

## WHAT REFERENCING IS

Referencing is telling your reader that in your work, you have used the ideas of other writers (for example, from books, journals or websites). Referencing makes sure that your reader does not think that these ideas are your own.

Referencing can be defined more formally as acknowledging the sources of information (for example, books, journals or websites) that you have used in your work.

## WHY WE MUST REFERENCE

There are several reasons why you must reference the ideas of others in your work:

- as courtesy to the original writer
- as evidence of the depth and breadth of your reading (or lack of it!)
- to give your reader more confidence in your arguments, because they know where they have come from
- so that if you need to check a source of information later, you can find it more easily
- so that your reader can find a source of information you have used, if they want to read it for themselves
- to avoid plagiarism [[link](#) to Plagiarism info sheet]