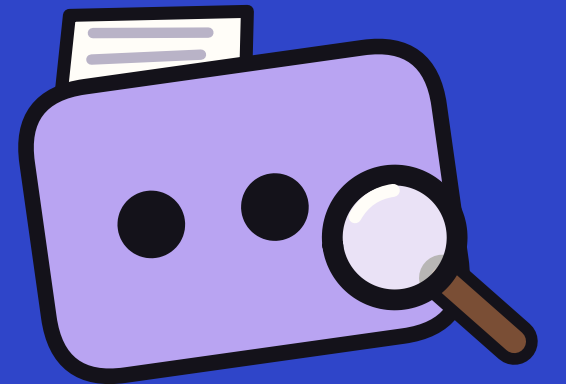


Where did **referencing** come from?

Big question: why do we credit other people's ideas?



Do now: would you trust it? 5 min

Rank the claims from most to least trustworthy. Give a reason.

A

Local councils have lost power to central government since 2010 (Hart, 2019).

B

Everyone learns best by listening rather than reading.

C

9 in 10 students copy their homework from the internet (Oxford Learning Institute, 2024).

Practice sources: not real publications.

Rome • 1st century CE

The kidnapped poems

The poet Martial found another poet reciting Martial's poems as his own.
Martial gave him a name: **plagiarius**.

What do you think **plagiarius** meant?

plagiarius = kidnapper

From the Latin **plaga**, a snare or net. To Martial, copying his poems was like stealing his children.

1601 Ben Jonson brings **plagiarism** into English

c. 1620 plagiarism follows

Key words

Write each one in your own words.

Source

Where information comes from: a book, article, website or person.

Citation

A short note in your writing that points to a source.

Reference

The full details of a source, so anyone can find it.

Plagiarism

Using someone else's work or ideas without saying so.

Evidence

Facts or findings that support a claim.

Timeline card sort 8 min

- 1** In groups of 3 or 4, read all 10 cards.
- 2** Put them in order, oldest first. The dates are hidden.
- 3** Pick one card your group will explain to the class.

Gold: label each card credit, checking or conversation.

The timeline

Cards 1 to 5

1

c. 250 BCE

The Pinakes

Callimachus lists Greek writers and their works in 120 books, at the Library of Alexandria.

Conversation

2

1st c. CE

Plagiarius

Martial calls a copier a kidnapper.

Credit

3

Medieval

Glosses

Scribes write small notes around the main text of manuscripts.

Checking

4

1601

Plagiary

Ben Jonson brings the word into English, meaning literary theft.

Credit

5

1697

The footnote

Pierre Bayle's dictionary uses notes to show proof.

Checking

The timeline

Cards 6 to 10

6

1710

Statute of Anne

The world's first copyright law gives rights to authors.

Credit

7

1881

Author and year

Zoologist Edward Laurens Mark puts author and year in brackets. "Harvard" style begins.

Conversation

8

1906, 1929

Shared rules

The Chicago Manual of Style, then the first APA guidelines.

Conversation

9

2000

The DOI

Every online article gets a permanent link.

Checking

10

2026

AI references

Studies find chatbots invent 11% to 57% of the references they give.

Checking

Three reasons we reference

Credit

Ideas belong to people.
Naming them is fair.

Cards 2, 4, 6

Checking

Readers can find the source
and see for themselves.

Cards 3, 5, 9, 10

Conversation

Your work joins everyone
else's, and others can follow
the trail.

Cards 1, 7, 8

Think, pair, share: which matters most today?

Card 10 • 2026

Up to **57%**

of references given by some AI chatbots were made up.
The lowest was 11%.

Audit of 69,557 citations from ten AI models, arXiv 2026.



Pip helps, you decide.

Spot the claim 10 min

? Needs evidence

" Quote, needs marks

✓ Common knowledge

Sleep is important for health. One in three teenagers sleeps less than seven hours a night. Experts say teenagers need between eight and ten hours of sleep to function well.

Practice text: not from a real publication.

Exit ticket

5 min

- 1 What did the Latin word plagiarius mean?
- 2 Give one reason we reference, with an example from the timeline.
- 3 Write one question you have about how to reference.

Next lesson: how referencing works, with Peel · peel.kanbananza.com