

DAY NINE—ETHICAL USE OF INFORMATION

Ethical use of information has always been an issue in research, but it has become more of an issue as _____ has made it easier than ever to be unethical. Just because the technology available makes it easy to cut and paste a paper that is due tomorrow doesn't make it right.

Terminology Related to Ethical Use of Information

- _____ property—property that results from original creative thought (writing, art, music, etc.). The words in a book are the intellectual property of the person who wrote them. The image on a canvas is the intellectual property of the person who created that image.
- Copyright—the _____ that protects intellectual property.
- Plagiarism—“theft” of intellectual property.
- Once a copyright expires, a work is in what is called the _____. No permission is needed to copy those works (but the original creators must be credited to avoid plagiarism).
- _____ allows for the copying and use of copyrighted works (without permission but with limitations) in education, news commentary, parody, and criticism.

More about Copyright

- Copyright is automatic—as soon as something is written down, recorded, etc., it is protected by copyright. No official registration or use of the copyright _____ is required.
- When you purchase an item protected by copyright (whether it's music, a video, or a computer program), you have the right to resell, rent, lease, or lend the item that you _____—but you don't have the right to make copies of it for other people.
- Copyright law is mostly civil law (which means being sued rather than being charged with a crime). However, a violation involving more than 10 copies and amounting to a retail value of more than \$2,500 is a _____ under criminal law.
- Books, movies, videos, music, images, software programs—all of these are copyrighted works.
- Copyright lasts for the creator's life plus _____ years.
- Just because something is on the Web doesn't mean it's there legally—and just because it's there doesn't mean you have the right to do whatever you want with it. What is accessible on the Web is covered under copyright law unless there is a statement indicating that you have the right to use it without permission.

The most important thing to understand about copyright, however, is that it exists to _____ those who create. The law exists so that the person who wants to become an author or an artist or a musician can do so. If there's no law protecting what that person creates and anyone can do anything they want with that person's creation (including giving it away free to their friends), how can he do that? Copyright law needs to be revised. A project like _____ is a step in the right direction—but more needs to be done to in order to allow for what this digital age makes possible while also protecting those who create.

