Grades 6-8 | Discussion Questions



Copyright and Fair Use

- What counts as someone else's "creative work"? Writing? Photos? Drawing? Poems? Comments? Music?
- Have you ever had an experience when someone didn't give you credit for your creative work? What would you want people to do if they wanted to use your creative work — perhaps a song or something else you wrote or a picture you took?

- What is a copyright? If something is copyrighted but you still want to use it, what do you need to make sure to do?
- The narrator talks about four points of fair use: 1). Only use a small amount of the work; 2). Add new meaning to the work to make it original; 3). Rework it and use it in a totally different way; and 4). Use it for nonprofit purposes. What does it mean that you have to use it for "nonprofit purposes"? Which of these four points do you think is hardest to always do?
- The narrator mentions that there are both "legal" and "ethical" issues about copyright. What does he mean?
- What is a "mash-up"? What should you do if you want to use someone else's work as part of your mash-up?
- Have you ever been in a situation perhaps unknowingly when you used someone else's work and didn't appropriately give credit? What could you have done differently?

