

Plagiarism: why we do it?

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Plagiarism has always been a critical issue in institutions of higher learning. There are many reasons that lead students to plagiarise and one of the main reasons for second (foreign) language learners to plagiarise is their inability to express themselves in the target language. It is the intention of this paper to examine the reasons behind students' plagiarism, especially among those who understand the implications of plagiarism. A questionnaire will be administered on randomly selected students. These are carried out on second year diploma students studying in a higher learning institution. It is hoped that the findings of the study will help lecturers to understand the reasons for students' plagiarism and identify ways to combat the increased problems of plagiarism.

Keywords: plagiarism, reasons, learning and teaching, L2 students, higher education.