

The Plagiarists' HALL OF SHAME

Academic Essay 1.1, January 2010

Mădăras Diana Angela

21 lines (5 paragraphs) plagiarized from:

http://articles.famouswhy.com/money_brings_happiness_but_is_it_an_absolute_happiness/

I am not reading any further!

Georgiana Grigoraș

What a pity! It all started so well! Good paper, well written, good citation skills.

But then, a whole paragraph, including its own references:

Some doctors claim that pornography can spark an addiction that is far more difficult to overcome than drug addiction. Treatment for drug addicts usually starts with detoxification to remove the substance from the body. But addiction to pornography, explains Dr. Mary Anne Layden of the University of Pennsylvania, "produces mental imagery which is permanently implanted in the mind of the user and is scaled in by brain chemistry." That is why individuals can vividly recall pornographic images from years past. She concludes: "This is the first addictive substance for which there is no hope for detoxification."

is plagiarized from:

http://www.watchtower.org/e/20030722/article_02.htm

And later an unacknowledged sentence

Some feminists are among the optimists who believe that males' proclivity to rape is largely a consequence of social and cultural forces, not biological ones.

is taken from

<http://www.dianarussell.com/menrape.html>

Muresan Adriana

You don't waste time and go straight to the disreputable "cheat mills". The following paragraphs

[Americans] know that this idea of happiness is materialistic and shallow, and they are quick to point it out in others, but cannot see it in themselves. Money cannot buy happiness, unless happiness is measured by possessions.

Happiness from money is very short lived. While the happiness of people who receive large sums of money might rise immediately after they receive that money, that happiness declines to only slightly above or equal to their level of happiness before the money came to them.

Today, with money, people have a greater purchasing power than ever before.

are copied straight from such sites:

<http://www.custom-essay-writing.com/2008/05/can-money-buy-happiness/>

or

http://www.cheathouse.com/essay/essay_view.php?p_essay_id=35626

Pop Adina Ioana

You didn't bother to even do some research! You actually copied a whole webpage, including its highly specialized scientific language (could you please explain what "the $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$ method" means??) and including its illustrations. The text begins like this:

In 1990 a scientist called Alan Hildebrand was looking over some old geophysical data that had been recorded by a group of geophysicists searching for oil in the Yucatan region of Mexico. Within the data he found evidence of what could have been an impact site. What he 'found' was a ring structure 180km in diameter which was called Chicxulub. The location of this structure was just off the northwest tip of the Yucatan Peninsula. [The crater has been dated (using the $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$ method) as being 65 million years old]. The size of the crater is comparable to that which would have been caused by an impacting body with a diameter of roughly 10km. So we now have some of the proof of the asteroid theory. We know that a chondritic meteorite with a diameter of 10km contains enough iridium to cause a spike. We also know that about 65 million years ago there was an impact of a large object. The big question is what were the results, and how did they effect the dinosaurs.

continues (after skipping one paragraph) like this

If a 10km diameter object impacted at the point at which it struck it would have a velocity of roughly 100,000 km/h. At this velocity there would have been an initial blast (with an estimated force of many millions of tons of TNT) which would have destroyed everything within a radius of between 400 and 500km, including the object. At the same time large fires would have been started by the intense shock wave which would have traveled long distances. Trillions of tons of debris (dust, gases and water vapour) would have been thrown into the atmosphere when the object vaporized. Many enormous tidal waves would be started causing even more damage, the evidence of such waves has been found all the way round the Gulf of Mexico. Along with the tidal waves the blast would also start a chain reaction of earthquakes and volcanic activity there would have also been very high winds caused by the blast. In the days and weeks following the impact the cloud of debris would have been carried over large distances by the post blast high winds. This will have caused months of darkness and a decrease in global temperatures. After this there would have been an increase in temperatures caused by the large amounts of CO_2 released by what would have been global fires. Eventually this would cause chemical reactions that would result in the formation of acid rains.

and ends with another plagiarized bit

The period of recovery would have seen the surviving species moving into the ecological niches left vacant by the dead species. After a short period of time some of the plants that had been burnt down would have regrown from buried seeds or rootstock. As is common with all mass extinctions there would have a sudden evolutionary burst as new species developed. The age of the mammals was beginning.

and all come from

<http://web.ukonline.co.uk/a.buckley/dino.htm>

Moreover, you did not even note that this was just one theory, that even scientists regard with great caution. Instead you present it as a fact!

Codreanu Andra

The whole ending remarks of your paper –

The Danube has the potential to become one of the main waterways and transport axes of Europe, [as is the intention of TEN-T]. This could bring prosperity to the people that live in the river basin. Prosperity, however, is more than earning capacity and money alone. People still want to live in a clean and healthy environment. At the same time, numerous man-made changes, regulation structures, dams and

dredging activities, outstanding river habitats along the Danube still remain today that have long disappeared elsewhere in Europe.

were taken literally from a World Wildlife Fund executive summary

http://assets.panda.org/downloads/wwf_ten_t_position_exec_summary.pdf

available also as HTML document here

http://209.85.135.132/search?q=cache:DqGd_NiGHgYJ:assets.panda.org/downloads/wwf_ten_t_position_paper_full_report_09.pdf+%22the+Danube+has+the+potential+to+become+one+of+the+main+waterways%22&cd=2&hl=ro&ct=clnk&gl=ro&client=opera

Zaharia Mădălina Angela

sets an absolute record in the competition for The Longest Uninterrupted Plagiarized text.

All her colleagues who competed for this title are now completely humiliated by the bravery of this student who sets an unprecedented record.

Just have a look. Ms Zaharia copied everything by hand – a great exercise in calligraphy, by the way! – from the title to the subtitles and was intelligent enough to skip the links and the terms that were too technical. It starts this way:

Authoring principles and practices: Navigation in Educational Web Sites

Introduction

As more and more students go online and spend more time on the Internet (Pastore, 2001) [summary], web site navigation has become more important in helping students find information for their studies. This paper details navigational design techniques that help web site designers make their navigation more user-friendly, especially for educational users, such as university students and researchers.

The Purposes of Navigation

Krug (2000, p.59) [summary] outlines these as firstly, telling users how to find information, for example by offering menus and search functions, and secondly, helping users to understand their location in the site by using page titles, breadcrumbs, colour coding etc. Thirdly, navigation gives users an overview of the site's content, for example through site maps and the text of the menus. Finally, navigation shows users how to use the site if the site requires some kind of process, such as registration or login, [for example as in WebCT.]

The following chapters – relating to *Search, Menu Bars, Indexes, User Centredness, Links, Images* – down to the *Conclusion* are copied slavishly down to the last comma:

Conclusion

In informal conversations with my students about researching information on the Internet, a common complaint is that while the Internet is very convenient for research, it can take a long time to find relevant materials. This highlights the need for good navigation, and especially good search results.

Present research into navigation tends to concentrate on general or e-commerce users. Therefore, more research into navigation in the educational context, and especially into navigation for non-native speakers, is needed.

all comes – ironically – from a website called *Example for Academic Essay*, aimed at Hong Kong students!

It was only at the References that our tireless scribe seemed to get tired. So she started copying the 25 titles of the original Reference list, but, after A, B and C, she fell asleep at D...

You can read all this at Ms Zaharia's source:

<http://elc.polyu.edu.hk/CiLL/eap/2001/egacademicsay.htm>

Timiș Simona

You do not need to be a modern Sherlock Holmes to be able to detect the source of Ms Timis' article on – we have to make some deductions here, since her essay has absolutely NO title whatsoever – (In)Famous Detectives. Anyone with a Google at hand may just type in “*he gave Holmes the essence of Dupin's mental traits*” and you will reach this plagiarizers' treasure trove

<http://www.stories.vaty.net/2007/04/detective-story.html>

(or any of those that plagiarize it), and you may read not just this illuminating phrase about Holmes and Dupin, but even more. Lo and behold:

Stories about detectives did not become truly popular, however, until Beeton's Christmas Annual in 1887 published A Study in Scarlet, introducing to England and the world the most famous detective—real or fictional—of all time, Sherlock Holmes. Sir ARTHUR Conan Doyle, the British writer who created Holmes, was much influenced by Poe; he gave Holmes the essence of Dupin's mental traits and equally bizarre, although different, habits, and he narrated his detective's exploits, as did Poe, from the vantage point of a close companion, in this case the good-natured and perpetually naive Dr. Watson.

Despite his success with Holmes, Conan Doyle, more interested in “serious novels,” soon tired of his detective and tried to kill him off. The enormous popularity of this character, however, would not allow it. The author produced The Return of Sherlock Holmes (1904) and Holmes outlived his creator, being the hero, even today, of adventures penned by other writers. Altogether, Conan Doyle's production of what is called the “canon,” that is, the original Sherlock Holmes mysteries, consists of 4 novelettes and 56 short stories.

The impact of Sherlock Holmes popularized the detective story and brought it to its present form. From the time of Conan Doyle on, writers have sought to develop detective heroes who echoed both Holmes's unique character and his omniscience.

Ms Timis is creative though. At some point she parts with this website and finds a new love:

http://www.fact-index.com/s/sh/sherlock_holmes.html

However Holmes is not at all a stuffy strait-laced Victorian gentleman; in fact, he describes himself and his habits as “Bohemian”. He apparently suffers from bipolar disorder, alternating between days or weeks of listless lassitude and similar periods of intense engagement with a challenging case or with his hobby, experimental chemistry, “extreme exactness and astuteness... [or a] poetic and contemplative mood”, “outbursts of passionate energy... followed by reactions of lethargy”. Modern readers of the Holmes stories are apt to be surprised that he is an occasional user of cocaine, though Watson describes this as Holmes's “only vice”.

And so it goes on to the end of her so-called *essay*.

Ana Bilan

Even serious-minded people, like Ms Bilan, may skip into the occasional plagiarism, as this unacknowledged paragraph, copy-pasted from the disreputable site referatele.com

Today what people see in their homes on television or when surfing the Internet soon becomes accepted very quickly as normal and everyday. In the comfort of one's own home the television monitor scales down the stark newness of an idea, especially the impact of a fashion concept and this makes it easier for us to accept more quickly when worn by others even if we can't see ourselves wearing a similar item.

<http://www.referatele.com/referate/engleza/online4/What-is-Fashion---Fashion-as-a-Sign-System-Fashion-as-a-Barometer-of-Cultural-Changes-The-Need-for-T.php>

Unfortunately Ana decides the let these cheaters have the last word (same source):

How we perceive our persona and what we want to say to society in a very visual camera obsessed culture, is still expressed through our bodies, the way we wear clothes, jewellery and body art.

Adriana Ienuțaș

Copy-pasted from the the lamest source, Wikipedia:

A degree of concord between science and religion can be seen in religious belief and empirical science. The belief that God created the world and therefore humans, can lead to the view that he arranged for humans to know the world

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Relationship_between_religion_and_science

Hey, Adriana, you forgot to copy-paste the final period!

Later on, I stumble upon this:

Actually, science and religion are often not in conflict. Theologians don't care much about the tensile strength of steel when they have church buildings built. Scientists are generally not particularly interested in the functions of a soul. But sometimes science and religion overlap. Each then generally puts forth conflicting beliefs on the same topic.

which is from http://www.religioustolerance.org/scirel_ov1.htm

Ms Ienuțaș is creative. She alternates websites very quickly. No more than one paragraph from one source. This requires some practice (Eminescu High School anyone?). Here's another paragraph

Mainstream Christianity long since accepted that evolution fitted in with the views of the universe, but the extremists try to upset the status quo. On the one side, the vocal religious right, mainly in the US, promises Hell and damnation for those who do not believe their version of the truth.

coming from – you've guessed – another source:

<http://www.experiment-resources.com/religion-vs-science.html>

Even the end of your paper is "borrowed" from a open letter of priest, found again, on the World Wide Web:

Moreover, what the proponents of Intelligent Design misunderstand is that we Christians undermine the grandeur **and** truth of the Bible itself when we try to make religious faith into scientific fact. Genesis and the other books of the Bible tell the truth, but it is not the truth of scientific fact. It is the truth of poetry and faith.

that is, here: http://www.butler.edu/clergyproject/pdf/arnold_nm.pdf

Reka Orban

Yes, you do include the source <http://miscarriage.about.com/od/riskfactors/f/smoking.htm> in your Reference list, but since you fail to enclose the following paragraphs between quotation marks:

For years, doctors have known that women who smoke while pregnant have almost double the risk of having a low-birthweight baby and an increased risk of giving birth prematurely -- and that secondhand smoke exposure carries similar risks. Cigarette smoke can cause numerous health problems in children that last for years after birth, possibly even an increased risk of childhood leukemia.

If that's not enough to motivate women to avoid cigarettes, evidence is mounting that exposure to cigarette smoke in pregnancy -- even in mothers who don't smoke -- also increases the risk of miscarriage and stillbirth. Some evidence even indicates that heavy smoking by the father (more than 20 cigarettes a day), possibly even before conception, may also increase the risk of miscarriages.

continuing for a whole page up to

[...] causing miscarriages, this can cause babies to be born with lower birthweight and can also increase the risk of stillbirth, as well as death in the first year of life.

and you fail to indicate after the quotation its origin, then this is considered plagiarism

Mike Magdalena (LRE-3)

Proves that “old habits die hard” ! A born plagiarist stays a plagiarist to the very end – that is, in your case, the 3rd year!

Folks we have an ex-aequo contestant of Ms Zaharia ! Ms Mike doesn't use much Brain Power to locate her sources. She googles “Sample Essay”, and she lands at Monash University (in Australia) where they propose an essay on Divorce. Unfortunately, there's no clear title to this essay, and it's here that Ms Mike must do the one thing she hates most, that is, be creative. So she has to create a title for her essay, and squeezes out

“The Western family's”

where you may witness the birth of a new use for the old plain apostrophe. Narrow-minded folks will call this “a spelling and grammar mistake”, but who are they to know!?

Except this title, everything is the work of the magical words CTRL-C CTRL-V, shortcut for copy-paste. From the first line:

A major change that has occurred in the Western family is an increased incidence in divorce. Whereas in the past, divorce was a relatively rare occurrence, in recent times it has become quite commonplace. This change is borne out clearly in census figures. For example thirty years ago in Australia, only one marriage in ten ended in divorce; nowadays the figure is more than one in three (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 1996: p.45). A consequence of this change has been a substantial increase in the number of single parent families and the attendant problems that this brings (Kilmartin, 1997).

to the very last

As Bell and Zajdow (1997) point out, in the past, single parent and step families were more common than is assumed - although the disruptive influence then was not divorce, but the premature death of one or both parents. This situation suggests that in studying the modern family, one needs to employ a historical perspective, including the possibility of looking to the past in searching for ways of dealing with problems in the present.

and beyond, down to the last line of the Reference List

McDonald, P. (1993). Family Trends and Structure in Australia. *Australian Family Briefings* No 3. Melbourne: Australian Institute of Family Studies.

everything was copied from

<http://www.monash.edu.au/lis/lionline/writing/general/essay/sample-essay/index.xml>

Actually, I'm not even sure that Ms Mike bothered to copy anything, because I notice at the bottom of the page one little note (which Ms Mike was smart enough not to copy), which says:

Download a printable version of this page (.doc)

Wow! She got a Word document in not time. Signed it and put it in a dossier. How long did it all take, Ms Mike? Three minutes? Two minutes?

Arthur Vişovan

Mr Vişovan says: "My question as an article writer [...] is" "Is there nothing that can be done to control English football hooligans?" I was to be touched by Mr Visovan's concern, when I stumbled onto this very same question in an encyclopedia, reproducing an article from *The Economist* <http://www.encyclopedia.com/doc/1G1-62657425.html> :

Is there really nothing that can be done to control English football hooligans [abroad]?

and the sequel is the same as in Mr Visovan's essay:

THE approach of a major football championship involving the English national team always seems to involve a mixture of anticipation and dread. Hopes that the English team will do well are usually misplaced. Fears that its travelling supporters will run riot are usually fulfilled.

Anxiety about hooliganism is particularly acute ahead of the European football championships, which get underway in Belgium and the Netherlands on June 10th. Riots involving English and Turkish...

On page 2, I am startled to come across a paragraph that is the exact copy of a Wikipedia entry http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Football_hooliganism :

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, the UK, - with hooliganism often dubbed The English Disease - had a reputation worldwide for football hooliganism. However the UK government has led a widescale crackdown on football related violence. Whilst football hooliganism has been a growing concern in some other European countries in recent years, today British football fans tend to have a better reputation abroad. Although instances of hooliganism still happen, it now tends to happen at pre-arranged locations, rather than at the matches themselves.

The historical part draws from the same inspirational source, Wikipedia:

Between the two World Wars, football hooliganism diminished to a great extent, and it started to attract media attention in the early 1960s. A moral panic developed because of increased crime rates among juveniles, and because of the mods and rockers conflict. Football matches started to feature regular fights among fans, and the emergence of more organised hooliganism.[98] Fans started to form themselves into groups, mostly drawn from local working class areas. They tended to all stand together, usually at the goal-end terrace of their home football ground, which they began to identify as their territory. The development of these ends helped bring about national gang rivalries, focused primarily around football clubs. With the growth of fans travelling to watch their local club play away matches, these gangs became known as hooligan firms, and during matches they focused their attentions on intimidating opposing fans.[98] Some hooligans travelled to games on the Football Specials train services.

The paragraph on hooligans adopting designer clothes come word by word from the same fountainhead of wisdom, Wikipedia.

The next two pages reproduce to a comma the exact text from Wikipedia's article on hooligans. And downstream there's much more. Mr Visovan seems so enamoured of Wiki that he absorbs it all!

So much about the author's first hand experience of these things!

Ionuț Groza

Mr Groza, I am very familiar with *Loose Change* and the *911 Truth Movement* and their websites (I think I did recommend these to you...). So, frankly I prefer to read this on the original webpage, rather than copy-pasted in your so-called *essay*.

Your plagiarism is not even original. Your paper begins with the a timeline from the website 911research.wtc7.net

http://911research.wtc7.net/reviews/loose_change/introduction.html#july24

from:

March 13th, 1962. Lyman Lemnitzer, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, presents a proposal to Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, named "Operation Northwoods." The document proposed staging terrorist attacks in and around Guantanamo Bay, to provide a pretext for military intervention in Cuba. The plans included: Starting rumors about Cuba using clandestine radio. Landing friendly Cubans inside the base to stage attacks. Starting riots at the main gate. Blowing up ammunition inside the base, starting fires.

going on for THREE entire pages (hey, we're speaking of 10pt fine print Times New Roman!) down to:

It seems a very long bow to me, but are you sort of suggesting that this worked in a favor of the Bush administration?

Oh absolutely, ... absolutely.

Oh absoltuely... absolutely sha,less plagiarism!

Anastasia Rencheu

For some reasone, none of the many book sources you used have a page mentioned parenthetically. Are you sure you actually consulted those books?

But then there's the (occasional, I hope) unacknowledged quotation form either the disreputable <http://www.bookrags.com/studyguide-bearing-the-cross/quotes.html> (a Cheat Mill) or from http://www.fws.gov/Pacific/aba/dcr/aep_sep_mlkbio.htm

On December 21, 1956, Montgomery City Lines resumed full service on all of its routes. At 5:45 a.m., [Ralph] Abernathy, [E.D.] Nixon, Mrs. Parks, and [Glenn] Smiley gathered at the King home on South Jackson. Ten minutes later, when the first bus of the day pulled up at a nearby corner, Martin Luther King, Jr., was the first passenger to the door. He paid his fare and selected a seat toward the front of the bus. Glenn Smiley, the white Texan, sat down next to him. As news photographers snapped pictures, the bus pulled away from the curb. Black Montgomery, after 382 days of mass effort, had achieved its goal. (8:82)