Significance of matches within similarity reports

Plagiarism is a matter of academic judgement. Similarity reports should not be used as a sole determinant of plagiarism, but be used to aid lecturers to identify potential cases of plagiarism. The decision to deem any work to be plagiarised should be made only after careful examination of both the submitted paper and the indicated sources, taking into account all other evidence and the intent of the student. Students should be made aware that plagiarism can often be detected without the aid of TurnitinUK's originality checking service.

Overall Similarity Percentage

It is likely that work produced by students, at undergraduate level, will have some commonalities, as they are often writing on similar topics, using recommended texts. As a result, a similarity report will be expected to contain some matches and no percentage thresholds should be used in the evaluation. The overall percentage match figure should be viewed with caution as it might not provide a true representation of the academic integrity of the work. For example, in a large document, a very small overall percentage may contain significant matches. Conversely, single page documents with a high similarity index may not indicate plagiarism. A document with a zero or small percentage match may indicate a lack of referencing of other sources.

n.b. Some resources are not available to the TurnitinUK database therefore lecturers should continue to use their own expertise to detect a suspected case of plagiarism.

Matches to other student work

The TurnitinUK database comparison will identify all commonalities with submitted work, including students' submissions across institutions; the similarity report will show you from which institution the matches have come. Matches to other student assignments can be a result of both authors taking common extracts from the same source as opposed to one student copying from the work of another student, or collusion.

Allowing students to view similarity reports

The University promotes a formative and preventative use of TurnitinUK as a means of encouraging students to write, paraphrase and cite correctly. The option to make reports accessible in advance of the deadline and the option to resubmit are available when you set up a TurnitinUK assignment. More information on this is available in the **Creating a TurnitinUK assignment** information sheets. Before set up, check the preferred practice for your School with your School/Programme Coordinator or DE. School procedures for summative use of TurnitinUK must reflect the principles of parity and transparency.

Accessing the Similarity Report

1. To view the similarity report click on the coloured square or Similarity percentage in the assignment Inbox

Vhat is S	Sociology? VIEWING: NEW PAPERS *					
Submit File					Edit assignment settings E	mail non-submitters
	AUTHOR	TITLE	SIMILARITY	FILE	PAPER ID	DATE
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	Gill Kelly	defining Sociology	47% 35	٥	7474578	23-Sep-2010
	Ann Onymous	Antibiotics	65%	0	7474847	23-Sep-2010

Figure 1 Accessing the Similarity Report

Navigating to the Match Overview in the Document Viewer

The first screen has a red tool bar on the right of the assignment script with options for viewing the similarity report. It is usual to click on the red number and view the Match overview first.

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1			Click here for Match	n Overview	47
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	2010). Another, offered by Ken Browne (2010) is that it is "tr organized) study of human groups and social life in modern s institutions such as families or the education system. Sociolo institutions operate and relate to one another e.g. how the fa in the education system. Regardless of its exact definition it is true to say that the disc investigation and critical analysis to develop and refine a boo activity, for the purpose of applying such knowledge to the p		s Click here to download similarity report view, script, or student submission receipt		
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Page: 1 of 2 Word Co	In its definition of the subject, th which include: social theory, soci other disciplines (sport, 10 ycholo	e British Library goes on to li alization; social interaction; s gy, the workplace, education	st the different branches of social movements, and the n, politics etc). (British Libra	f Sociology sociology of ary, 2010).	Q
Figure 2: The Doc	ument Viewer initial view				



Figure 3: The Match Overview Screen

Examining all the matches to a particular source

3. To examine all the matches to the first source click on that source in the side bar (Figure 4).



Click on the right arrow to step through each match to this source in turn

Figure 4: First match in side bar

4. A grey Match bar will appear above the first source match. Click on the **right arrow** of the bar to step through each match to the source you selected and a detailed comparison with the source text will appear above each match in the assignment window (Figure 5).

	View matches in the co of the full Source Text		itches in the conte Ill Source Text	itext	
activity, for the purpose of applying such knowledge to the pursuit of social welfare.	-	<	Match 2 of 3]	>
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rsity of Virginia Julie A. Kmec Washington State University This article revives the debate over whether women's upward mobility prospects decline as they climb organizational hierarchies. Although this proposition is a core element of the "glass ceiling" metaphor, it has failed to	0	2	cooley.libarts.wsu.edu Internet Source	8%	>
gain strong support in previous research. The article establishes a firm theoretical foundation for expecting an increasing female disadvantage, with an eve toward defining the sco	<u>+</u>	3	Liliana Riga. "The Ethni Publication	6%	>
whether womenal upward mobility prospects decline as they climb organizational hierarchies. Have the spore if this proposition is a core element of the "glass celling" metaphor and establish a firm theoretical foundation for expecting an increasing female disadvantage, with an eve toward defining the scope conditions building a model.	<i>(i)</i>	4	www.capturecustomer	6%	>

Figure 5: Match bar and detailed comparison: here the second match to the second source is shown in the source text window.

5. To view all the matches to the source in the context of the full source text click on the book symbol in the source text window.

 The student's assignment will appear on the left with the relevant text highlighted. The original source will be displayed on the right, with the corresponding text highlighted in red. (See figure 6).



Figure 6: seeing all the matches to a single source in the context of the Full Source Text

To view Underlying Sources

7. TurnitinUK will list the source which incorporates the strongest match within the match overview but it may also find other sources that match the same text and these can be seen by looking at the Match Breakdown. To do this click on the grey arrow to the right of the total match percentage for that source.



Figure 7: Accessing the Match breakdown

8. You may wish to view all the sources in the Turnitin database which match the assignment, to do this click the all sources button



Figure 8: The All sources button

Eliminating matches to sources

9. In some cases, matches may be the result of an assignment mistakenly being uploaded more than once, either by the tutor, or the student. The result may be that matches highlighted are in fact the same piece of work. It is possible to exclude the duplicated match from the report. (See figure 9 &10).

It is important to note the difference between matches to a duplicate assignment which should be excluded, and matches to work by the same author that has been reused to fulfil requirements of a different assignment, which should not.

D feedback	Gill Kelly defining Sociology		<	> 🧿
	branch might be considered at the micro level of agency and interaction through to the macro level of systems and social structures. The subject may also be studied from different perspectives for example the feminist or different political perspectives, such as socialism and capitalism. An example of a feminist view of sociology	 ₹ 47 	All Sources	× > 15%
	of the workplace might be the glass ceilings and a typical study might explore the debate over whether women's upward mobility prospects decline as they climb organizational hierarchies. It might explore if this proposition is a core element of the "glass ceiling" metaphor and establish a firm theoretical foundation for expecting an increasing female disadvantage, with an eye toward defining the scope conditions building a model.		Submitted to University Student Papers - 2 papers	12%
	Sociologists have criticized their own discipline for making assumptions. For examples sociology on the Russian Revolution assumes that its leadership was from the Russian intelligentsia and its socialist ideology was a response to the class conflicts and exclusions generated by an autocratic, industrialisting Russian state. Feminist sociologists bellow that that early sociology studied public		www.capturecustomer Internet Source - 2 urls en.wikibooks.org	11%
	male society rather than the more domestic female society. All sociologists try to think theoretically, and social or sociological theories can be distinguished from our commonsense, everyday understandings and explanations in that it attempts to be systematic about explanations and ideas to provide advenues evaluations. In that it attempts to be systematic	•	Internet Source - 2 urls superman.theopencurri Internet Source	10%
	viewpoints – to see the whole provide abequate explanations, take account or interent viewpoints – to see the whole priority and is open to refutation and critique. Most of the early sociological thinkers were trained in other academic disciplines, including history, philosophy, and economics. Durkheim is considered to be the founder of modern Sociology. He saw		www.thefullwiki.org	10%
	It as a positivits Social Science thus advocating the scientific method as the best approach to uncovering the processes by which both physical and human events occur. The actual term sociology was first coined by Comte from the Latin term <i>socius</i> (companion, associate) and the Greek term <i>logia</i> (study of, speech).	•	en.m.wikibooks.org	10%
	It could be said that a challenge to practitioners of the discipline is how they can do socially useful work and spend their time understanding society.	Ċ	Exclude Source	s
Page: 1 of 2	Word Count: 586	Return to Turnitin Clas		Q

Figure 9: The Exclude Sources button in the All Sources view

10. If there are a number of matches you can select those you wish to exclude. (See figure 10).



Figure 10: Excluding selected sources

Restoring excluded Sources

11. To restore excluded sources click on the 'Exclude and Restore Sources' button.



Figure 11 The Excluded Sources Button

12. Select the sources you wish to restore and click on the 'Restore' button. To return all excluded sources click the 'Restore All' button. (See figure 10). To close the Excluded Sources Panel click on the X at the top right corner of the panel.

	Excluded Sources
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	Submitted to Queen's University of Student Paper
	Restore (1) Restore All

Figure 12: Restore excluded resources

Using the filtering functionality

13. Click on the View/edit filters and settings symbol at the bottom right hand side of the screen which appear as a funnel (See Figure 13).



Figure 13: View/edit filters and setting symbol

14. Click 'Exclude Quotes' on the Filters and Settings side panel to exclude quotations (Figure 14).



Figure 14: Excluding the quotations

- 15. Click on 'Apply Changes' at the bottom of the panel.
- 16. The Similarity Index should decrease.
- 17. Matches to bibliography and small matches with a word limit of up to 10 may be excluded in the same way.

You are advised **NEVER** to exclude small matches on a percentage basis