

Avoiding Plagiarism

DePauw University Writing Center¹

The DePauw University Student Handbook defines plagiarism as

Using the words or idea of another writer without attribution, so that they

appear as if they were your own. Plagiarism is a form of cheating.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating. It is the use of someone else's work or ideas without giving credit to the original author. This includes copying text from the Internet, books, or other sources without proper citation. Plagiarism is a serious offense and can result in disciplinary action.

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Student Version B:

The world as Rabbit sees it is filled with nothing but oppression and pain; this dictates his peculiar brand of isolation. To everyone but Tothero and Mrs. Smith, he is a virulent rogue. In a society which knows nothing about meaning, Rabbit's

absolute devotion to a quest for meaning dictates his absolute aloneness.¹

¹ Galloway, David. The Absurd Hero in American Fiction. Austin, TX: U of Texas P, 1966. 36.

This is also plagiarism even though the writer documents his/her source. She has obviously copied directly from the original text, dropping and changing only a few words and reversing the order of the third sentence. Her version is neither a summary nor a proper paraphrase.

Student Version 3:

In describing Rabbit Angstrom's alienation, David Galloway insists that Rabbit – who seems to be a “perfect rogue” to everybody except Tothero and Mrs. Smith - knows a world filled with “oppression and hurts.” Galloway argues further that Rabbit’s “absolute devotion to a quest for meaning dictated his absolute aloneness in a society which knows nothing about meaning.”