

Copyright Laws: **Truth** or **Fiction**

True/False

- False 1. Each state has its own copyright laws?
- False 2. As long as you don't make money off a web site, you can post songs, images, and other thing about the artist on your site.
- True 3. The "fair use policy" allows a person to copy other people's songs, images, or writings.
- False 4. For you to copyright your work you must send a form off to the copyright office in Washington D.C.
- False 5. A creation of art, song, or writing is copy protected for an artist's life time only.
- True 6. You just saw a cool video on the web so you download the file and use it in your personal video- is it okay?
- True 7. You just wrote a poem, once it is written it is copy protected.
- False 8. It is okay to copy a friend's CD he just paid for.
- True 9. You can copy a Shakespeare play since he has been dead for well past the limit of the copyright law.
- False 10. You paint a picture for the school on the wall of the library. You no longer own the copyright.
- False 11. You can remain anonymous when you download songs off the Internet.
- False 12. Because the Internet is so new, copyright laws are not applied.
- True 13. Some abuses of copyright are criminal and therefore punishable with jail time.
- False 14. If you rightly purchased a painting you now own the copyright to it.
- True 15. For Educational purposes you can use a portion of others copyrighted work with out their permission.
- True 16. Copyright laws are intended to protect the author's or creator's rights.
- False 17. A work must have a copyright symbol (©) to be copy protected.
- False 18. If a work finds it way in an email or a public area on the web then it is automatically in "public domain" and therefore is not copy protected.
- True 19. If a work is substantially similar, then an court can find that you violated the law.
- True 20. Fair Use laws allow for copying of someone else's work with out their permission.

Answers Key: *Computer Ethics and Copyright Issues? Right vs. Wrong*

- 1. How are plagiarism and sharing of music files alike? Sharing music file that were created by an artist is very similar to plagiarism because that artist owns the rights to those songs, and by sharing them, you are preventing the sales of those songs.**
- 2. Which could be your penalty for violating a copyright law? Both Fines and Jail time.**
- 3. Is it a Federal law that established copyright rules?**
- 4. When does a copyright become active? As soon as you create something and write it down or save it some place.**
- 5. What are two of the rights that the copyright law provides a person? The ability to make as many copies as you wish and to give or sell copies of your work to anyone that you please.**
- 6. Without copyright law, would you be likely to NOT SHARE your work with the world?**
- 7. Who else besides the artist are affected by the illegal sharing of music files or game CD's? Besides the artist, the producers and all the people who helped in making the song are affected.**
- 8. There are three things someone can steal from you: time, property, and reputation. Give an example of a way that each of the three could be stolen electronically. Someone could steal your time by taking forever to do something. Then can steal your property by taking something of yours. The can steal your reputation by spreading rumors or lies about you.**
- 9. If there were not copyright laws, would that limit people's incentive to be creative? YES**
- 10. What action must a person take to obtain a copyright for their work? They must simply have done it in a fixed and tangible form of expression. For example: burned on a CD, recorded on a tape, written on paper, drawn on the computer, etc.. It can not just be in their mind.**
- 11. If a creative work doesn't have a copyright notice it is not copyrighted? FALSE**
- 12. You "own" the software that you buy? FALSE Explain Why? It is truly NOT your work. You own the plastic CD that it is burned on and the case or box it came**

in but not the actual game you are playing. You are just allowed to use it for your own pleasure. You can not change it and then sell it as your own.

13. Based on the following paragraph, if you own a picture that someone else painted, you now own the copyright to it. FALSE

14. Educators and students can copy a fair amount of copyrighted material without permission of the author. TRUE

15. It is okay to share a song file you purchased with others as long as you don't charge a fee. FALSE

ANSWERS: Copyright Laws: Truth or Fiction

True/False

- FALSE 1. Each state has its own copyright laws?
- FALSE 2. As long as you don't make money off a web site, you can post songs, images, and other thing about the artist on your site.
- TRUE 3. The "fair use policy" allows a small group of people to copy artists songs, images, or writings with certain limits
- _____ 4. For you to copyright your work you must send a form off to the copyright office in Washington D.C.
- _____ 5. A creation of art, song, or writing is copy protected for an artist's life time only.
- _____ 6. You just saw a cool video on the web so you download the file and use it in your personal video- is it okay?
- _____ 7. You just wrote a poem, once it is written it is copy protected.
- _____ 8. You can lose your copyright if you don't defend it in court.
- _____ 9. Discussions you have in a chat room can be copyrighted?
- _____ 10. It is okay to copy a friend's CD he just paid for.
- _____ 11. You can copy a Shakespeare play since he has been dead for well past the limit of the copyright law.
- _____ 12. You paint a picture for the school on the wall of the library. You no longer own the copyright.
- _____ 13. You can remain anonymous when you download songs off the Internet.
- _____ 14. Because the Internet is so new, copyright laws are not applied.
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- _____ 18. Copyright laws are intended to protect the author's or creator's rights.
- _____ 19. A work must have a copyright symbol (©) to be copy protected.
- _____ 20. If a work finds it way in an email or a public area on the web then it is automatically in "public domain" and therefore is not copy protected.
- _____ 21. If a work is substantially similar, then an court can find that you violated the law.
- _____ 22. Fair Use laws are a defense against copyright infringement (violation).