Contract Cheating Detection for Markers (Red Flags)



University of Aberystwyth Workshop

20th May 2022

London South East Academic Integrity Network
Contract Cheating Working Group (LSEAIN CC WG)

Stephen Bunbury, University of Westminster Dr Mary Davis, Oxford Brookes University Anna Krajewska, Bloomsbury Institute London Dr Matthew Jones, University of Greenwich

Workshop information

The workshop is designed to help participants develop skills that will help them identify potential contract cheating when marking student assignments. The presenters belong to the London and South East Academic Integrity Network Contract Cheating Working Group (LSEAIN CC WG). The CC WG have developed an interactive 'red flag' checklist resource - Contract Cheating Detection for Markers. We recommend that workshop participants familiarise themselves with the resource before the session.

Handout information

This handout includes:

- A brief pre-workshop activity which we ask participants to complete before the session (if possible).
- Excerpts from student assignments and a scenario which will be used during the workshop (participants may want to read through these before the session but this is not required).
- Space for your notes and reflections

1. Pre-workshop activity

The extract below is taken from an undergraduate Politics and International Relations essay. Have a look at the essay and consider the following questions:

What do you notice about the in-text citations and sources cited in the reference list? Is there anything else that gets your attention?

Add your answer to the Mentimeter we have created:

- Go to menti.com
- Use the code 19829129
- Type in your answer. You can submit multiple answers.

This can be done on almost any device – computer, tablet, or smartphone.

Extract

The environment is considered one of the major aspects of human society. People are having different measures for living around the world. This increased their quality of life and other aspects in which they are humans are surviving (Ejelöv and Nilsson, 2020). Based on the human environment, they have great impotence with relation to their actions. This also includes different aspects such as living standards, surrounding measures, etc. All of them depend on an effective and healthy environment. In most countries, the issues related to the environment are continuously increasing (Liobikienė and Poškus, 2019). This is because they are not paying much attention to the environment. This is developing one of the major issues around humans being suffered. Considering such aspects, this is considered one of the important aspects the related country must develop the appropriate environmental policies.

The environmental policy aims to prevent pollution, leading to the destruction of natural resources. The government has committed itself to regulating investors and allowing them to waste their dumps responsibly (Hazemba and Halog, 2021). In this regard, different countries have adopted different patterns for the environmental policies in action.

The major aim here is to contrast and compare the environmental policies of Canada and India. Both countries have used the approach of environmental

policies to implement different measures for securing the environment. Canada's environmental policies reflect European countries, whereas India's environmental policies are based on international agreements (Liobikienė and Poškus, 2019). This report mainly focuses on the overview of environmental policies applicable in these two countries along with their effectiveness for contributing to sustainable development.

Reference list extract

- Aamodt, S., 2018. Environmental ministries as climate policy drivers: Comparing Brazil and India. The Journal of Environment & Development, 27(4), pp.355-381.
- Alola, A.A., Arikewuyo, A.O., Ozad, B., Alola, U.V. and Arikewuyo, H.O., 2020. A drain or drench on biocapacity? Environmental account of fertility, marriage, and ICT in the USA and Canada. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*, 27(4), pp.4032-4043.
- Ejelöv, E. and Nilsson, A., 2020. Individual factors influencing acceptability for environmental policies: a review and research agenda. *Sustainability*, 12(6), p.2404.
- Hazemba, M. and Halog, A., 2021. Systematic review of how environmental management policies are incorporated into national development plans in order to achieve sustainable development. *Environmental Challenges*, 3, p.100041.
- Liobikienė, G. and Poškus, M.S., 2019. The importance of environmental knowledge for private and public sphere pro-environmental behavior: modifying the value-belief-norm theory. *Sustainability*, 11(12), p.3324.
- Liu, R., Sanyal, A. and Singh, N., 2021. Environmental Issues, Economic Policies and Agricultural Development: The Case of Punjab, India. Economic Policies and Agricultural Development: The Case of Punjab, India (January 4, 2021).
- Malaj, E. and Morrissey, C.A., 2022. Increased reliance on insecticide applications in Canada linked to simplified agricultural landscapes. *Ecological Applications*, p.e2533.
- Nguyen, B., 2020. Green but Colour Blind: Environmental Racism in Canada and the Unintended Consequences of Electric Vehicle (EV) Incentives on Socioeconomic and Racial Inequality.
- Nomani, M.Z.M., Osmani, A.R., Salahuddin, G., Tahreem, M., Khan, S.A. and Jasim, A.H., 2021. Environmental impact of rat-hole coal mines on the biodiversity of Meghalaya, India. Asian Journal of Water, Environment and Pollution, 18(1), pp.77-84.

Space for your notes	

2. Resources for the workshop activities

a) What do you notice about the source cited? (Extract taken from a business assignment.)

Title: Analysis on Volkswagen Emission Scandal

Volkswagen announced the plans to spend 7.3 billion dollars in order to rectify the emission problems, and this amount was later increased to 18.32 billion dollars. Volkswagen agreed to plead guilty to the criminal charges and the admitted that it deliberately sought to install the cheating software (Harmon, 2017). Volkswagen was ordered to pay 2.8 billion dollars of criminal fine for cheating on the emission tests through installing the software program on its vehicles.

Harmon, S. 2017, "Into the Woods: Does EPA's Formaldehyde Rule for Wood Products Go Too Far?", *Natural Resources & Environment*, vol. 32, no. 1, pp. 26-30.

Space for your notes		

b) What do you notice about the sources in this reference list? (Extract taken from an international relations essay.)

Domalpally, A., Danis, R.P., White, 2013. Circularity index as a risk factor for progression of geographic atrophy. *Ophthalmology*, 120(12), pp.2666-2671.

Klusmeyer, D.B., 2018. Hans Morgenthau and republicanism. *International Relations*, 24(4), pp.389-413.

Kostagiannis, K., 2018. Hans Morgenthau's Realism: Power as the Nemesis of the Nation-State. In *Realist Thought and the Nation-State* (pp. 65-102). Palgrave Macmillan, Cham.

Meyers, R.J., 2017. Hans J. Morgenthau: On speaking truth to power. Society, 29(2), pp.65-71.

Neacsu, M., 2019. Closing the Openness: Morgenthau on Meaning, Tradition, and the Statesman's Mission. In Hans J. Morgenthau's Theory of International Relations (pp. 147-174). Palgrave Macmillan, London

Neacsu, M., 2019. Hans J. Morgenthau's theory of international relations: disenchantment and re-enchantment. Springer.

Rajkumar, A.P., A.L. and Russell, P.S.S., 2018. Can only intelligent children do mind reading: The relationship between intelligence and theory of mind in 8 to 11 years old. Behavioral and Brain Functions, 4(1), p.51.

Rösch, F., 2018. Morgenthau in Europe: Searching for the Political. In Hans J. Morgenthau and the American Experience (pp. 1-25). Palgrave Macmillan, Cham.

Russell, W.P. and Breunlin, D.C., 2019. Transcending therapy models and managing complexity: Suggestions from integrative systemic therapy. *Family process*, 58(3), pp.641-655.

Tracy, R.P., Lemaitre, R.N., Psaty, Meilahn, E.N. and Keller, L.H., 2017. Relationship of C-reactive protein to risk of cardiovascular disease in the elderly: results from the Cardiovascular Health Study and the Rural Health Promotion Project. Arteriosclerosis, thrombosis, and vascular biology, 17(6), pp.1121-1127.

Space for your notes	

c) What is unusual about this Turnitin text matching report? (Extract taken from an international development essay.)

The response of Asian countries

The pandemic of coronavirus seems to be under control more rapidly in only certain countries in Taiwan, Japan, China, in Singapore. There has been very little confirmed illness or death linked to COVID in Thailand and Vietnam (Wang, 2020).

However, in the world there is perhaps no other position where the approach for the coronavirus was so different in that of Asia – partly because of the particular divergence of political structures and geography. The Chinese autocratic regime fully sealed off the town of Wuhan by the end of January, which began the epidemic and mostly brought life to an end in the rest of the world. Yet, since the outbreak's size was hushed in the first place, it is impossible not to be cynical about the official statistics for the country's epidemic. Yet the virus seems to have been contained in China. The number of new infections has been very limited for months (Zhang, 2020).

In the early days, social and economic limitations were enforced by the Japanese Government, but these restrictions were not as severe as in Germany later. Christian Dorsten, the chief virologist at Berlin's Charita University Hospital, offered Japan's popularity in the German daily paper, Die Zeit, a focused avoidance of clusters of infection instead of bulk, close testing and the public's ability, even though they were not mandatory, to take preventive steps. In many Asian countries, although in Germany masks were originally rejected as ineffectual, people in daily life are prepared to wear masks that have reached a certain degree of normality. This was the case before the pandemic of coronavirus. As the US and the EU claim to have the world's top health goods and services, the pandemic crisis has been tackled better than in the Western world by certain Asian nations. Although the economy has slowed a little in these Asian

References

2

Anser, M.K., Yousaf, Z., Khan, M.A., Nassani, A.A., Alotaibi, S.M., Abro, M.M.Q., Vo, X.V. and Zaman, K., 2020. Does communicable diseases (including COVID-19) may increase global poverty risk? A cloud on the horizon. *Environmental Research*, 187, p.109668.

Ataguba, J.E., 2020. COVID-19 pandemic, a war to be won: understanding its economic implications for Africa.

Bird, M., Frisancho, V. and Lavado, P., 2020. Preregistration: The Impact of Emergency Cash-Transfers During COVID-19: Evidence from Peru.

Cash, R. and Patel, V., 2020. Has COVID-19 subverted global health?. *The Lancet*, 395(10238), pp.1687-1688.

Cuesta, J. and Pico, J., 2020. The gendered poverty effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in Colombia. *The European journal of development research*, pp.1-34.

Laborde, D., Martin, W. and Vos, R., 2020. Poverty and food insecurity could grow dramatically as COVID-19 spreads. *International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)*, Washington, DC.

Lau, L.L., Hung, N., Go, D.J., Ferma, J., Choi, M., Dodd, W. and Wei, X., 2020. Knowledge, attitudes and practices of COVID-19 among income-poor households in the Philippines: a cross-sectional study. *Journal of global health*, 10(1).

Looi, M.K., 2020. Covid-19: Japan declares state of emergency as Tokyo cases soar.

Space for your notes

d) What do you notice about the sources cited and the reference list?

How does age affect learning a second language?

Data collected from different sources refer to age effect on second language acquisition. According to Krashen, Scarcella and Lonh (1979), the speed of second language acquisition at an initial stage and long term attainment should be consider separately. If such a disagreement was made, it can be said that older learners including adolescents are much faster learns than children at early stage of second language learning and children are better than the older learner in long term attainment.

Professionals believe that children before ten years-old can speak correctly and fluently as an homegrown person (Smith, 2018). Research has shown that children are found more chances to speak a foreign language with a completely native phonation if they learn before adolescence. The child will learn the language faster, keep it better and often speak it as near native speaker. Moreover, recent research shows a young child more than 5 years old can learn and process up to five languages (Smith, 2017).

Another significant finding is in term of the critical period effects in second language learning. The critical period hypothesis has been one of the most discussed matters. The critical period hypothesis struggles that the ability to learn a language is limited to the years before adulthood. (Moskovsky, 2011).

Lenneberg (1967) assumed that around the age of adolescence the brain functions of a maturing human begin to change. Moreover, it seems that the efficiency of second language acquisition among adults has differ significantly from the way children acquire their first language. This has led researchers to examine the evolution of the Critical Period Hypothesis. Brown [2007] indicate to this hypothesis as "a biologically determined period of life when language can be acquired more easily and beyond which time language is increasingly difficult to acquire" (p. 57).

Reference list

- Moskovsky,C(2011),'The Critical Period Hypothesis Revisited'. Available at: https://www.scribd.com/document/262318861/Moskovsky (Accessed: 24 November 2018)
- 2. Müller, S. (2018). Second Language Acquisition, Berlin: Aussenbach.
- 3. Murad, J (2016). Age as a Factor in Second Language Acquisition, Germany, ISBN 978-3-640-31946-6

- 4. NCBE (2018), 'The Effect of Age on Acquisition of a Second Language for School'. Available at:
 - http://www.thomasandcollier.com/assets/1988_effect-of-ageon_acquisition-of_l2-for-school_collier-02aage.pdf (Accessed: 24 November 2018)
- 5. Nikolove,M (2018),'The Age Factor and Early Language Learning', Studies on language acquisition.
- ResearchGate, (2011), 'The Critical Period Hypothesis Revisited: The Implications for Current Foreign Language Teaching to Young Learners'. Available at: file:///C:/Users/17122985/Downloads/2011 JLTR-CPHandYLs.pdf
- 7. Hoefnagel-Höhle,M (2017), 'The Critical Period for Language Acquisition: Evidence from Second Language Learning', *Child Development*. Available at:https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/1128751.pdf

Space for your notes	

e) What do you notice about the Turnitin text matching and report?

Ice cream business

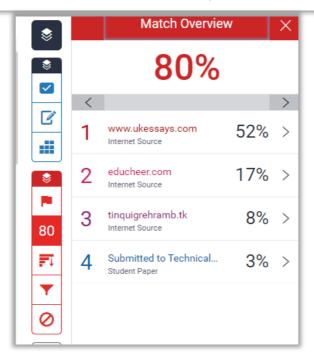
1. Ice cream business

Ice ceam is a universal dessert enjoyed by many whose origins date back to 3,000 B.C. Before the fridges were in existence, the ice creams were made in a bucket full of ice and salt in which the container having all the ingredients of ice ream was held and the mixture in it continually stirred till it was completely frozen (Edge articles). In a multi-culture world, diversity is a gift and one that I cherish. I enjoy acquainting myself with everything and everyone who is different and unique in his other own way. Just as the whipped cream distinguished the sundae making it different from all the other ice cream specialties there are. They, in my opinion, can offer me knowledge I would otherwise not have access to, and I myself can offer them the experiences and lesson of my life, as short as it is right now. Not one person is like next. I myself am very unlike any other individual (Studyboss). Do you ever wonder why your favorite ice cream truck never comes around very often? Well I have a business plan to start an ice cream truck

product promotions. Launch costs are as high as 50-100% of revenue in the first year and these costs progressively reduce as the brand matures, gains consumer acceptance and turnover rises. For established brands, advertisement expenditure varies from 5 – 12% depending on the categories. It is common to give occasional push by re-launches, which involves repositioning of brands with sizable marketing support.

Market research

Customers purchase decisions are based on perceptions about brands. They also keep on changing with fashion, income and changes in lifestyle. Unlike industrial products, it is difficult to differentiate products on technical or functional grounds. With increasing competition, companies spend enormous sums on product launches. Market research and test marketing become inevitable. The business rests on the two aspects that are brand equity and distribution network (UK essays)



Space for your notes

f) What do you notice about the phrasing? (Extract taken from a comparative politics essay.)

The Environment Safety and Bio-diversity Protection policy:

The EPBC policy (Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation legislative policy) is Australians' main ecological rule. Vulnerable species, swamps, ecosphere inheritance places, and the Great Wall Reef aquatic park are all sheltered under this legislative law.

This policy is used to regulate what should be confidential for the shield, direct the retrieval of loss endangered nature, classify unadorned hazards to our atmosphere, oversee nature trade, and choose whether mining, town growth, or agriculture clearing must continue.

Any person, who takes a movement that is probable to have a primary effect on problems safe by the policy if they get the support of the Australian atmosphere minister, obligates a violation below Australia's national environmental policy (Abas et al., 2019).

Safety matters comprise ecological subjects of national importance along with the atmosphere on Nation land. The EPBC legislative policy protects the below eight issues of national ecological significance:

- UNESCO World Culture Sites
- Nationwide momentous sites
- Globally substantial wetlands (registered under the Ramsar Agreement)
- Global contracts that keep migrant class
- Itemized vulnerable classes and environmental groups
- Nautical areas of the country
- The Aquatic Park of the Prodigious Wall Reef and Atomic actions (including uranium mines).

The EPBC legislative policy also shelters movements on Republic land that have an ecological influence, along with the movements complete by the Australian Administration and Australian Management interventions that remain probable to have a primary ecological influence (everywhere) (Adebayo and Acheampong, 2022).

Space for your notes

g) What would you ask the student in a viva?

Shaun Brown has been awarded a provisional mark of 85% for his law with psychology essay he submitted via Turnitin. There are no issues with the Turnitin report. However, you spotted a number of 'red flags' in his work.

You are aware that Shaun has not engaged with the taught seminars, and his attendance is poor. He was referred to his personal tutor for academic support but failed to attend appointments on numerous occasions. Some of the 'red flags' identified in his work include:

- Total editing time of 3 minutes.
- Author of the document is Paul Tilley.
- It is clear that the author put some effort into formatting this assignment (e.g. text is justified, line spacing of 1.1, line spaces between paragraphs, page numbers, use of MS Word 'styles', headings and borders on pages, professionally looking cover page; but fonts are not consistent between headings and the main text).
- The assignment makes use of automatic citations in MS Word version of the file (which you did not come across when marking other assignments in this cohort).

Space for your notes	

Keep the conversation going:

https://bit.ly/CCWGWorkshopPadlet

Workshop Presenters

Stephen Bunbury LLM (Employment Law) MA (in Higher Education) SFHEA is senior lecturer in law at the University of Westminster. Stephen is the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Lead (EDI) and Academic Integrity Lead for Westminster Law School, and has also had roles as the Disability Tutor/Coordinator and Quality Lead. His research interests lie in disability discrimination, higher education and equality, diversity and inclusion, and he has published in the area of employment law, discrimination law, higher education and legal skills.

Dr Mary Davis PhD (Education) SFHEA is Principal Lecturer (Student Experience) and Academic Integrity Lead in the Business School at Oxford Brookes University. She provides advice and training about academic integrity to staff and students, and works on institutional policy improvements. For the past 17 years, she has been a researcher of academic integrity, with interests in the formative use of Turnitin, teaching academic integrity and students' development of source use. She is currently leading a QAA-funded collaborative enhancement project into inclusion and academic integrity.

Anna Krajewska MA SFHEA is the Director of the Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning at Bloomsbury Institute London. Her research project exploring aspects of contract cheating inspired and informed an institution-wide awareness campaign and contributed to the reduction in the rates of academic misconduct. She is currently working on various projects, including collaborative initiatives within the London and South East Academic Integrity Network.

Dr Matthew Jones PhD FHEA is a Senior Lecturer in Politics and International Relations and the Programme Leader for the BA Hons Politics and International Relations degree at the University of Greenwich. He runs sessions on contract cheating and academic misconduct at the University of Greenwich. In addition to helping markers develop better skills in identifying indicators of possible contract cheating, he believes that improving assessment design is one method to counter contract cheating and academic misconduct. His teaching and research focus on political theory, in particular liberalism and pluralism.