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# Second Title

**Belonging to: The other day in the cafeteria - rumours about plagiarism**

Date: 2018-06-21

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citation:

[author] Project Re*fair*ence

[title] The other day in the cafeteria - rumours about plagiarism

[date] 2018-06-21

[source] <http://www.academicintegrity.eu/wp/all-materials>

[access date]

# The other day in the cafeteria - rumours about plagiarism

In order to inform and educate students (and staff), we have collected these common rumours, myths/questions and drafted possible answers. We react to them in a FAQ-like scheme.

## I’ve heard…

## …that I have to support almost every statement in my work with a reference, because as a student I’m not doing original research but only reproducing other researchers’ results.

It is certainly true that most written work you produce in the course of your studies is not aimed at exploring or discovering completely unknown fields. Rather, written assignments present the results and insights of others, document experiments, summarize the state of research in a particular field or contrast conflicting positions in a scholarly debate. They allow you to weigh different theories and approaches against one another, discuss their plausibility, and to develop some critical comments and arguments of your own. Depending on your subject of study, your achievement in these assignments lies in structuring your work, summarizing controversies, highlighting the advantages, disadvantages and methodological questions connected to the approach in question. Using quotes and paraphrases to support your argument is a typical feature of these written assignments.

Contributing to research does not only mean producing new results, but also documenting, presenting, interpreting, evaluating, criticizing and discussing existing results.