

INFORMATION AND MEDIA LITERACY



2nd LEARNING, TEACHING AND TRAINING ACTIVITY

Falticeni – Romania

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INTRODUCTION TO REFERENCES

CARLOS is a 16 years old boy.

Like many of his colleagues, he struggles every day with ... hormones ...aggressors ... girls ... demanding parents, teachers ...and finally, with **homework!**

Today he has to do a research on the solar system and it is quite worried about it ... Carlos therefore decided to ask his best friend ... **THE INTERNET!**

The Web results came after just half an hour. He discovered: an academic article on-line (as pdf.) with several pictures, a video, a definition and detailed explanation from Wikipedia and several papers written by other students, free and available in a social network for students.

Carlos is at crossroads ...



Option 1: I will copy!

"I will copy a text from a document, something else from another document and I will finish my research in no more than 1 hour! Great! Finally, an easy thing in my life! My teacher will be proud of me!"

Option 2: I will create and cite correctly!

"I could select the material, I could analyze the most reliable and the most comprehensive material. I could further investigate to check the authors and compare some key concepts to test the quality of the content and the source of information. I will also develop my own research based on my own perspective. I will quote the authors and concepts that inspired me and I will include a bibliography. "

He chose the first option, of course!



- **Option 1: PLAGIARISM!**
- **Option 1:** Carlos has done his research in an hour. He was satisfied. Unfortunately, two other colleagues have used most of the same materials, using the Google search engine. Even if his teacher was not familiar with the digital world, he detected the plagiarism.

10 years later...

- He suffers from low self-esteem. When he needs to work or face a challenge, he always relies on others. It is always the last and he is always exploited by others. He lives with his parents and at weekends he usually watches documentaries about whales.

If he had chosen another option...

www.eheh.it



Option 2: CREATIVITY AND REFERENCES!

- **Option 2:** Carlos finished in 3 hours. He was excited! He chose the most reliable and comprehensive material. He developed his own research based on his own perspective. He presented the solar system and he compared at school its structure and its laws with dynamics and microcosm. In the text he quoted the concepts and the authors who inspired him and included them in a bibliography at the end of the investigation. He posted on his blog and his research has received thousands of feedbacks! He has also participated in a contest for young writers and won 3000 euros!

10 years later...

- He has his own company of digital service and a well-known social network. He has recently launched its own clothing brand; he is married to a top model. Last summer he traveled to Greenland to see the whales closely.



THE CORRECT WAY

- A good image for Carlos!
Unfortunately, it is not possible to teach students how to choose the best option, but always try to encourage students to be:
Fair,
Humble,
Always invest in their minds.
In this way, there will always be something good in their choice!
Now let's follow Carlos' path and learn from him to get familiar with references ...

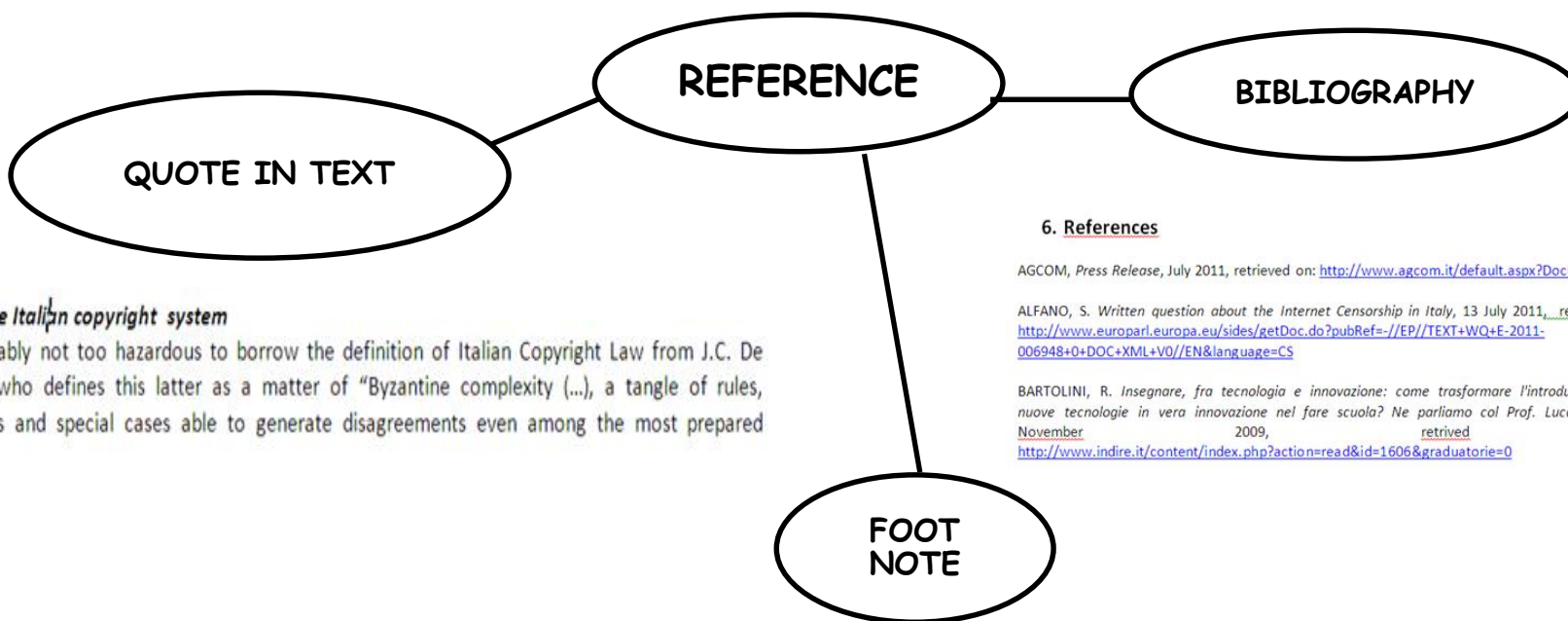


What is a reference?

- If you want to use a text, an image, a software to make the lesson more attractive, you must specify the most relevant characteristics of a source of information (a **Reference!**) avoiding **plagiarism (!!).**



What is a reference?



a) The Italian copyright system
 It is probably not too hazardous to borrow the definition of Italian Copyright Law from J.C. De Martin², who defines this latter as a matter of “Byzantine complexity (...), a tangle of rules, exceptions and special cases able to generate disagreements even among the most prepared jurists”³.

6. References

AGCOM, *Press Release*, July 2011, retrieved on: <http://www.agcom.it/default.aspx?DocID=6692>

ALFANO, S. *Written question about the Internet Censorship in Italy*, 13 July 2011, retrieved on: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+WQ+E-2011-006948+0+DOC+XML+VO//EN&language=CS>

BARTOLINI, R. *Insegnare, fra tecnologia e innovazione: come trasformare l'introduzione delle nuove tecnologie in vera innovazione nel fare scuola? Ne parliamo col Prof. Luca Toschi*, 6 November 2009, retrieved on: <http://www.indire.it/content/index.php?action=read&id=1606&graduatorie=0>

² Co-director of NexaCenter, Politecnico of Turin

³ J.C. DE MARTIN, *Un nuovo ordine per il diritto d'autore nell'era del Web*, in *Letter@gcom*, n. 3/2011, pag. 8, retrieved on: <http://www.agcom.it/Default.aspx?message=visualizzadocument&DocID=6877>



The Quote is the “exact text” which offers information about the author. It is marked with quotation marks.

Paraphrasing means the indirect citing providing information about the author. The references are about the author, title and date or a Website, in general an online source.

The references of online reports are made in the foot note



4.3. Digital fluency and lack of transversal students' skills in your country

a) Digital fluency

As stated in the “Key Data on Learning and Innovation through ICT at school”, published by EACEA in 2011, “Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) provide a variety of tools that can open up new possibilities in the classroom. They can particularly help tailor the educational process to individual students' needs, and they can also provide learners with the crucial digital competences needed in our knowledge-based economy”²⁴.

What is then the current situation in Italy and the relevance of ICT in school environments? Recently, a report issued by the European Schoolnet ²⁵ depicted a not very optimistic perspective about our country.

In comparison with other countries, “the average young Italian is not a great user of the Internet; he or she downloads music less often and, in particular, communicates less through the Internet (chat and email)”²⁶. At school, “several elements suggest that the provision of computers is more problematic than Internet access, since it can be seen that some regions are much less well equipped than others in terms of computers per student (...).The use of computers in teaching is not optimal in Italy, which lags somewhat behind other European countries in this respect. Nor is this entirely due to the lack of equipment in some regions. The example of Portugal shows clearly

²³ Answer given by Ms Kroes on behalf of the Commission, 30 August 2011, retrieved at: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getAllAnswers.do?reference=E-2011-006948&language=CS>

²⁴ EACEA P9 Eurydice Key Data on Learning and Innovation through ICT at school, 2011 retrieved on: http://www.indire.it/lucabas/lkmw_file/eurydice///KD ICT 2011 EN.pdf

²⁵ European SchoolNET FGA Working Paper, *The contribution of ICT to education. Comparative findings from international surveys and some innovative practice*, April 2010, retrieved on: http://www.fga.it/uploads/media/Mallon-Monseur-Quittre-Wastiau_The_contribution_of_ICT_to_education_

Harvard Style

- During an investigation or a report, it is appropriate to support our ideas with arguments by calling or citing information produced by other authors;
Harvard Reference Style is an author-date system, The author's name and year of publication are cited in the text;
Full details of the book are included in a reference list at end of the document.



In text:

“An effective structure is important” (Redman, 2006, p.22)

“quote .. Bla bla bla”(author name, Year, page)

Reference List:

Redman, P., 2006. Good essay writing: a social sciences guide.
3rd ed. London: Open University.

(author, date, title, edition, place of publication, publisher)



<http://libweb.anglia.ac.uk/referencing/harvard.htm>

- **The author's name quoted in text**
- *... according to what has stated in his first work .. . **Reggiani (2006)**...*
- *or ... **Reggiani (2006, pp.30-40)** ...* in you refer to a specific part of author's work
- **The author's name who is not quoted directly in text**
- *... according to what has stated in his first work .. . **(Reggiani, 2006)** ...*
- **More authors who are quoted directly in the text**
- *... **Reggiani (2006)** and **Benedetto (2001)** have both witnessed...*
- **More authors who are not quoted in the text**
- *... Later on in the following studies **(Reggiani, 2006; Benedetto, 2001)***



- **Two, three or four authors for the same paper**
- ... **Reggiani and Benedetto (2006)** in their papers ...
- ... *Recent essays (Reggiani and Benedetto, 2006) ...*
- or *(Reggiani, Benedetto and Funghi, 2006) ...*
- **More papers of the same autor in different years listed in chronological order** (i.e. earliest first)
- ... *as suggested by Reggiani (2001, 2006) who stated that ...*
- **More than four authors:**
- The first author followed by *et al.* (*alias*, in Latin)
- ... **Reggiani, et al. (2006)** state that ...
- ... *Recent reports (Reggiani, et al. 2006) ...*



- **More works of an author from the same year**
- Adding a small letter, with no space, after the year
- *Reggiani (2006a) .. but later studies by Reggiani(2006b)*

- **Charts and diagrams**
- Author, year, page (**Reggiani, 2006, p.30**)



- **No author**
- *Evaluation plan (Anon., 2006)*
- **No date**
- *... Reggiani (n.d.) has demonstrated ...*
- *... Latest studies (Reggiani, n.d.) showed ...*



Wikipedia

To quote a text from Wikipedia, you could specify the author (Wikipedia), year, the Document name or web page. (the upgrade date, if available) Available at: include the web address / URL (Uniform Resource Locator) [accessed on].

Solar System, Wikipedia , 2012 Available at:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solar_System [Accessed date
27 September 2012].



YouTube

The recommended elements for a reference are the name of the contributor, Year, Video title, Series title. (If applicable) [type of medium] Available at the website address / URL (Uniform Resource Locator) [accessed on].



A Blog

Author / Username, year. The title of the blog entry. Blog's title, [average] posting date. Available at: Web address / URL (Uniform Resource Locator) [accessed on].

Demasi, Gary , 2012. Google Official Blog. More renewable energy for our data centers [blog] 26 September. Available at: <http://googleblog.blogspot.it/> [Accessed 27 September 2012].



An online publication

- The author and Corporation, year, document title, place: Producer / Editor. Available at: including the website address / URL (Uniform Resource Locator). [Date when it was accessed].
- Rachel Williams, 2010. Internet plagiarism rising in schools [online]. The Guardian. Available at [<http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2010/jun/20/internet-plagiarism-rising-in-schools>]. [Accessed date 02 October 2012].



A Webpage

- You should identify the author of the website / community and the document publication.

Reference usually include: author or source, year. The title of the document or Web page (the upgrade date, if available), web address and date of access.

James Gallanger, BBC, Melt in the Body electronics devised, 27 September 2012. [online] Available at <<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-19737125>> [Accessed 28 September 2012] - Reference of author + website ownership

Recent Research on Health Melt in the Body electronics devised, James Gallanger, BBC 2012. [online] Available at <<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-19737125>> [Accessed 28 September 2012] – in text citation author + website ownership

.. Latest news (BBC, 2012) has shown Bo Xilai ... – in text citation just website ownership



References

- Wikipedia, Reference Definition, 9 September 2012 Available [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reference] Accessed on [01 October 2012]
- Harvard System of Referencing, available [<http://libweb.anglia.ac.uk/referencing/harvard.htm>] Accessed on [01 October 2012]
- Robert, H. Evaluating Internet Research Sources." November 2010 Available [<http://www.virtualsalt.com/evalu8it.htm>] Accessed on [11 December 2012]
- Harvard System of Referencing available [<http://libweb.anglia.ac.uk/referencing/harvard.htm>] Accessed on [01 October 2012]

