

Understanding and Avoiding Plagiarism in Research and Competition



Introduction:

Plagiarism involves using someone else's ideas or words without proper acknowledgment of the original source. It is essential to give credit to sources when utilising others' ideas, opinions, theories, quotations, facts, statistics, or any information that is not common knowledge. This applies to both written and spoken words, regardless of the information source. Failure to adhere to these guidelines will result in immediate disqualification from the competition, as stated in Rule 1.13.

I. Recognizing Plagiarism:

- 1. Using Another Person's Ideas, Opinions, or Theories:** When incorporating someone else's concepts, viewpoints, or theories into your work, it is crucial to provide proper attribution to the original source.
- 2. Quoting Another Person's Words:** Directly citing someone's spoken or written words requires accurate quotation marks and citation to acknowledge the source.
- 3. Utilizing Non-Common Knowledge Information:** Any facts, statistics, graphs, drawings, or information that is not widely known must be properly cited to credit the source.
- 4. Paraphrasing Another Person's Words:** Even if you rephrase someone else's spoken or written words, proper attribution is necessary to acknowledge the original source.

II. Application of Guidelines:

- 1. Regardless of the Source:** These guidelines apply universally, irrespective of the origin of the information. Whether the information comes from books, websites, journals, interviews, or any other medium, proper citation is necessary.
- 2. Importance of Giving Credit:** Crediting the sources not only demonstrates academic integrity but also allows readers and evaluators to access the original information and validate your work.

III. Consequences of Plagiarism:

- 1. Disqualification from the Competition:** Any form of plagiarism will result in immediate disqualification from the competition, as stated in Rule 1.13.
- 2. Academic and Professional Implications:** Plagiarism can have severe consequences beyond the competition, including tarnished reputation, academic penalties, and limited opportunities for future research or professional pursuits.

Conclusion:

Understanding and avoiding plagiarism is crucial in maintaining academic integrity and ensuring fairness in research and competitions. Giving proper credit to the sources of ideas, opinions, theories, quotations, and non-common knowledge information is necessary. Failure to do so may lead to disqualification from the competition and have broader academic and professional implications. By respecting intellectual property and upholding ethical standards, researchers can contribute to the integrity of their work and foster a culture of honesty and originality.

