



Charles Sturt  
University

# Essential Skills: Turnitin

[csu.edu.au/academicskills](https://csu.edu.au/academicskills)

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# Learning objectives

- Know what Turnitin does
- How to interpret your originality report

## Why use it?

- Academic Integrity
- Interpreting the report to improve your writing
- A tool for feedback on your writing



## Plagiarism errors

Can lead to misconduct allegations and/or poor academic practice.

# What is Turnitin?

- Text matching tool for originality checking
- All Charles Sturt students have access
- Some subjects also use it as the submission method

<https://www.csu.edu.au/current-students/learning-resources/information-planning/assignments/plagiarism-checking>

OR

<https://www.csu.edu.au/current-students/studying/assignments-and-exams/assignments/plagiarism>

# Turnitin submission limits

- Your first three submissions to Turnitin will be processed quickly.
- Subsequent submissions will take 24 hours for the originality report to be generated.
- Be sure to take this into account in your assignment planning.



# Example?

feedback studio Katherine Boyd Goliath of the Sea

The blue whale's common name derives from bluish-hue that covers the upper side of its body, while its Latin designation is *Balaenoptera musculus* (Montgomery, 2001). The blue whale belongs to the Mysticeti suborder of cetaceans, also known as baleen whales, which means they have fringed plates of fingernail-like material, called baleen, attached to their upper jaws. Blue whales feed almost exclusively on krill, though they also take small numbers of copepods. An adult blue whale can eat up to 40 million krill in a day.

These gargantuan beasts used to dominate all the oceans of the Earth up until the late nineteenth century, when the technology was developed to effectively hunt and harvest them (Holloway, 2007). In 1864, the Norwegian Svend Foyn equipped a steamboat with harpoons specifically designed for catching large whales. This led to the killing of hundreds of thousands of whales up until 1966, when the International Whaling Commission banned the practice.

Match Overview

57%






1	www.scribd.com	36%
2	englishclassrdc.blogspot...	6%
3	en.wikipedia.org	6%
4	mylittlehistorybook1.bl...	4%
5	animals-partner.blogspot...	4%

Page: 1 of 2 Word Count: 313 Text-only Report High Resolution On

From *Excluding Small Sources*, by Turnitin, n.d. (<https://help.turnitin.com/feedback-studio/turnitin-website/student/the-similarity-report/excluding-small-matches.htm>). Copyright 2020 by Turnitin.



# What is the percentage score?

-  Blue: No matching text
-  Green: One word to 24% matching text
-  Yellow: 25-49% matching text
-  Orange: 50-74% matching text
-  Red: 75-100% matching text

# Interpreting the similarity score



# When is this okay?

Universities in Australia are struggling to deal with significant cuts to funding while at the same time maintaining and developing industry partnerships (den Hollander, 2017). There is increasing emphasis on work-integrated learning and graduate outcomes related to employability, as well as increasing pressure from government for greater integration of VET institutions and universities and for greater accountability for the impacts of research (Birmingham, 2017; Business Council of Australia, 2017). Helyer and Lee (2012) argue that responding to workplace needs means that higher education institutions “are more likely to develop and deliver learning opportunities which are relevant in the twenty-first century; programmes of a bespoke, negotiated, adaptable and often multi-disciplinary nature” (p. 574).

## When not okay?

The extent to which protein digestion is affected depends on the source of the tannins. For example, *Lotus pedunculatus* Cav. tannins reduced the *in vitro* degradation of the major protein in green plants (Rubisco) much more than *L. corniculatus* tannins. It is likely that the binding strength in tannin–protein complexes is an important factor in ruminal protein digestion. However, the effect of tannins on bacteria, both in the rumen and in the intestine, may be another factor. In the presence of *L. corniculatus* tannins, lower concentrations of bacteria were found in the rumen and in the digesta flowing out of the rumen. The *L. corniculatus* tannins had a direct effect specifically on the proteolytic bacteria in the rumen. However, pre-incubation of *L. corniculatus* tannins with rumen bacteria resulted in more Rubisco degradation than pre-incubation with *L. pedunculatus* tannins. It is possible that *L. pedunculatus* tannins are not useful in ruminant nutrition because they inhibit the ruminal degradation of dietary protein too strongly (Mueller-Harvey 2006).

## Where else is this okay?

Learning will not be bound by the walls of the classroom but occur across multiple sites in formal and informal contexts (Kalantzis & Cope, 2012, pp. 31-32). In the context of a regional university with a high proportion of students from low socio-economic status backgrounds who are often the first in the family to attend university, the work of ALL advisors supports students to achieve literacy levels they need to cope with the demands of their studies. Retaining students is crucial for the university funding. Regional universities

# Not okay?

Firstly, the success or otherwise of a student's transition into a higher education setting such as university may be linked to the student's pre-conceived expectations, previous educational or academic experience, along with their economic or cultural background (Bowles, Davidson, Fisher & McPhail, 2011; Harvey Drew & Smith, 2006; Katanis, 2000). This transition plays a large part in how a student may perform in this educational setting and may affect a student's attitude towards essay writing. Tinto's theory of student integration, mainly his later reflection (1987) would suggest that students experience a 3-stage process of separation, transition, and integration. This process would ensure there is a longer period of time for adjustment and integration. During this stage it is critical that the student's and staff expectations are aligned and understood by both. This consistency of expectations and actual learning experience can ultimately affect the student's retention (Tinto, 1975) and attainment (Smith & Werle, 2005). Students may be concerned that staff may have differing opinions, which could lead to writing anxiety and may affect the student's writing ability.

## What's wrong here?

To control the rising blood pressure during exercise short-term regulation will allow stretching of baroreceptors, which will then trigger an increase of signals that will be sent to the brain. This will also cause an increase in parasympathetic activity and a decrease in sympathetic activity that causes the heart rate to slow down and the arteriolar diameter to increase. This process above then allows a decrease in the blood pressure to occur (Martini et al., 2014).

# Turnitin is a tool

A match is okay if it includes:

- ✓ headings from template or subject structure requirements
- ✓ common phrases in the topic area
- ✓ part of a correctly referenced source
- ✓ a direct quote (used appropriately and referenced correctly).

A match is not okay if it is:

- ✗ not your own words – you haven't changed the original enough
- ✗ an incorrectly presented direct quote
- ✗ incorrectly referenced.

*Use your critical thinking skills!*



# Skills

Learn more about Turnitin or referencing in our online workshops:

<https://student.csu.edu.au/studentlife/workshops-events>

Referencing resources and guides are available on the Referencing page

<https://student.csu.edu.au/learning-skills/referencing>

Paraphrasing and in-text citations video

<https://student.csu.edu.au/learning-skills/resources/academic-writing/video/paraphrasing-and-in-text-citations>

Paraphrasing, summarising and quoting

<https://student.csu.edu.au/learning-skills/academic-writing/paraphrasing-summarising-quoting>

<https://csu.edu.au/academicskills>

# Reference

Turnitin. (n.d.). *Excluding small sources*. <https://www.plagiarismchecker.net/plagiarism-in-the-news-plagiarism-checkers-round-up.php>



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The Academic Skills team wishes you the best in your  
future studies.

<https://csu.edu.au/academicskills>

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or browse to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ASonlineworkshops>

