



Interpreting the Turnitin report

- What Turnitin tells you
- How the report should be evaluated
- Which similarities are acceptable, and which are not
- What Turnitin does not tell you
- AI report

KATSE TULEVAISUUTEEN.
THINK FUTURE.

Turnitin evaluates the originality of the text – what is the author's own text, what is not

Turnitin-testi 4.5.2023.docx



However, plagiarism checkers are not foolproof and can miss cases of plagiarism. For example, if a student rephrases a sentence from a source without proper citation, the plagiarism checker may not catch it. In addition, plagiarism checkers can flag instances of plagiarism that are not actually plagiarism, such as common phrases or technical terms that are often used in a particular field.

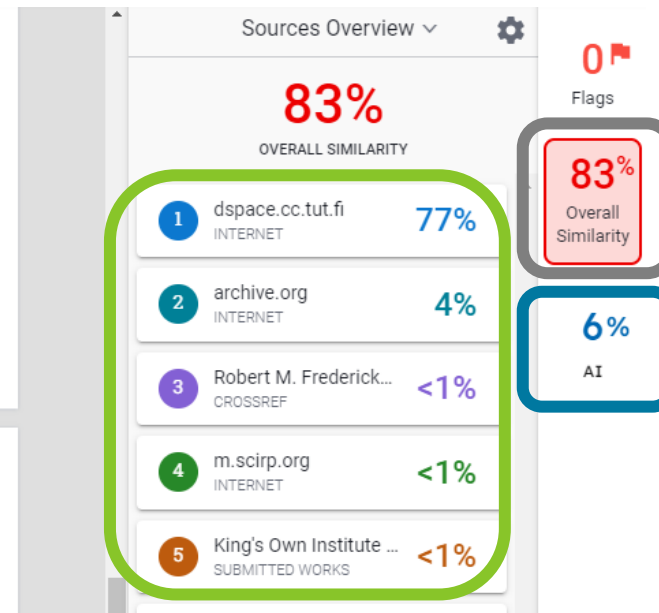
Overall, plagiarism checkers can be a useful tool in preventing academic fraud, but they should not be relied upon solely to identify instances of plagiarism. Instead, they should be used in conjunction with other measures, such as teaching students proper citation practices and emphasizing the importance of academic honesty.

Reference list created by AI:

Jocoy, C., & DiBiase, D. (2006). Plagiarism by adult learners online: A case study in detection and remediation. *International Review of Research in Open and Distance Learning*, 7(1), 1-15. <https://doi.org/10.19173/irrodl.v7i1.262>

Turnitin highlights text that matches the **Turnitin database** (a large database of open access and licensed publications).

You must interpret these similarities in context - do not draw conclusions directly from similarity scores!



How much similarity to different sources is detected

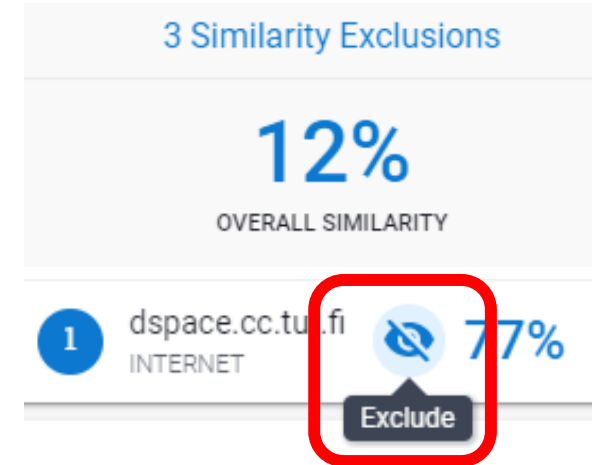
Similarity report:
How much similarity the text has to the Turnitin database

AI report:
How much of the text Turnitin believes is created by AI

0
1-24
25-49
50-74
75-100

Reviewing the Similarity Report (1/2)

- If for some reason the work reviewed (or part of it) is already in the Turnitin database, and similarities are allowed, **exclude the allowed publication(s) from the comparison**. The publications can be brought back into the comparison later, if necessary, by clicking on *X Similarity Exclusions*.
- First, **have a quick look through the text** to see how much work is ahead.
- Start going through the highlighted areas (i.e. similarities with the publications in the Turnitin-database) in more detail.



Reviewing the Similarity Report (2/2)

- It is possible to look first at the sources with the highest similarity score in the list, but it may be more sensible to **go through the text in order**.
- Each matching publication in the Turnitin database has its own number and colour. Clicking on the publication number shows
 - a) how many areas of similarity have been found – you can browse through them
 - b) the link to the original publication for further comparison.

can be represented as nodes linked to their classes by simple spo-
sh representing semantic relationships between concepts (and ins
(2017), all relationships which link the nodes of the graph, carry u
ere are two kinds of relationships in Figure 5: hierarchical relation

2 Sébastien Harispe  <1% ^
CROSSREF

a < 1 of 9 >

b doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-02156-5 

d conceptual annotations about-e.g.,
genes are characterised by concepts

Acceptable matches (highlights)

These are matches with no reason to be expressed differently. Examples:

- A justified direct quotation from the original source (e.g. a short legal text).
Is it properly cited as a direct quotation?
- A professionally established phrase/definition/expression.
- A common phrase like *The aim of this thesis is...*
- A list with no reason to be expressed differently. Is it properly cited?.

Non-acceptable matches (highlights)?

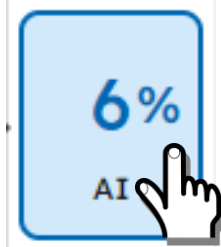
Everything that needs to be told in your own words. Examples:

- Longer continuous text areas, i.e. direct copy-paste (even if properly cited).
- Longer text areas with unhighlighted gaps, i.e. copy-paste where words or word order has been changed (even if properly cited).
- Unnecessarily long direct quotation (even if properly cited).

What the Similarity Report does not tell

- Does not directly indicate, by a certain score, that plagiarism or fraud has been committed. You always must interpret the similarities highlighted in context.
- Does not indicate whether sources are properly referenced.
- Does not usually indicate whether text is translated from another language directly by a translator.
- Does not indicate whether the text is copied from a publication that is not in the Turnitin database.

AI report



- Click to open as a new website. Even a small percentage indicates that some of the text may be produced by AI. It still requires human evaluation.
- Check in particular the status of the sources used in the text highlighted by AI report. **Are sources indicated at all (if not, why not)? If sources are indicated, do they actually exist?** ChatGPT can, when requested, put the citations and a list of references in the text generated by AI. However, the referencing is also AI-generated (i.e. AI "guesses" what proper referencing looks like).
- Also consider whether there are unexpected changes in writing style.
- The AI report does not tell with absolute certainty how much of the text is AI-generated. It promises to detect AI-generated content with 98% confidence (and to make a false positive not more than in 1% of cases).
(<https://www.turnitin.com/products/features/ai-writing-detection>).

See ARC ME1216

ME1216 Cases of fraud
diagram + document