you're failing test after test. How can I learn if you don't tell me the correct answers? We used to do this, but cheating became a big problem in 2012 and 2013. In order to make it harder to create answer keys for cheaters, we have stopped providing correct answers to questions missed on a test. We do not have resources to continually add new questions to the Certification Tests, nor do we want to start charging students for every test they take. Instead, we have developed more instruction with practice questions and feedback--the kind of feedback you were expecting on the Certification Test. And we have provided additional support for your learning that can also help you pass a Certification Test, including step-by-step guidance to determine correct answers on tests. You should also understand that memorizing the right answer to a test question won't help very much because you are unlikely to get that exact same question again on subsequent tests. To help you learn from your mistakes, Certification Test results include links to the specific patterns of plagiarism and non-plagiarism that you misclassified on that test. Each pattern, in turn, provides a link to the specific decision rules that were used to arrive at the correct answer for that type of mistake (e.g., failing to identify a Crafty Cover-up as word-for-word plagiarism). When you take a new test with different questions, you should be better able to recognize that plagiarism pattern and correctly identify its type. If so, feedback on a new test should no longer list that same type of misclassified pattern (e.g., Crafty Cover-up). Since each test consists of 10 randomly selected questions, not all 18 patterns can be included on a single test. So it's possible on a new test that you could make a new and different type of error (e.g., Severed Cite). Thus, you might fail several Certification Tests before you have corrected all your misconceptions. Most students take multiple Certification Tests before they pass one. If you fail one or more tests, and also engage in our instruction and practice tests, you are 5.3 times more likely to pass a new test than those who do not try any instruction. This conclusion is based on empirical research where this pattern was observed. This is taking way too much time. I have to get this done now. If your instructor requires you to pass a Certification Test for credit towards a grade, we understand that you can get very frustrated and stressed due to an approaching deadline when you keep failing tests. We are not making this requirement; and we have no control over how your teacher may be using our learning resources and tests. In fact, when we originally developed this instruction and test for our own students in Instructional Systems Technology, we told them during new student orientation: We do not tolerate plagiarism; and we will not accept ignorance as an excuse. Do the instruction and test on your own time. Meet with your advisor if you need extra help. Hand in your signed Certificate to the department office, so we have it on file. That's how this all got started in 2002, over 23 years ago. The test is too hard. Why don't you make it easier? Certification Tests are mastery tests, also referred to as criterion-referenced tests. Test questions are designed to discriminate between achievers and non-achievers. That means someone with a thorough understanding of plagiarism, according to the criteria used here, should be much more likely to answer a question correctly than someone who has an incomplete understanding or lack of understanding of plagiarism. Note that at one time you can be a non-achiever, but at a later time you can become an achiever. In other words, you have learned to do something that you were unable to do before. Certification Test questions that do not discriminate well between achievers and non-achievers have been eliminated. We have discarded questions that almost everyone gets right or nearly everyone gets wrong, because they are unhelpful in making mastery or non-mastery classifications (pass or not pass). We also have removed poorly discriminating items in which the likelihood of a correct response is not very different between achievers and non-achievers. Finally, we have eliminated questions which non-achievers are more likely to answer correctly than achievers (i.e., negatively discriminating items). Most importantly, we want to minimize classification errors, either misclassifying someone as an achiever who is really a non-achiever, or misclassifying someone as a non-achiever who is really an achiever. Keep in mind that the likelihood of someone answering a question correctly, solely by guessing, is 1 out of 3. We don't want people passing Certification Tests who are guessing the answers and have little or no understanding of plagiarism. This is a technical subject in psychometrics, what is now called computerized classification testing (CCT). Instead of administering items one-by-one as done for a variable-length CCT, we randomly select 10 items at a time for each Certification Test. This kind of criterion-referenced test may be a new experience for you. I need extra help. Why won't you help me personally? If you need extra help, we advise you to ask your teacher for assistance. We do not have staff or resources for individual tutoring. We developed these materials for our own students originally. Other instructors heard about these resources, found them useful, and adopted them for use by their own students. We never intended for so many people to use them, never imagining that hundreds of thousands of students worldwide would be also using them. But that's what happened. When we started, we knew that this was possible, but we didn't know what would work best. We have listened to what users have been telling us would help, we have conducted usability tests, and then we've tried to implement practical strategies that actually make a difference in terms of successful student learning outcomes. As a result of this feedback loop between developers and users, we have made many changes in the past 23 years. We've not been paid for developing and maintaining these tutorials and tests. See contributors. Your school is not paying us, you are not paying us, we accept no paid advertising, nor do we sell your data to advertisers. See our privacy policy. We provide online instruction and tests for free in good faith, as they are, with no guarantees or warranties implied. What do we get? We collect data on student learning from the tutorials in order to improve methods of education in general, and to improve this online instruction in particular. Our research should benefit everyone in the long run. For example, see this article and book. We further hope that our website visitors will appreciate Indiana University as an institution for promoting learning, research, and service. What do you get? We hope that you learn about plagiarism and avoid it in your writing and speaking. Most adults do pass a Certification Test--over 1,323,000 worldwide from 2016 through May 3, 2025. They have learned to notice what is missing but should be present in order to avoid plagiarism. top FAQ: What kinds of questions are answered incorrectly most often on Certification Tests? A Severed Cite is the most common pattern that test takers fail to identify as paraphrasing plagiarism. They missed it because they either answered as word-for-word plagiarism or not plagiarism. The fourth-ranked error is failing to identify correctly a Crafty Cover-Up. This kind of question does contain a Proper Paraphrase, but it also contains word-for-word plagiarism, which is the correct answer. Certification question types that are answered incorrectly are listed below from highest to lowest frequency--according to the pattern the question represents: After you finish a 10-item test, if you do not pass, links are provided to specific patterns you failed to identify correctly on that test. Click on those links to see each pattern. For example, if you missed a Crafty Cover Up, then you'll see an example of what that looks like. It won't be the exact test item, but you should get the idea. You can also click on a link to the decision rule used to arrive at the correct answer for that pattern. top FAQ: I answered all the questions, but it says I did not answer enough questions correctly to pass. Why? You answered at least 2 questions incorrectly. This means that you probably misunderstand one or more important details about plagiarism as defined here, or you failed to notice essential details in questions you answered incorrectly--including crucial elements which may be absent in the student version. Read each question carefully, and do not hurry. Some questions may look similar to others, but actually differ in small but significant details from one test to the next. Note especially, if the student version contains both word-for-word and paraphrasing plagiarism, the correct answer is word-for-word. The number of links listed in test results does not necessarily equal the number of incorrect answers. For example, you could miss two or more questions which are the same type of plagiarism or non-plagiarism. In that case, there would be just one link that points to that type of pattern (e.g., severed cite). You must answer 9 or more questions correctly in order to pass a Certification Test. Before you take more Certification Tests, try our tutorials and complete the 5 levels of practice tests by answering all questions correctly (especially the Advanced and Expert Levels). If you do, you will be much more likely to pass. top FAQ: Why must I answer at least 9 questions correctly in order to pass? Our research has shown that when 10 questions are selected at random from our item inventories, someone who answers at least 9 questions correctly is highly likely to pass other tests of 10 questions selected at random. Someone who answers fewer than 9 questions out of 10 is very likely not able to recognize different forms of plagiarism from non-plagiarism. Usually this means they are not noticing something important. That is why feedback after a failed test provides links to the kinds of mistakes being made. See the 18 different patterns of plagiarism. top FAQ: I passed the test, but I never received my Certificate in my e-mail. Or I lost my Certificate. How can I get my Certificate? You can validate and view your Certificate here (and e-mail it). If you do not receive your Certificate by e-mail, that address may be blocked from receiving e-mail from academy@iu.edu (because it is mistakenly classified as spam). Try a different e-mail address to which to send the Certificate. In any case, you should be able to view your Certificate and save it as a PDF or print it. top FAQ: How do I save my Certificate? Convert it to PDF? Print it? 1. First pass a Certification Test. 2. Go to: Validate and View Certificates. Continue and login with the e-mail address and password you used when registering. Proceed until you view your Certificate in your web browser. Note that we do not provide a PDF version of your Certificate, but you can create it yourself by following these steps. 3. Select share or print: 3.1. On a Mac computer browser (Safari, Chrome, Firefox), click on the File menu (near top left), and then select either Share or Print. 3.2. On a Windows computer browser (Edge, IE, Chrome, Firefox), click on the settings or menu icon (3 dots, 3 bars, or gear near top right), and then select Print. 3.3. On a smartphone or tablet, click on the Share icon (e.g., a rectangle with an arrow, typically on the top or bottom of the display) . 4. Where to share or print? 4.1. If sharing, select the method, e.g., e-mail, messages, AirDrop, printer, etc. 4.2. If printing, select the destination: a specific printer that is available, or save as PDF on your device. There may also be an option in Step 3 to directly Export/Save as PDF. 4.3. If you have saved your Certificate as a PDF, you can then upload it to your course management system (e.g., Canvas, Blackboard, Moodle, a dropbox); upload to Google Drive, iCloud, or OneDrive; attach it to an e-mail; or print it. 5. If your actual signature is needed: 5.1. Print your Certificate on paper. 5.2. Sign the printed Certificate with a black or blue pen. 5.3. Scan your signed Certificate to a PDF or JPEG file, or take a picture of it with your smartphone. Then go to Step 4.3 above. 5.4. If you do not have access to a printer and scanner, you can edit the PDF (from Step 4.2) with a software app and add your signature, such as Adobe Reader. Then go to Step 4.3. top FAQ: I try to login with my e-mail address, but it won't accept my password. What can I do? If you originally registered for the Undergraduate Test, click here. If you originally registered for the Graduate Test, click here. top FAQ: I get an error message when trying to watch the videos. How can I see the videos? On rare occasions, some combinations of devices, operating systems, Web browsers (and possibly anti-malware software or firewalls) prevent playback of the videos. Try a different browser (Firefox, Safari, Chrome, IE, Edge, Opera), and/or a different device. Or, try clicking on the link for lower quality videos (under the original embedded video to the right). Check your browser settings to ensure that JavaScript is enabled. top FAQ: I passed the test, but I don't remember which e-mail I used at registration. How can I validate my Certificate? Search your e-mail accounts for "certificate" or "plagiarism" or "Test ID". If you can find the Certificate that was mailed to you, then login with that e-mail address. Or, you can validate it by using the unique Test ID and one other piece of information from the Certificate (and so can your instructor). Otherwise, login (first register if necessary) and take another test and pass it again. We do not have resources to retrieve your lost Certificate, and we routinely ignore such requests. We will not directly e-mail your Certificate; it can only be done by someone who can properly validate it (that is, you, or your instructor if you provide them with the right info). top FAQ: I know my Test ID or I have just logged in. How can I get my Certificate? If you have not passed a Certification Test, knowing the Test ID will not help. Nor will logging in without passing a test. You need to login and pass a Certification Test to earn a Certificate. You will know when you pass a test, because on the results page it will say, Congratulations! You passed a Certification Test by answering at least 9 questions correctly. There will be no links to types of questions missed. And it will list your name and the e-mail address where your Certificate will be sent when you click the button to do so. If you have passed, you can login and validate your Certificate. top FAQ: I passed the test. Did I answer all 10 questions correctly? To pass a current Certification Test, you must answer at least 9 out of 10 questions correctly. The Certificate no longer indicates the number correct. As stated above, we no longer provide correct answers, because in the past this led to rote memorization and cheating via answer keys. Some instructors may still require that their students answer all questions correctly. This expectation is no longer reasonable under the current testing situation. You can provide your instructor with the link to this FAQ page: . top FAQ: My instructor requires me to pass the "expert level" test. Where is it? We do not offer an "expert level" test. Both types of our Certification Tests provide a mix of questions at the "novice level" through "expert level". We provide an easier test for undergraduate college and advanced high school students and a harder test for graduate students (master's and doctoral level). The test questions for graduate students are typically more difficult--meaning they are answered correctly less often when compared with questions for undergrads and advanced high school students. Plagiarism is more subtle and sneaky, and harder to detect in most questions for graduate students. top FAQ: I previously passed a Certification Test, but my instructor wants me to pass a new test. How can I do this? Go to 'Take Certification Tests'. Then click on either the button for Undergraduate and Advanced High School Students or the button for Master's and Doctoral Students. You should already be registered. Just login by entering the e-mail address used previously and the password you created. If you registered before March 16, 2023, you will need to reset your password (click on the "Stuck? ..." link on the login page). After you login and pass a new test, you will be able to obtain a new, current Certificate, which can be further validated by your instructor. top FAQ: I originally registered for a Graduate Test. How can I take an Undergraduate Test (or vice-versa)? Go to 'Take Certification Tests'. Then click on the button for the kind of test you want to take. Login with the e-mail address you previously registered and the password you created. If you cannot login, click on the "Stuck? ..." link for options. Your Certificate will indicate which kind of test you passed, which can be further validated by your instructor by entering the unique Test ID (you can do this too). Each time you pass a test, it will have a unique Test ID and its associated Certificate. If you validate your Certificate by logging in with your e-mail address and password, the most recent Certificate will be retrieved. In summary, once you have registered, you can take either kind of Certification Test by clicking on the appropriate button. If you pass, your Certificate will indicate which test you took. top FAQ: I passed a test, but my name or e-mail address is incorrect on my Certificate. What can I do? As a matter of policy, we will not change the name or e-mail address that you typed when you registered to take a test. What to do? Register again with a different e-mail address, and be sure to spell your first and last names correctly. Some browsers may auto-fill the names differently than you intend, so make sure the names are correct. Once you have confirmed your new registration, then take and pass a new test. Your new Certificate will include the new names and e-mail address you supplied. top FAQ: When I try to take a test or validate my Certificate, it says, "Invalid attempt to access..." or "Invalid referral from an unauthorized source..." What's wrong? This message means that your web browser is not accessing our website properly. In your web browser, go directly to the homepage at . Do not rely on a link provided elsewhere (e.g., in web search results, in an e-mail message), which may be incorrect or could take you to a different web page not at Indiana University. Reload or refresh the homepage in your browser, in case it has an older or out-dated cached version. In the gray sidebar to the right, click on Take Certification Tests and then click on the button near the bottom for the appropriate group. Login, and then you'll be provided with a new test each time. If the "Invalid referral..." message continues to appear, then try a different web browser or device. On rare occasions web browser security settings, plug-ins, and/or anti-malware software installed on your device may possibly be interfering with proper access to Certification Tests at IU. If you have passed a test and want to access your Certificate, in Step 3 above, click on Validate and View Certificates. If you have not registered to take a test, in Step 3 above, click on Register for Certification Tests. top FAQ: I have a disability. I need to take the Certification Test in a different form or need more time than allowed. What can I do? If you are at a college or university, we recommend that you contact the office that provides services for persons with disabilities. Our advice is to work with them. Otherwise, talk to one of your teachers. In either case, you can register for a Certification Test, login, and display the test on your device. If you need extra time, print a test and complete it as you would any paper-and-pencil test. Ask your disability office or teacher to grade the test. We do not have funding or staff to grade individual tests by hand. If you use a screen reader and/or you rely on keyboard navigation, note that use of 'tab' and 'shift-tab' keys may facilitate answering practice and test questions--especially when comparing original source materials and student versions. If you have suggestions for further improving accessibility of this website, please do so. If you are visually impaired or blind, we know that Certification Tests are extremely challenging when using a screen reader such as JAWS or NVDA. For most of the test questions, to compare student writing with original source material is very onerous and time consuming when relying on audio only. While you can benefit from the instruction and examples provided here, we encourage you to work with your teachers and focus on your own writing. The larger goal is to avoid plagiarism in your own writing and speaking. Using an app such as Turnitin in a constructive way may help improve your own writing and to avoid plagiarism. That's the main goal: acknowledge other people's ideas and give credit where credit is due. top FAQ: Can I pass a Certification Test solely by guessing? Your chances of passing by guessing alone are about 1 in 20,000 test attempts. Each test consists of 10 questions selected randomly from large pools of questions, with trillions of unique tests. Each test a student takes is different. In the pools, there is roughly the same proportion of questions in which each of the 3 choices is the correct answer. The likelihood of randomly guessing the correct answer is about 1/3 for each question. For 10 questions, the likelihood of answering all of them correctly solely by guessing is (1/3)10 = 1/59,049 = 0.00001694. However, only 9 questions need to be answered correctly, so the likelihood of doing that by randomly guessing is approximately (1/3)9, or 1/19,683 = 0.00005081. While technically it's more complicated than this because some questions are harder than others, the likelihood of passing one of our Certification Tests solely by guessing is practically zero. See Schmitt (1969) and Frick (1992) for mathematical details. To put this in perspective, imagine that you went to Las Vegas to gamble, and you had a $1 token to put into a slot machine. Slot machine A gives you a chance of winning the big jackpot at about 1 in 20,000. Expect to spend about $20,000 on machine A before you might win the big jackpot. Slot machine B gives you an 80% chance of winning the big jackpot (4 out of 5). Which slot machine would you choose for betting your $1? (As an aside, you won't find slot machines of type B, and if you did, those casinos would quickly go broke. There's a reason slot machines have been called "one-armed bandits". The odds are greatly in favor of a casino keeping people's money collected by slot machines.) We once observed someone who had tried and failed more than 200 Certification Tests over several days by guessing answers. We discovered this pattern in our test logs after we received a complaint from this person. We recommended that they try the instruction and practice questions with feedback, and after they did, they passed soon afterwards. We ourselves have never passed a Certification Test solely by guessing. If guessing is a hopeless strategy, what does make a difference? Use test hints and decision rules The likelihood of passing a test can be greatly improved by intelligently using a strategy which applies our decision rules and criteria for identifying types of plagiarism. For some students, this is enough guidance. The likelihood of passing a Certification Test with this strategy alone, and with no further instruction, is about 16%. At least it's better than guessing, where likelihood is almost zero. Learn from instruction Even better, try learning from any level of the instruction and practice tests after failing a Certification Test. For those who have done so, we recently verified that the likelihood of passing a Certification Test increases to about 84% when some of the instruction is tried. Learn from test feedback on types of mistakes Finally, when students fail a Certification Test, those who click on links to the types of questions they missed improve their odds of passing by a factor of 3 to 1. Learning from your mistakes by understanding similar patterns of plagiarism triples your likelihood of success. Pay attention to the explanations of why the pattern is or is not plagiarism; and if it is, why you should choose word-for-word versus paraphrasing plagiarism. Your best bet If you do any of the instruction, or view the adaptive feedback on types of questions missed, or both, your likelihood of passing a Certification Test is about 84%. The odds are about 5 to 1 in your favor, when compared with students who pass and do not take advantage of these learning resources. In other words, if you persist, pay careful attention, and learn from your mistakes, then you are very likely to succeed. Persistence pays off If you fail a Certification Test, you can try further instruction and take more tests. For any given time interval when we count students who have passed a test, there are further students who have not yet passed but will pass at a later date. For example, Frick et al. (2022) found that nearly 6,000 students who had failed one or more tests during the study interval (January 1 through March 25, 2021) did pass a Certification Test later in 2021. For more, see this