

PLAGIARISM EXERCISE

This exercise has been copied with permission from the authors (Willmott and Harrison, 2003). It is an exercise aimed at undergraduate students to help them identify plagiarism and to identify the difference between appropriate and inappropriate use of source materials. The paragraph below has been taken from Pharmacology (4th edition, 1999) by Rang, Dale and Ritter (1999). Study the essay extracts in the table and decide whether or not you consider the author of the texts to be guilty of plagiarism.

“During the last 60 years the development of effective and safe drugs to deal with bacterial infections has revolutionised medical treatment, and the morbidity and mortality from microbial disease have been dramatically reduced.”

Essay extract	Plagiarism?
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“During the last 60 years the development of effective and safe drugs to deal with bacterial infections has revolutionised medical treatment, and the morbidity and mortality from microbial disease have been dramatically reduced” (Rang <i>et al.</i> , 1999).	
In the 4 th edition of their textbook <i>Pharmacology</i> (1999:657), Rang, Dale and Ritter state that: “ <i>During the last 60 years the development of effective and safe drugs to deal with bacterial infections has revolutionised medical treatment, and the morbidity and mortality from microbial disease have been dramatically reduced.</i> ” Such a bold assertion understates the ongoing threat posed by microbial infection. It is estimated, for example, that worldwide there were over 8 million cases of tuberculosis in 1998 (WHO, 2000).	
The development of safe and effective drugs to deal with bacterial infections has dramatically reduced the death rate arising from microbial diseases (Rang <i>et al.</i> , 1999).	
During the post-war years, the development of effective and safe drugs to deal with bacterial infections has transformed medical treatment, and death and illness resulting from microbial disease has been dramatically reduced (Rang <i>et al.</i> , 1999).	
The availability of antimicrobial compounds has transformed healthcare in the period since the Second World War. People are far less likely to die or even be seriously ill than they had been prior to the introduction of these drugs (Rang <i>et al.</i> , 1999).	