

## *Plagiarism*

**Plagiarism is defined in the following manner:**

*To take words, ideas, etc., from someone else's work and use them in one's own work without admitting one has done so. (Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English, 1990)*

Students attending courses in English at Högskolan i Gävle are required to sign this plagiarism disclaimer. All work submitted to your instructor must be free of plagiarism. Please follow the rules discussed below. Students suspected of plagiarism will be referred to the college disciplinary board.

**1. Primary sources are the literary texts discussed in student essays and assignments; secondary sources are texts (usually critical texts) about the primary sources. All direct quotation from primary and secondary sources must be enclosed in quotation marks, with the author's name and page number provided.**

*Example of how a text from a secondary source is correctly cited:*

**Original** from Barbara Christian's *Black Feminist Criticism*:

In many ways, Shug becomes the mother Celie never had, protecting her from Albert and giving her knowledge about her body and about the essential spirituality of the world.

**Quote:** It has been argued that in Alice Walker's *The Color Purple*, "Shug becomes the mother Celie never had, protecting her from Albert and giving her knowledge about her body and about the essential spirituality of the world" (Christian 194).

Note that the quotation is enclosed in quotation marks, and that the quotation is followed by the author's name and the page number.

*Example of incorrect usage (no quotation marks around quote):*

\*It has been argued that in Alice Walker's *The Color Purple*, Shug becomes the mother Celie never had (Christian 194).

**2. At the end of the text, under *Works Cited*, a full bibliographical entry with full publishing history is presented.**

*Example of a correct bibliographical or Works Cited entry:*

Christian, Barbara. *Black Feminist Criticism: Perspectives on Black Women Writers*. New York: Pergamon Press, 1985.

**3. When paraphrasing (describing or discussing someone else's ideas), the author must be acknowledged in the text or in a parenthetical citation.**

*Example of correct paraphrasing:*

It has been argued that motherless Celie finds a nurturing substitute in the charismatic blues singer Shug, who successfully protects her from male abuse (Christian 194).

*Example of incorrect usage (use of Christian's phrase and claim, author not acknowledged):*

\*In Alice Walker's novel, Shug in fact becomes the mother Celie never had.

\*In *The Color Purple*, Celie finds a new mother in Shug.

**4. All translation of another author's work must be acknowledged as a translation and enclosed within quotation marks, with the author's name, publishing history, and page number cited.**

**5. The use of a completed assignment from another course is defined as plagiarism.**

**6. When students are asked to submit individual work for grading, the use of the same sentence, string of sentences, or paragraphs by more than one student is defined as plagiarism.**

**7. Unless authorized by your instructor, group work or other types of collaboration on take-home exams and individual assignments is plagiarism.**

**8. For material cited from the Internet, the complete Internet address should appear.**

First give the title of the site, then the name of the editor (if given) followed by the date of publication or latest update and any sponsoring institution or organization. Finally, state the date of your access and the URL. This information should be provided parenthetically or in a footnote or endnote. Remember that the material used must be enclosed in quotation marks.

*Example:*

*Linguistic Society of America*. 1999. Linguistic Society of America. 23 August 2005  
<<http://www.lsadc.org/>>

For more information on quotation and reference procedure, see the *MLA Handbook*, which is available in our library. In addition, it is your responsibility to discuss remaining questions that you have concerning the use of sources with your instructor.

**I have read and fully understood these definitions of plagiarism and I hereby guarantee that all work I submit when studying English will be free from plagiarism**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_