

Google Alerts for detection of contract cheating

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What problem does it solve?

- Detect improper sharing of test and assignment questions to [Chegg](#) and (potentially) other websites where contract cheating can occur.
- Minimise cognitive burden: set and forget.
- Google crawls the entire web frequently and so alerts are typically received within hours of a question appearing.
- Quick detection acts as disincentive to cheat, and reduces exposure of questions and solutions in the wild.

How does it work?

- Prior to release of the assessment, set up a Google Alert that searches for text fragments from the assessment.
- If any hits are detected you will receive an email alert from Google with the URL.

- Google Alerts URL: <https://google.com/alerts> (you will need a Google account).
- Search text: 32 words or less. Options: As-it-happens, All results.
- Chain together with OR operator "rare" text snippets in double quotes.
- E.g.: "Sketch the graph of an even function $f(x)$ that is defined for" OR "Sketch the graph of an odd function $g(t)$ that is defined for" OR "function. Determine if the function"
- For individualised assessments ensure that snippets are common to all versions.
- 6 words of mathematical text, even with common words, will result in few hits.

Monitor the web for interesting new content

🔍 "Sketch the graph of an even function $f(x)$ that is defined for" OR "Sketch ...

How often:

Sources:

Language:

Region:

How many:

Deliver to:

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Alert preview

There are no recent results for your search query. Below are existing results that match your search query.

WEB

3. [5 marks] Let $Ae(2)$ be an even function, $B(2)$ an - Chegg

Answer to 3. [5 marks] Let $Ae(2)$ be an even function, $B(2)$ an

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Google Alerts

"Sketch the graph of an even function $f(x)$ that is defined for" OR "Sketch the graph of an odd function $g(t)$ that is defined for" OR "function. Determine if the function"

As-it-happens update · October 9, 2021

WEB

1. [10 marks] Sketch the graph of an even function | Chegg.com

Chegg

Transcribed image text: 1. [10 marks] Sketch the graph of an even function $f(x)$ that is defined for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and which has the following properties. $f(0) \dots$

[f](#) [t](#) Flag as irrelevant

2. [10 marks] Sketch the graph of an odd function | Chegg.com

Chegg

Transcribed image text: 2. [10 marks] Sketch the graph of an odd function $g(t)$ that is defined for $t + 0$ and which has the following properties. $\lim g(t) \dots$

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- We have received various alerts from [Chegg](#) that have detected cheating. (False positives: [Course Hero](#), [Quizlet](#), [Brainly](#), [Numerade](#), [Byjus](#), [Gauthmath](#).)
- Chegg is indexed by Google. This is Chegg's choice, presumably because it drives traffic to their site.
- Chegg will takedown questions within a couple of days of an "Honor Code" request, and provide account information of question submitter.
- Typically this account information will not identify the student, as users can sign up with any email address.
- Ideally: generate unique questions for each student, and that way identification can occur purely based on question that has been shared.
- Nathan Clisby & Antony Edwards (2021) Individualized summative assessments as used during COVID-19, *International Journal of Mathematical Education in Science and Technology*, DOI: [10.1080/0020739X.2021.1982040](https://doi.org/10.1080/0020739X.2021.1982040)
- See this "how to" at <https://clisby.net/teaching/alerts>