Further readings and templates

# Chapter 5: Understanding how to learn at university

## Reading for assessment

There are some other very important reasons to consider your reading as contributing to your learning.

Firstly, a common mistake made by a number of students across the UK and elsewhere is to copy and paste information into an assignment, and then be found guilty of an academic offence known as ‘plagiarism’ (you may already have been told about this in your student induction). We cover plagiarism in a lot more detail in Chapter 6 but the more reading you do (especially from journals), the more you will be made aware of how to avoid this.

The same is also true of other aspects of your written work, though – the more reading, the better the evidence for your point of view, the better the structure of your assignment, and the better your style of writing. Why is this? Principally because you are going to be reading some very good quality work that others have done, and because it is good quality work, the more you will learn about style, referencing properly, about providing a good argument, and about providing evidence. If you don’t do the necessary reading (and/or simply ask another student about the book content), you will miss out on learning this important additional information.