

How to avoid plagiarism

Plagiarism –using someone else’s thoughts and ideas as your own. To avoid this, use end or foot notes, parenthetical references and a bibliography. You should be recoding your own thoughts and opinions instead of simply cutting and pasting from someone else’s work. Remember, for every line you quote you should have at least two lines analyzing the idea or passage.

On the **Twin Lakes Library** web page you can find the following:

How not to plagiarize – Start with this document...

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>

This is an in-depth document from the University of Toronto that explains how to use proper citations and gives great advice on how to avoid plagiarism while still getting your own ideas down. Author of the document Margaret Proctor suggests “You’re safer to over-reference than to skimp” (Proctor 1) meaning even if you are paraphrasing or simply summarizing an idea you still need to cite the source. By doing this, you can avoid any doubt that you have properly credited the source.

Using Parenthetical References – An easy to follow explanation of how to acknowledge sources using a parenthetical reference. Use this in combination with the “How not to plagiarize” article.

Bibliography help – This document lists the MLA format for creating a bibliography. After you have cited your sources by showing the page numbers of the documents they came from, you must still include a bibliography. Follow the instructions *exactly* for each bibliographic reference right down to the last piece of punctuation.

Research from home – Username for the ProQuest database is *twinlakes* and the password is *thunderbirds*

Use this database to access “more than 20,000 publications, providing the ability to search across more than 150 million documents.” (Gale 1) Gale provides academic journals, newspaper articles and magazine sources. Each article has a proper citation available in MLA or APA format.