

A quick handout narrative...

I started discussion with the “Epistemology of Plagiarism” handout [EofP Handout.pdf], to present the central point about plagiarism carrying evidence about the plagiarist’s knowledge.

We then used the “An Experiment in Plagiarism” handout [EofP exercise.pdf] to ‘test’ the claim that answers carry evidence about expertise, independent of plagiary – even when they are ‘simple’ questions. (Didn’t actually get to do the exercise, though... too much discussion! Should’ve asked for a 90-minute session.)

Provided an expert’s original and plagiarized answers to the database question in “A database geek’s answers” [EofP answers.pdf] to show that while plagiarism would not be obvious to nonexperts, it would to experts, while still being superior to philosophers’ (nonexperts’) answers, whether plagiarized or not.

Of course, the handouts aren’t a substitute for the discussion! If you have comments, questions, or would like to know more, please email me at mcdermidk@mail.montclair.edu – I’d be happy to talk!

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