



# Analyzing Copyright Scenarios



In this activity, you will discuss scenarios that involve copyright and fair use, and then present to the class the issues and solutions they discover.

1. Print out copies of this Copyright Scenarios handout, and cut out the scenarios so you can pass them out to student teams.
2. Divide the class into small groups. Give each group one of the scenarios, and prompt them to talk through the questions listed.
4. Ask students to present their ideas to the class. Allow a few minutes of class discussion for each scenario.

Copyright Scenario #1	Copyright Scenario #2
<p>Jenna worked hard painting a picture for her school's art club exhibit. But on the day of the art show, she was out sick. So her mom asked a neighbor to turn in Jenna's painting for her. When Jenna returned to school the day after the show, she was thrilled to see that her painting had won a prize — until she noticed that her painting had someone else's name on it.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. How would you feel if someone else took credit for something you created?</li><li>2. Is this incident an example of an unethical action or an illegal action?</li><li>3. How can the imposter artist make this situation right, if at all? Ask permission? Pay a fee?</li></ol>	<p>Sam just got an iPod. He is using his computer to load music from his CD collection onto it. He decides to get all his new music digitally now, instead of buying CDs. He buys a couple albums from the online music store and downloads them. Then he sees a site that offers free music downloads. To save himself some money, he downloads some albums from this site too.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. How can Sam find out if this site is a legitimate business, and if it's ok (and safe) to use it?</li><li>2. Do you think the music is really free? Might Sam have to agree to something else to use it?</li><li>3. Is this incident an example of an unethical action or an illegal action?</li></ol>
Copyright Scenario #3	Copyright Scenario #4
<p>Austin has a report due at school tomorrow, but has not started working on it yet. Now he is worried about getting a bad grade. So he searches the Internet for his topic and finds lots of information. He chooses a small, obscure site, copies text and images, and pastes them into his report. He's done before bedtime. But he receives an F on his report.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. What could Sam have done differently on his report to avoid failing?</li><li>2. Is this incident an example of an unethical action or an illegal action?</li></ol>	<p>Kim is creating a video presentation for her history class. In her video, she dresses up as Abraham Lincoln and recites his famous speech, the Gettysburg Address. She shows her video to a classmate friend, who accuses Kim of copyright infringement.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Will Kim's history teacher agree that this video infringes on a copyright? Why or why not?</li><li>2. How would the situation be different if Kim submitted the Gettysburg Address as a paper claiming that she wrote it?</li></ol>