

Template for Evaluating the Research Report

Introduction

- o Significance-Does the topic appear important to society? Is it personally relevant?
- o Language-Is the presentation clear and objective? Is the language consistent with the approach used by the researchers?
- o Literature Review-Is there balance in the point of view found in the citations? Is there an appropriate time frame, with some older and some more current references? Is there a coherent theme? Are primary sources emphasized?
- o Research Questions-Are the questions/ objectives clearly identified?
 - o If the study is qualitative, are the questions/objectives supported by the literature review and/ or by the data that emerged during the study?
 - o If the study is qualitative, are the questions/objectives open-ended to facilitate theme exploration?
 - o If the study is quantitative, are the questions/ objectives limited to those with direct foundation in the literature review?

Methods

Participants

- o What-Can you identify the target population?
- o Who-Is sufficient detail provided about the participants to judge if they are consistent with the target?
- o Where-Did the researchers identify the setting, and is that setting appropriate?
- o When-Did the researchers identify the time period during which the study was conducted?
- o How-Did the researchers specify how participants were selected, and did the selection procedure appear to be appropriate?
- o Why-Was there explanation for why these participants were chosen, and is there reason to suggest a bias in selection that would influence the findings?

Procedures

- o Completeness-Was sufficient detail provided about the procedures so that the study can be replicated?

o Appropriateness-Do the procedures appear relevant for the research questions/ objectives identified for the study?

Instrumentation

o Identification-Were the tools used to gather information clearly identified?

o Quality-Do the instruments used to gather information appear appropriate and sufficient to define and describe the variables that were being studied?

Results

o Clarity-Were the findings clearly reported?

o Completeness-Were there indicators of an incomplete analysis, and, if so, was the reason explained?

Discussion

o Style-Is the discussion clearly written?

o Relevance-Is the discussion focused on how the findings are related to the objectives of the study?

o Conclusions-Do the conclusions follow logically from the results?

o Completeness-Are implications, limitations, and recommendations for further research included?