

## Notes of meeting with 5.1.2e, 9:30 am

5.1.2e said 5.1.2e put some text in the table of abbreviations in hidden font to make the alignment look neater in the table of abbreviations. 5.1.2e seemed surprised that there was a sentence in hidden font after the block quote on p 7, or a stray “s” in hidden font before heading 1.2 on p 9. 5.1.2e said 5.1.2e did not insert hidden text in the main body of the thesis and could not explain why the hidden text was there.

After running the bibliography through a plagiarism check online, 5.1.2e hyphenated some words in the bibliography to throw off the final plagiarism check upon submission of the thesis. This explanation is not entirely convincing, as the hyphenated words already appear in the draft version that 5.1.2e submitted for comments on 5.1.2e. In this version, the hyphen is at the end of each line, and the word continues in the line below. In the final version that was submitted for grading on 5.1.2e, the formatting of the bibliography is different (no indent, each entry is bulleted, the text is no longer justified but aligned to the left). The words that were hyphenated in the 5.1.2e version are still hyphenated, with the difference that now they no longer appear at the end of each line but somewhere in the middle. We asked 5.1.2e if 5.1.2e could provide us with a log of the checks that 5.1.2e had done with the software, but 5.1.2e said that 5.1.2e used a software freely available online and did not have an account.

5.1.2e admitted that, as scrambling for time, didn't have time to update the bibliography so this is why it was not updated and there are some sources cited and not in the bibliography and some sources not cited that are in the bibliography. For context, the version that was submitted for comments on 5.1.2e has 5.1.2e footnotes; the final version of the thesis has 5.1.2e footnotes.

5.1.2e also said that 5.1.2e put some sentences in the main text through plagiarism check and then hyphenated some words (such as 5.1.2e) because they recurred often and 5.1.2e was worried about plagiarism. These hyphenated words in the main body of the thesis appear in the draft version submitted for comments on 5.1.2e, and do not appear in the version that was submitted for grading on 5.1.2e. 5.1.2e said that 5.1.2e had taken out the hyphens in the body of the thesis for the final submission. If the hyphens were inserted to avoid plagiarism issues, it is unclear why they were removed in the final version. Moreover, there are tens – maybe hundreds – of words that are hyphenated in the draft version submitted on 5.1.2e, including nontechnical words such as “however”, “important”, 5.1.2e 5.1.2e.

5.1.2e was not clear on which dates 5.1.2e did these plagiarism checks (sometimes hinting it was before the submission of the final draft for grading, and sometimes hinting it was before the draft version for comments).

5.1.2e admitted that 5.1.2e asked a friend to help with the footnotes (at first 5.1.2e said this happened at the beginning of 5.1.2e, then at the beginning of 5.1.2e). 5.1.2e said this was

a friend from [REDACTED] 5.1.2e [REDACTED] 5.1.2e said [REDACTED] 5.1.2e did so because [REDACTED] 5.1.2e was worried [REDACTED] 5.1.2e would not be able to finish the thesis on time without this assistance. [REDACTED] 5.1.2e said the footnotes in questions had links that [REDACTED] 5.1.2e asked [REDACTED] 5.1.2e friend to turn into final citations. We pointed out to [REDACTED] 5.1.2e that the version [REDACTED] 5.1.2e submitted for comments on [REDACTED] 5.1.2e had full citations in the footnotes, and no incomplete citations with just the link. At that point [REDACTED] 5.1.2e said that [REDACTED] 5.1.2e asked [REDACTED] 5.1.2e friend for help with the footnotes at the beginning of [REDACTED] 5.1.2e (that is, weeks before the submission of the draft version for comments). We pointed out to [REDACTED] 5.1.2e that back then [REDACTED] 5.1.2e still had plenty of time to format the citations in the footnotes, if that was what [REDACTED] 5.1.2e was worried about, so [REDACTED] 5.1.2e could have done it [REDACTED] 5.1.2e. [REDACTED] 5.1.2e said [REDACTED] 5.1.2e was struggling with the thesis and reached out to this friend who knew [REDACTED] 5.1.2e situation and could help [REDACTED] 5.1.2e