

Article Critique for Final Research Proposal

The sections outlined below need to be addressed for the article critique of an empirical research study that will be included in your Final Research Proposal. You will be required to search online library databases for an empirical scholarly research article from a peer reviewed journal. The article you choose should be one that is clearly pertinent to your chosen research topic. If you are at all unsure about whether your chosen article meets the proper criteria, please see the instructor.

The format of your article critique should follow the layout shown below. Article critiques written in APA style: (1) require proper in-text citations, (2) should only include direct quotes when absolutely necessary, and (3) should be devoid of personal statements (e.g., “I” statements and “My” statements); article critiques are intended to be written in an objective and analytical manner.

I. **Introduction and Statement(s) of Purpose**

Briefly describe what the study was about in about one paragraph. What was the author’s or authors’ general purpose for carrying out this study? Keep in mind there may be more than one purpose.

II. **Theoretical Assumptions and Hypothesis**

Briefly describe the theoretical assumptions associated with the proposed hypothesis (or hypotheses). Be very clear if there are multiple hypotheses, and utilize appropriate subheadings if needed. What is the hypothesis provided? Please note, there may be more than one hypothesis (i.e., multiple hypotheses).

III. **Methodology**

Relatively briefly, but thoroughly, describe the methodology. Be sure to include information regarding: participants (subjects), variables of interest, time frame of data collection, methods of data collection, and operational definitions.

IV. **Results**

What types of statistical analyses were performed, and why? Was the hypothesis supported or not supported? (If there were multiple hypotheses, be sure to address each one). What other important statistical relationships were found?

V. **Limitations of the Study and Assessment**

Describe at least two limitations of the study provided by the author(s). What was your impression of how the author(s) conducted the study? Did the methodology seem appropriate? Whether your answer is “yes” or “no”; be sure to justify your answer (a simple yes or no answer will not suffice). Could the study design have been improved? Is there anything you would have done differently? How does this study fit in with your proposed topic?

Alternatives to “I” and “My” statements:

- It is the belief of this researcher that...
 - It is the opinion of this researcher that...
 - Keep in mind that oftentimes straight forward declarative statements work just as well as statements qualified by ownership.
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