Interpreting Originality Reports

Originality reports consist of three areas which include the Report Information, Citations and Manuscript Text (See figure 1). Below is a brief explanation for each of the areas of a SafeAssign report.

Report Information

Report information is listed in the right hand panel of the Safe Assign report. Report information includes the following information: Author, percentage of matching text and word count, as well as the submission date of the SafeAssignment.
Citations

The Citations area includes the sources that SafeAssign suggests the text may have been plagiarized from. This area can include multiple sources with each source having a different number and color associated with that source (See figure 3).

![Citations (3/3)](image)

Figure 3: Reviewing the Citations sources

Manuscript Text

Includes the Submitted Assignment along with color text highlighting text is potentially plagiarized from, with numbers to identify potential sources.

![Manuscript Text](image)

Figure 4: Manuscript Text
Matching Scores

Sentence matching scores displays the percentage probability that two sentences have the same meaning.

This number can also indicate the probability that the text is similar by chance. For example, a score of 90 percent means that there is a 90 percent probability that submission is the same. A 10 percent probability says that they are similar by chance and not because the submitted paper includes content from the existing source (whether or not it is appropriately attributed).

The Overall score is an indicator of what percentage of the submitted paper matches existing sources. This score is a warning indicator only. Papers should be reviewed to see if text that matches is properly attributed.

What do these marching scores indicate?

Scores below 15 percent: These papers typically include some quotes and few common phrases or blocks of text that match other documents. These papers typically do not require further analysis, as there is no evidence that plagiarism is likely for these papers.

Scores between 15 percent and 40 percent: These papers include extensive quoted or paraphrased material or they may include plagiarism. These papers should be reviewed to determine whether the matching content is properly attributed.

Scores over 40 percent: There is a very high probability that text in this paper was copied from other sources. These papers include quoted or paraphrased text in excess and should be reviewed for plagiarism.

Adapted from Blackboard

https://help.blackboard.com/en-us/Learn/9.1_2014_04/Instructor/100_Assignments/025_Use_SafeAssign/010_SafeAssign_Originality_Reports