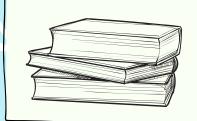
# COPYRIGHT 101

# A REFERENCE GUIDE FOR SECONDARY STUDENTS

## WHAT IS COPYRIGHT?

Copyright applies to any creative physical or electronic work. Copyright is applied immediately upon creation, although certain steps must be taken to secure it through the US copyright office. This is legal protection and prevents the work from being used without the creator's permission. There are some circumstances where you can use copyrighted work without express permission; see these below. When in doubt, always double-check!











#### WHAT IS FAIR USE?

Fair use is an exception/limitation to copyright law. Works can be used for educational purposes without permission if at least one of four guiding principles are at play. To decide, ask yourself these questions:

- 1. Use: Is the use of the work transformative? ( = Fair Use)
- 2. Type: Is the work informational/factual in nature? (= Fair Use)
- 3. Amount: Is the use minimal? ( = Fair Use)
- 4. Impact: Does the use negatively impact the copyright holder's ability to profit from the work? (No = Fair Use)

### WHAT IS PUBLIC DOMAIN?

This refers to works that are not subject to copyright protection.

There are three cases where this applies:

- 1. Older works copyrights expire 70 years after the death of the creator (NOT from the point of creation).
- 2. Exempt works general knowledge resources (like encyclopedias) and works that weren't copyrighted when they were created.
- 3. Released works the creator willingly chose to release the work for public use at any point; this can be permanent or temporary.

## WHAT ARE OPEN RESOURCES?

In order to be considered an "open" resource (i.e. FREE), it must meet two criteria:

gratis = the content/resources are provided at no cost AND
libre = you are free to do what you wish with the content



https://edtechbooks.org/k12handbook/copyright

Openness gives you the freedom to

- Retain

- Revise

- Reuse

- Remix

- Redistribute

the resources to fit your needs.

## ATTRIBUTION AND OPEN LICENSING

Works that are under public domain, fair use, or open resource designation still require you to attribute credit to the creator. You can do so by noting the title, author, source, and licensing information (if applicable) or use a citation, such as this one which credits the creator of the document where the information used on this resource comes from:

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