
We consider how to design investigations primarily in chapter 2 with some reference to chapters 1, 4, 5, 6 and 7. We discuss how to report research in chapter 12. We review how to critique published research in 2.1. and 7.3. The following exercise allows you to apply your understanding of this material to a published report which is based on undergraduate research.

Q1. Read the paper. Does the title truly reflect the content of the paper?

Q2. Read the paper. From this select five key words or phrases which may be used as a tag to enable other researchers to locate this paper when they are carrying out a literature search (12.1.4.). How do your key words compare to those selected by the authors? Which do you prefer and why?

Q3. What were the aim and objectives for this research?

Q4. What consideration needs to be given when planning this project in relation to UK legislation?

Q5. What are the treatment variables?

Q6. Which is the dependent variable?

Q7. Which controls have been used?

Q8. What is the statistical population?

Q9. Was it correct to use a Mann Whitney U test to analyse these data?
Q10. A number of assumptions appear to have been made by the researcher in relation to the evaluation of the results and the design of the experiment. What are they?

Q11. What would be some interesting follow up studies?