

## Turnitin.com

Turnitin.com is a leader in plagiarism prevention.

By Kendall Kleinberg  
Entertainment Editor

Plagiarism is a noun, meaning a close imitation or copied language without crediting the source.

“Plagiarism is dirty and cheap,” junior James Christensen said.

What started out as plagiarism.com in 1996 turned into turnitin.com during 1998 (turnitin.com). With over 4.5 billion pages of internet and 10 million student papers, turnitin.com determines whether plagiarism has occurred in a paper.

“It’s an effective way to stop plagiarism. It’s a pain in the [butt] though,” senior Lennon Gunter said.

A survey done in 1998 by Who’s Who Among American High School Students said that four out of five high school seniors admitted to cheating on their school-work. Also, a Center of Academic Integrity study said that 80% of

college students admitted to cheating at least once.

If a student submits his or her same paper for two different classes and the paper is not properly referenced, this situation can sometimes be considered plagiarism.

“It’s good because it stops kids from cheating, and it’s a good way to know who is really writing their papers, and who is cheating

It’s a good way to know who is really writing their papers, and who is cheating on them.”

sophomore Eva Hester said.

Plagiarism doesn’t only occur among kids, though. The professor and author of “Band of Brothers,” Stephen Ambrose, is known for his plagiarism of numerous works, along with many other professors.

Two students filed a lawsuit against turnitin in 2007. The students wanted \$900,000 from the website,

claiming that “the anti-plagiarism service violates copyright laws.” One of the student’s papers was submitted to turnitin with instructions of not being archived, but it was anyway. They also claimed that their papers were used as part of a “for-profit” business. In the end, turnitin.com won the battle. The ruling said that the website had not violated the students’ rights.

Overall, turnitin.com is just another way to make sure students will not plagiarize their work and make sure they will think of their own original ideas. Not everyone agrees with the website though.

“I think it’s the most awesome thing in the whole entire world and everyone should use it—not,” junior Chase St. George said.

Sources:  
(<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/plagiarism>,  
<http://www.umuc.edu/library/turnitin.shtml>,  
<http://www.spcollege.edu/se/Turnitin/faqshome.htm>,  
[www.studentprintz.com](http://www.studentprintz.com),  
[www.Washingtonpost.com](http://www.Washingtonpost.com))

## Psychics counsel clients

By Brit Yeager  
Reporter

Psychics, people who are known to have extrasensory abilities such as the ability to perceive things hidden from normal senses, appear to have become one of the largest epidemics in the USA today. Over 41% of the American population believes there are people who have the ability to do “cold readings” in order to counsel clients.

The ability to foresee the future has been portrayed in books such as *The Dead Zone* by Stephen King, and also in the character of Alice Cullen from the *Twilight* series written by Stephenie Meyer.

Although psychics are widely believed in, scientists deny the reason behind paranormal mental thought. I have taken it upon myself to visit two local psychics in order to compare their extra sensory perceptions. My first stop was “Palm Readings by Janet” located at 439 N. Coast Highway in Laguna Beach, California. Janet’s daughter, Pebbles, also does readings. According to the main psychic, Janet, Pebbles “has a gift that is better than her own.”

I walked into the front room of their Laguna Beach home and took a seat in one of four red velvet chairs in the waiting room. After Pebbles was finished with her client, it was my turn.

The small spiritual room has three chairs and a few tables, along with a few religious statues, which adorn the walls and tables.

“Shuffle the cards, and make two wishes,” Pebbles said.

Shuffling the tarot cards, I made two wishes. I told her one of my two wishes, my name, and my birthday. She then laid the cards on the table beside her, took a few minutes to analyze each card, and turned to me. Pebbles told me all about my friends, how she believes I have “changed,” and certain career choices I will have to make. Funny enough, she told me about how I will find success in the writing field, and that has been something I have thought about doing for some time.

Pebbles was pretty straightforward. She explained a lot in her reading but, also, there were a few things that I found not exactly right.

My next stop was “Psychic Readings” at 34202 Pacific Coast Highway in Dana Point, California. “Psychic Readings” was a little different from “Palm Readings by Janet.” The walls were painted white, and there were more than just a few seats to choose from: there were couches, ottomans and even a few love seats. The furniture had more of a European feel to it, yet there were still reli-

gious symbols on the walls. Unlike the previous psychic Pebbles, Natalie, the psychic from Dana Point, was a little bit off regarding everything about me. She couldn’t make up her mind about the price of the reading, and then she only read about ten cards of the fifty-card deck, which looked suspicious since usually a life-reading uses every card in the deck. She looked at me with wandering eyes, as if she were thinking more about everything else that was going on.

“You have been in a long state of depression,” Natalie said.

A long state of depression—now that was a lie. I have not been in any state of depression, and that comment just hardened the idea of how inaccurate most of her reading really was. It was settled. The previous psychic had the more accurate of the two readings.

Although many people go to psychics in order to attain a better understanding about life and the future, going to a psychic shouldn’t be taken too literally. Most of the reading is accurate as I have experienced. No matter what you decide to believe, there might be a few with a “sixth sense.”

All in all, going to the psychic is “Addicting!” according to Laguna Beach High School alumni Natalie White.

A BRIEF  
WITTICISM  
FROM THE  
PEN OF  
SIR COLIN  
PETERSON

HARVEY THOUGHT HIS CONTRACT WAS A DONE DEAL, UNTIL HE CAME ACROSS THE SANTA CLAUSE...

