

Peer Support or Plagiarism?

Using your knowledge of collusion and unfair means, try sorting the scenarios below into two categories:
collusion and **peer support**.

Asking to see
other students'
essays or
mathematical
workings

Getting help
from a 301 Tutor
or the Writing
Advisory Service

Posting answers
for quizzes in a
group chat or
online forum

Paraphrasing
someone else's
work and then
submitting it as
your own

Asking other
people to
proofread and
edit your work
for you

Attending a
paraphrasing
workshop or
working together
to complete an
online
referencing
tutorial

Copying a plan
for an individual
assignment

Discussing
broad ideas and
key concepts as
part of a study
group

Working
together to
analyse an
assignment
question

Sharing links to
databases or
helpful reading
material

Peer Support or Plagiarism?

Collusion	Peer Support
Copying a plan for an individual assignment - Any work that you submit for an individual assessment must be created independently. If you are expected to work together, this will be made clear to you by your tutor.	Working together to analyse an assignment question - If you are unsure about the requirements of an assignment, your peers can be a valuable source of support as they will be learning alongside you.
Paraphrasing someone else's assignment and then submitting it as your own work - Any time that you 'borrow' or build on the ideas of others, you need to provide a reference that indicates who or what has informed your work.	Attending a paraphrasing workshop or working together to complete an online referencing tutorial - Working together to better understand how to reference correctly and avoid plagiarism will not assist someone else in gaining an unfair advantage.
Asking to see other students' essays or mathematical workings - Even work that is shared in good faith could be treated as a serious academic offence which could result in further action being taken.	Sharing links to helpful reading material or databases - While sharing links and resources can be helpful, be wary of uploading teaching materials and recorded online sessions (you may not have permission for this!)
Posting answers for quizzes in a group chat or online forum - There is a difference between learning with peers and uploading teaching content or course material. In particular, the use of coursework sites may result in disciplinary action.	Discussing broad ideas and key concepts as part of a study group - Talking to others about important theories or terminology related to a particular topic can help to clear up potential misunderstandings and improve comprehension.
Asking other people to proofread and edit your work for you - The University of Sheffield does not endorse paid proofreading services. All writing submitted for individual assessment must be created independently, so any external input carries the risk of plagiarism.	Getting help from a 301 tutor or the Writing Advisory Service - Although the University does not endorse paid proofreading services or the use of coursework sites, there are other services available to you as a student to help you develop your thinking, writing and editing skills.

Did you identify them all correctly? Were there any that surprised you?