

UNISA, Turnitin and Plagiarism

2020

What is Turnitin?

Turnitin is a web-based teaching tool used at Unisa to prevent plagiarism by checking for originality



What is Plagiarism?

According to the Merriam-Webster online dictionary, to "plagiarize" means:

- “to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own
- to use (another's production) without crediting the source
- to commit literary theft
- to present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source.

In other words, plagiarism is an act of fraud. It involves both stealing someone else's work and lying about it afterward.

Source: <http://www.plagiarism.org/article/what-is-plagiarism>

Access to Turnitin

- M&D students are **automatically enrolled** in formal Unisa Turnitin classes online
 - Classes give a fair and equal base for all submissions*
- Students receive E-mail confirmation directly from Turnitin with an access link
- Turnitin is web-based www.turnitin.com
 - No programme installation required*
- 24/7 log in from a web browser:
 - Firefox, Chrome, Safari or Edge*

Log in to Turnitin

- Go to the internet: www.Turnitin.com
- Click LOG IN
- Use your **myLife** email address
E.g. 123456@mylife.unisa.ac.za
- Enter your password
If you do not remember your Turnitin password, click on the link “Forgot your password?” and follow the online instructions to create a new one
- Follow steps in Unisa Turnitin Student Guide

Acceptable files

- Files (documents) must include a title page and bibliography/reference list
 - File requirements:
 - File size: less than 40 MB
 - Maximum paper length: 400 pages
 - File types for submissions at UNISA: Microsoft Word and PDF (*not scanned*), or plain text
 - Files may include images, tables and formulas
- * *Submissions are permanently stored in Turnitin***

File upload/Report generation

- Students upload their files online directly to Turnitin from:
Computer, Dropbox or Google Drive
- Turnitin emails a DIGITAL RECEIPT directly to the student after a successful submission
- The Originality Report is generated for both student and supervisor *within 24 hours*

Originality Report

(it is NOT a “plagiarism report”)

Turnitin compares the submitted file to a database with the following repositories:

- **Internet** - a repository of current and archived Internet sites
- **Periodicals** - a repository of frequently updated content from professional journals, periodicals, and publications
- **Unisa papers** - a repository of Unisa student papers submitted previously
- **Student papers** - a repository of papers previously submitted by Turnitin users internationally

Report note 1

*The percentage shown on the Originality Report is an indication of **NON-ORIGINALITY** and is by no means a percentage of “plagiarism”.*

Originality report overview

Turnitin will highlight *ALL* non-original text:

- Copied text from other sources
- Discipline related terminology
- Names and titles
- Direct quotes
- Bibliographies
- Citations

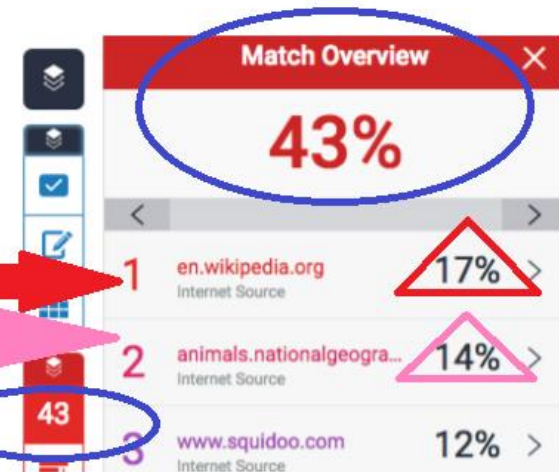
***It is *ONLY* through proper analysis by the supervisor that plagiarism can be identified**

Originality Report View

Each match is numbered and colour coded to help you identify the match source

The majestic blue whale, the goliath of the sea, certainly stands alone within the animal kingdom for its adaptations beyond its massive size. At 30 metres (98 ft) in length and 190 tonnes (210 short tons) or more in weight, it is the largest existing animal and the heaviest that has ever existed. Despite their incomparable mass, aggressive hunting in the 1900s by whalers seeking whale oil drove them to the brink of extinction. But there are other reasons for why they are now so endan

The blue whale's common name derives from bluish-hue that covers the upper side of it body, while its Latin designation is Balaenoptera musculus.



Report note 2

Proper interpretation of an Originality Report requires careful thought and discussion with your supervisor.

Ask your supervisor under which conditions a certain % of matching text may be allowed and how such text should be referenced/acknowledged in your document.

**** Individual source matches may not exceed 5%***

Support

- Technical queries

Turnitin: turnitin@unisa.ac.za

MyLife email: mylifehelp@unisa.ac.za

- Content queries

<http://www.plagiarism.org/article/preventing-plagiarism-when-writing>

Thank you