

Academic Integrity

Pose to students:

First, how would you define academic integrity? Or, what is academic dishonesty?

“For us, the work you show represents your own true ability and effort. Students will enrich their learning through means and methods listed and discussed in class and not gain an unfair advantage through other means.”

Read and discuss the following situations based on your teacher’s instructions. As a group, discuss whether the situation is “academically dishonest” and if so, what consequences your group think are appropriate for the situations. Alternatively if there is no academic dishonesty, how should the teacher respond to the situation? Also, if you think a situation is academically dishonest decide how the participants could modify their actions to ensure academic integrity. Discuss how or if the consequences would change if it is not a first offense.

1. Sara didn’t complete her homework because she ended up having to work two hours later than she thought the night before. The homework is being checked for a grade, so she quickly copies it off of Kevin. She plans to redo it later to ensure that she really understands how to do the problems before the next test.
2. Mary and Waylon are working on their homework together. They each work on the problems but check with each other to make sure they are getting similar answers. They sometimes work together on problems they don’t initially know how to do so that they can complete their homework.
3. Charise is an amazing graphic artist and made a diagram of her lab set-up on a computer to include in her lab write-up. She shared it with André, who isn’t in her group. Even though his group used a slightly different set-up, he included Charise’s diagram in his report without telling her.
4. Doug finds it faster to do his science homework by Googling the problems and using the online solutions to work them out. [OPTIONS: Start with “Doug doesn’t see why homework is valuable and ...” or “Doug finds it difficult to complete homework due to his ADHD and...”]
- 5a. Tolu and his lab partner Lindström sit at two separate computers and discuss their recent lab as they write, but they each write unique conclusions. Many of their thoughts are the same, but their individual conclusions are unique.
- 5b. Katrina and Hugo sit at two separate computers and write their individual conclusions together on Google Docs. It represents their thoughts as a partnership even though their words are identical. After they were done each student then printed out their write-up and turned it in individually.
- 5c. Maxwell writes his individual lab conclusion and shares it via Google Drive with his partner Makayla who has not yet written hers.
6. AP Physics students often are required to annotate chapters in their textbook. Seymour and Eric decide at the beginning of the year to share the workload. Seymour ends up annotating the even chapters and Eric takes the odd chapters, which are then shared with each other.
- 6a. Felicia is having trouble in chemistry. She goes to Barnes and Noble and purchases a study guide which she uses to help her prepare for tests.
- 6b. Richard has purchased Spark Notes to avoid reading one of the many required books for AP Literature over the summer. He looks over it thoroughly and manages to ace the test without having read the book.

- 8a. Charley is preparing for a physics test on momentum. His older brother Henri took physics two years ago and left all his notes and tests at home. Charley comes across the momentum test and uses it as a study guide.
- 8b. Marie is also trying to prepare for a science test. Her best friend Niels tells her that a friend of his posted last year's test online even though the teacher collects back all of the tests. Niels shares the link with Marie.
9. Students were asked to watch a YouTube video and summarize how it relates to what they are studying in science. Keegan wrote a summary. Emily forgot to charge her phone after an intense PokemonGO session so she can't watch the video in study hall. Also, the teacher says there are no more passes to the library. While at lunch she looks at Keegan's summary, changes a few words so she can turn it in before class the next period. She thinks she's done the best she can under the circumstances.
- 10a. Marilyn was taking a multiple-choice test and left number 5 blank. When students were handed back their tests, she filled in the correct answer and asks for the point back.
- 10b. Elvis was working fast to complete his test. When marking his answer sheet for question 23, he accidentally marks the letter 'D' instead of 'B' even though he thinks 'B' is the correct answer. Later when students are going over their tests he changes his lettering to make it look like a 'B' and asks the teacher for the point back.
- 10c. Fitzgerald is working on a test problem that is multiple-choice question. He works through the entire problem and comes up with the correct answer, however he forgets to fill in the answer.
- 11a. Blaise has an amazing memory and remembers in fine detail the questions on the test he took 2nd period. He tells his buddy Gottfried about the specific questions during lunch because Gottfried is taking the test 6th period. This gives Gottfried the chance to study more for those specific questions.
- 11b. Meghan took the APUSH test at the beginning of the day. During class change, her friend Miles asks her about the test since he has class 5th period. Meghan says the test was tough, but as long as he looked over the notes on Imperialism that it's not too bad.
12. Portnoy missed a lab because he was sick from eating Taco Tuesday. He knows he needs to make up the hour long lab, but his coach says he can't miss any more practice. He comes after school to make up the lab, but instead of collecting data he gets a picture from his lab partner Eileen. He leaves for practice after staying for only ten minutes.
13. Students in biology need to complete a worksheet about cell structure and function. Several students have shared answers on Twitter.
14. Four students complete a lab together in class. They discuss questions together while still in class, but two students' questions are worded nearly identically.
15. Colby fills out a self-evaluation each quarter in Mr. McCheesey's class. After realizing his honest rating would hurt his grade, he revised his scores upward.
16. Two students who missed the same question on a test are working together to do test corrections. (The teacher gives students partial credit back for this). While working together the students come up with a correct solution to the problem and each submit this as their test correction.

TEACHER STUFF:

- A) A teacher doesn't have time to read all the recently collected lab reports carefully before the end of the grading period, so she only looks at the conclusion and analysis parts of the lab even though she assigned points to all aspects of the lab.
- B) Mr. Cursivey collects lab reports during the last week of the 1st grading period but doesn't have enough time to grade them thoroughly before grades are due. He takes the time to grade them well and as it turns out his student José earns a perfect score! If José had this grade on the 1st grading period instead of the 2nd grading period, his grade for the quarter would have been an A- instead of a B+.
- C) Mr. Woods has a design project he's trying for the first time. Scores are competitive, with groups whose project performs the better earning a higher scores. One group comes up with a design that meets the specifications listed according to the rubric, but uses a loophole that nobody (including the teacher) had thought of to have the best performance. Other groups argue the loophole doesn't follow the spirit and intent of the project even though it technically meets the written criteria.
- D) Jayna fills out her self-evaluation at the end of the quarter honestly. She's done all the extra credit available, come to every review session and does all the homework. Her teacher Mrs. Wiggins agrees with Jayna's scores, but because of all the extra credit she realizes that Jayna could earn an 'A' for the quarter when her understanding based on tests only merits a 'B'.