How to Improve your Writing using Turnitin®
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Workshop Objectives

Learn how to:

- use Turnitin®, **discover** its key functions and obtain assignment feedback

- **interpret** and **understand** Turnitin® reports

- use report feedback to **improve** your assignment writing skills
"Are these my words?"

Turnitin

Make sure you know
Why use Turnitin®?

- Promotes **academic integrity** (plagiarism prevention) by checking the similarity of students’ work to original sources.

- Eliminates the time-consuming process of verifying student authorship by presenting **easy-to-use reports** that show how much of a document is original, cited from other sources, or unoriginal.

- Students **learn the importance of original writing** and attribution - this fosters critical thinking skills that are important to student success.
Watch this QuickStart Guide to using Turnitin®

1. Play intro from (0:00 – 0:20)
2. Skip account setup segment
3. Play “Submitting an Assignment” (1:25 – 2:22)
4. Play “Viewing Originality Reports” (2:23 – 3:02)
5. Play “Viewing Feedback & Grading” (3:03 – 3:38)
Post-submission Report

THINK ABOUT IT

- What does the % mean? Is a higher score good or bad? Why?

- Why are sections of the text highlighted?

- What is the significance of the list on the right-hand side?
Originality Check Demo

Watch this video which highlights how to use the Turnitin® Originality Check Report

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8DiuQ9qnCUE
Auteur theory was articulated in the 1950s by French film critics, most notably by François Truffaut. The concept describes the mark of a film director in terms of thematic or stylistic consistencies, personal aesthetic vision, recurring themes, established technique, a defined view of the world and a significant degree of control over production. The works of an auteur director are stamped by the personality and unique artistic vision of its creator, and are as recognizable and distinctive as the creators of any other work of art. In auteur films, it is the director who controls the artistic statement, takes credit for the film and is responsible for attracting the audience.

When auteur theory was being developed, Alfred Hitchcock was frequently acknowledged as the consummate exemplar, and his name evokes immediate expectations in terms of themes and techniques. As befits the master of mystery and suspense, his films play with the audience’s nerves, sexually or tabooed areas assume central or implicit places in his work (the latent homosexuality of Strangers on a Train, the parody of an Oedipus complex in Psycho and the traumatic remembrance of repressed memories of Marnie), there is a persistent element of black comedy, and frequent eccentric characterizations. Hitchcock was influenced by the German Expressionists, and admired their ability to “express ideas in purely visual terms” (Hitchcock 68). It is this visual expression of thought and psychology that Hitchcock achieves throughout his films.

Hitchcock’s films are marked by his mastery of cinematic technique which is exemplified in his use of camera viewpoints, elaborate editing and soundtrack to build suspense. Hitchcock includes an incredible range in form a plot that
DIFFERENT TYPES OF FEEDBACK YOU MIGHT RECEIVE........
PRAISE MAKES YOU FEEL GOOD CRITIQUE MAKES YOU BETTER
To Speak or To Sign

The Parental Pressure to Choose Between Cochlear Implants, Sign Language, or Both

On the Rise

Sign language is a beautifully expressive, visual language using hand, body and facial expressions to convey thoughts and feelings. However, developments in technology have brought a change in society’s view of children getting cochlear implants at an ever earlier age. This has brought about a concern that fewer and fewer children will learn to sign. In fact, as of May 2002, 69 percent of babies born in the United States had been screened for hearing loss as part of universal newborn hearing screening programs. Such early identification of infant hearing loss represents a dramatic change from the situation that existed only six years ago.

Cochlear implants within the United States to 20 percent or more per year (Sorkin 2003). Many parents view deafness as a disability that can be cured. They desire that their child learn language and function “normally” in society.

Use this feedback to improve your future assignments.
Pop-up comments
General comments
Direct-text comments
Highlighted text with pop-up comments
Rubric comments
Prey versus predator.

Two grand and similar spirits that cannot exist as one, bound by the constraints of misinterpreted honor and the chains of the past.

Javert, born in jail, saw himself as an ostracized adolescent with but two paths open to him. He could choose either to be a policeman or a criminal. He chose to be
Now it’s your turn! Work with a partner.

- All participants in this workshop have automatically been enrolled in “HELPS Workshop – Understanding a Turnitin® Report”.

- Log into UTSOnline (https://online.uts.edu.au/) and find the link to this workshop under “My Subjects”. Then click on “Assessment”. Alternatively, you can access any currently enrolled subject.

- Submit a text that you have written (e.g. an assignment or a draft piece) through the workshop portal by clicking on the Turnitin® icon. Alternatively, retrieve a copy of a previously submitted assignment.

- Your submission of any text through the workshop portal will NOT impact on your past, present or future grade/assessment or similarity score index on this occasion.
What did you notice? Work with a partner.

DISCUSS

➡️ What was your Similarity Score Index (SSI)?

➡️ What do you think this really means for you?

➡️ What parts of your document are highlighted? Are there any comments? What do these mean?

➡️ What do the links in the right-hand column represent?

➡️ What might you change about your text to improve your writing?
What if your report mentions......?

- **Paraphrasing** (for paraphrasing techniques, watch the HELPS online tutorial at: [http://www.uts.edu.au/current-students/support/helps/self-help-resources/academic-writing/paraphrasing](http://www.uts.edu.au/current-students/support/helps/self-help-resources/academic-writing/paraphrasing))

- **Punctuation e.g. quotation marks** (for a guide to using punctuation marks, go to: [http://www.uts.edu.au/sites/default/files/article/downloads/Punctuation%20Factsheet.pdf](http://www.uts.edu.au/sites/default/files/article/downloads/Punctuation%20Factsheet.pdf))


- **Writing skills** (for advice on essay & report writing, literature reviews, case study & reflective writing, go to: [http://www.uts.edu.au/current-students/support/helps/self-help-resources/academic-writing](http://www.uts.edu.au/current-students/support/helps/self-help-resources/academic-writing))
Preventing Plagiarism

Not sure what plagiarism actually is?

➔ **CHECK:**
https://avoidingplagiarism.uts.edu.au/

➔ **ATTEND:**
HELPS Referencing workshop
http://www.uts.edu.au/current-students/support/helps/daily-workshops

➔ **USE:**
HELPS Self-help Resources online
http://www.uts.edu.au/current-students/support/helps/self-help-resources
Important to Note!

- A high Similarity Score Index in Turnitin® does not necessarily constitute plagiarism.

- Turnitin® is a data matching application only – your assessor/instructor has the discretion to determine if material is plagiarised.

- Check with your instructor as to whether you are permitted to submit your work through Turnitin® multiple times or only once.
Check with your lecturer whether they require a hard copy of your assignment and/or an electronically-submitted soft copy (via Turnitin®). **In-text referencing** is always required but confirm how your **reference list** should be submitted.

Ensure you carefully note the feedback provided in your graded assessment – **effectively and ethically incorporate that feedback into future assignments**. Using feedback is the key to improving.

Using Turnitin® raises your awareness to acknowledge and correctly **reference all original sources of information** used in your assignment.
“Good Feedback is the KEY to Improvement”
What to do if you need more help using Turnitin® …..

- Contact academic staff such as your tutor, instructor, lecturer or subject co-ordinator about your assignment feedback, either face-to-face in class, or via email/discussion board.

- Visit HELPS and talk to a HELPS Advisor:
  www.helps.uts.edu.au

- Contact IT Support for any technical issues:
  http://www.uts.edu.au/current-students/managing-your-course/using-uts-systems/it-support