

K.S.L



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1-1 Background of the Study

University assignments or research require abundant knowledge regarding the topics given. The university students tend to search for information in many ways in order to complete their assignments on time.

~~In this 21st century~~

In this modern age, advanced technology such as in Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) enable students in institutions of higher learning to access online resources at the end of their fingertips. In spite of the convenience, there has been a ~~big~~ significant increase in the trend of plagiarism among university students in Malaysia.

Plagiarism is the act of using of another person's words and ideas without recognising the work of the author. In another words, students make ~~copy~~ copies of the information they found useful or interesting. In the article from Nathesan (2009), it is stated that more students are plagiarising not only through internet but ^{also} printed material and had been caught by doing so.

Another research from Clark (2006), reveals one of the study done on students at South Bank University which shows that 90 percent of the essays submitted were found with traces of plagiarism. Besides, "Turnitin" software ~~was~~ ~~is~~ were used to check 30,000 papers ~~in~~ in previous year and shockingly, 13 percent ~~of~~ out of it were found to be 75 percent similar to the existing material.

Given the uprising number of ^{plagiarism among} ~~stud~~ university students, the rights of the original authors were infringed. ~~This is supported~~ As stated in Clark (2006), many people who published their works on the Internet are afraid of losing them to others. In response to ~~this~~ this nation concerning issue, a special research ~~and~~ committee was set up by the Teaching and Learning Unit of Universiti Perkesa to investigate ~~the trend of~~ plagiarism among students in Universiti Perkesa (UP).

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1.2 Objectives of the Study

This ~~research~~ objectives of the study are:

1. to identify the common ~~reasons~~ reasons for rampant plagiarism among students.
2. to find out the ways ~~students~~ students plagiarise.
3. to recommend ways lecturers can help to ~~curb~~ curb plagiarism among students.

#

1.3 Scope of the Study

This research on plagiarism among students in institution of higher learning in ~~Malaysia~~ Malaysia involved 500 students ~~at~~ at Universiti Perkasia (UP). The respondents were between ages of 18 and 28 who were ~~randomly~~ randomly selected by the research team. ~~Results~~ Data of the research were collected via a set of questionnaire at ~~Universiti Perkasia~~ Universiti Perkasia.

1.4 Significance of Study

Through this research, it is hope that the students of UP are aware of plagiarism and improve their ~~standard~~ standard of work or assignments to achieve ~~good results in their study~~ genuine results in their studies.

~~The findings~~

The findings of this research are important to help the Teaching and Learning Unit of UP to find out plagiarism pattern among the students. ~~With the information~~ With the ~~information~~ information at hand, suitable measure could be taken and ways to prevent plagiarism could be determined.



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2.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Respondents of the study

The respondents of the study were students at University Perkasia. In September 2010, a total of 500 questionnaires were distributed to the students. The students were ~~picked~~ randomly picked ~~to~~ to answer the questionnaires. Seven ~~students~~ students were ~~selected~~ selected to ~~attend~~ ^{give} in-depth information about the topic through interview.

3.2 Research Instruments

This research utilised both quantitative and qualitative research

2.0 Introduction

This section discusses ~~the~~ the methodology of the study. The main purposes of this research were to identify the common reasons for rampant plagiarism among students and recommend ways lecturers can help to curb plagiarism among students. Results of the research were collected through questionnaire and interview.

2.1 Respondents of the study

The respondents of the study were students of University Perkasia. In September 2010, a total of 500 ~~questionnaires~~ questionnaires were distributed to the students. The students were randomly picked to answer the questionnaires. Seven ~~students~~ students were selected for ~~give~~ ^{give} in-depth information ~~about the topic~~ through interview sessions ~~by appointments~~.

3.2 Research Instruments

This research utilised both quantitative and qualitative research methodology. The instruments to collect data for this research were ~~questionnaire~~ and interview. A set of ~~questionnaire~~ questionnaire containing 20 questions divided into ~~the~~ four sections was developed. ~~The~~ Different question types, such as ranking, listing, integrity, ~~yes-no~~ yes-no, open-ended and scales were used in the ~~questionnaire~~ questionnaire. The different sections in the questionnaire were: ¹⁾ i) demographic information, ii) common reasons for rampant plagiarism, iii) ways ~~to~~ students plagiarise, and iv) ways ~~to~~ lecturers can help to curb plagiarism.



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The qualitative data for this ~~research~~ research came from ~~interview~~ interview sessions. The interview sessions were arranged to confirmed the findings of questionnaire ~~at~~ as well as to add a variety ~~of~~ to data collection methods. Seven ~~respondents~~ students were involved in the ~~five~~ five questions interview.

2.3 Research Procedures

Before the actual data collection period ~~a~~ pilot study ~~was~~ conducted to assess the validity of research instruments. A total of ~~ten~~ ten students were involved ~~and~~ chosen at random at ~~the~~ various places in ~~the~~ University Perkasa.

During the actual study, the questionnaires were distributed at various location in the university, such as the cafeteria, in classrooms, at the library and bus stops. Seven students of those who completed and returned the questionnaires were selected to ~~attend~~ ~~and~~ give in-depths information about the topics ~~that~~ ~~they~~ ~~will~~ ~~attend~~ ~~and~~ ~~give~~ ~~in-depths~~ information through interview sessions by appointments.

~~4. FINDINGS~~

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3.0 FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Introduction

This section discusses the findings of research on plagiarism among students in University Parkasa. The findings were ~~divided~~ into important topics from a survey done on ~~the~~ 500 students.

3.2 Common Reasons for Rampant Plagiarism

There are many reasons associated with plagiarism among UP students. As shown in Table 1, the common reasons for rampant plagiarism include very little understanding of in-text citation, completing assignment at the very last minute, easy access to online resources, no form action taken, too many assignments to complete, and wanting to get a better grade.

The majority of UP students ~~choose~~ ^{chose} to plagiarise ~~due to very~~ because of very little understanding of in-text citation (91%). In second rank, wanting to get a better grade comprised 85 percent. Then it was followed by ~~76 percent~~ easy access to online resources with 80 percent and ~~the~~ completing assignment at the very last minute with 76 percent. ~~Less~~ Less than 50 percent of the students will resolve to plagiarise if too many assignments to complete (45%) and no form action taken (40%).

An explanation for the highest percentage of students who plagiarise due to very little understanding of in-text citation is that the students are not paying attention in lecture halls. Many students find it is hard to stay focus ~~the~~ during lectures or sleepy in classrooms. They spent the night therefore, ~~what~~ they are oblivious to what ~~are~~ ~~the~~ ~~was~~ the lectures delivered by the lecturer and claim that they do not understand or know the meaning of plagiarise. Apart from that, they also do not revise on the subjects until ~~the~~ examinations are around the corner.

It is expected that students are bound to be busy with assignments and lectures. Therefore, completing assignment at the very last minute ~~is~~ is a common scene to the students. They ~~fail~~ fail to manage their time wisely ~~and~~ ~~allocate~~ ~~it~~ ~~make~~ join too many other activities in the university. This finding seem to support the idea raised by Nathegan (2009), who ~~stated~~ states that students ~~plagiarize~~ do not wish to commit such immoral ~~work~~ work but they have ~~not~~ no choice due to time constraint.



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Some of the students chose to do "copy and paste" assignments and submit them to the lecturers because no firm action was taken. The students have the mind-set that the lecturers do not know that their ~~works~~ works were actually ~~a~~ copies of others. In fact, the lecturers are aware of the ~~that~~ situation. According to Clark (2006), there are plagiarism detection technology and the lecturers use them to assess students works. ~~Experts say~~ ~~However, many of that~~ the lecturers ignore the results of plagiarised work because ~~all~~ they are afraid to lose their reputation.

In short, the ~~common reason~~ students of UP chose to plagiarise due to very little understanding of in-text citation.

3.3 Ways Students Plagiarise

The pie chart in Figure 1 indicates the ways students of UP plagiarise. The most significant way students plagiarise is cutting and pasting from online sources with 50%. The other half of the proportion were copying from previous students' assignments (25%), copying directly from printed sources (15%) and paraphrasing or summarising without citing the source (7%).

Half of the students cut and paste online sources to complete their assignments. This finding can be explained by the convenience of the access to internet. ~~There are endless~~ With internet, the students are able to search for information around the world and certainly find similar topics about their assignments. Internet is the easiest way to obtain sufficient ~~information~~ knowledge and information in a short period of time.

It can be concluded that students copy and paste when they plagiarise.

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3.4 Ways lecturers can Help Curb Plagiarism

In general, ~~Table 2 reveals~~ ~~teach~~ the techniques of in-text citation ~~is~~ the best way to ~~it~~ it can be seen that in Table 2, teach the techniques of in-text citation is the best way ~~to~~ lecturer can help to curb plagiarism among UP students.

Intro?

Discusses what is meant by plagiarism and provide examples ranked second on students opinion for ~~ways~~ ways lecturers can help to curb plagiarism. ~~Ranked~~ Ranked in third is explaining the differences between paraphrasing and plagiarising. Followed by remind students of the consequences of plagiarising and finally, penalise students for plagiarising.

The data from table 2 can be connected to Table 1. Most of the students do not understand what plagiarise is so the best way to prevent it is to teach them the techniques of in-text citation.

The students do not realise they are plagiarising when they read the others masterpieces. As students, they are thought to study from books or other reading materials and memorise for the examinations.

That is way perhaps many students did not know they are plagiarising. ~~This finding~~ It is mentioned in Clark (2006), that students nowadays are used to "Google" search and do not realise that copying other people's work is incorrect.

In conclusion, the lecturers ~~to~~ play an important role in curbing plagiarism among students.

F&D = 5.5



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4.0 CONCLUSION

~~This research on plagiarism among students in University~~
This research investigated on plagiarism among students in University Politeknik. Primary data for this research were collected by distributing questionnaires to 500 UP students. As mentioned earlier in the introduction, the main purpose for this research ~~is~~ were to identify common reasons for rampant plagiarism, to find out why students plagiarize and to recommend ways for lecturers can help curb plagiarism.

The following conclusions can be drawn from the findings of the study:

1. The findings shown that the students have very little understanding of in-text citation so they ~~plagiarize~~ plagiarize.
2. ~~The~~ The students cut and paste from online when they plagiarize.
3. The best way ~~lecturers~~ lecturers can help curb plagiarism is by teaching the techniques of in-text citation.

Implications → The results indicate that the lecturers should teach the students the techniques of in-text citation to curb the problem. However, this findings cannot be generalized to the real scenario in Malaysia due to ~~the~~ research only in University Politeknik.

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5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Recommendations based on findings

Based on the findings of this research, it is recommended that:

1. The Teaching and Learning Units of University Putera ought to include the knowledge of plagiarism in curriculum.
2. The students should opt to focus in classroom during lectures and aware of plagiarism.

5.2 Recommendations for future studies

Since this research only involves UP students, it is recommended that the same research can be done on other universities to compare if there are any similarities or differences in plagiarism among students.
~~Further more, future~~

C&R = 3.5

More detailed explanation should be given.