

Interpreting the Similarity Index

1. How to interpret the similarity report

These are the different colours that represent the level of plagiarism on your document

SIMILARITY	
0%	
6%	
43%	
58%	
80%	

- **Interpreting the Similarity Report**
- Blue: No matching text.
- Green: One word to 24% matching text.
- Yellow: 25-49% matching text.
- Orange: 50-74% matching text.
- Red: 75-100% matching text.

2. How Turnitin works

Please note:

Although Turnitin is known to scan your document for plagiarism, it does not check for plagiarism in your work. Turnitin checks your submission against the billions of web pages both current and archived content from the



internet, a repository of works other students have submitted to Turnitin in the past, and a collection of documents, which comprises thousands of periodicals, journals, and publications, and if there are instances where your writing is similar to, or matches against, one of Turnitin's sources, this will flag for your lecturer to review.

It is perfectly natural for an assignment to match against some of the Turnitin databases. If you've used quotes and referenced correctly, there will be instances where we will find a match and that is fine. The similarity score simply highlights any matching areas in your paper so your instructor can use this as an investigative tool to determine if the match is or is not acceptable.