

Research Report Critique Checklist

Check Yes or No for each item as you critique a research report.

STEP 1. The Problem

- | | | | |
|-----|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1.a | Is the problem clearly and concisely stated? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 1.b | Is the problem adequately narrowed down into a researchable problem? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 1.c | Is the problem significant enough to warrant a formal research effort? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 1.d | Is the relationship between the identified problem and previous research clearly described? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

STEP 2. Literature Review

- | | | | |
|-----|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2.a | Is the literature review logically organized? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 2.b | Does the review provide a critique of the relevant studies? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 2.c | Are gaps in knowledge about the research problem identified? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 2.d | Are important previous research studies relevant to the topic included in the literature review? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 2.e | Are all cited works included in the reference list? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 2.f | Are all works included in the reference list cited in the literature review or elsewhere in the report? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

STEP 3. Theoretical or Conceptual Framework

- | | | | |
|-----|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 3.a | Is the theoretical or conceptual framework clearly applicable to the problem (as opposed to being a “stretch” in which the framework is only marginally relevant to the problem)? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 3.b | If a conceptual framework is used, are the concepts adequately defined, and are the relationships among these concepts clearly identified? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

STEP 4. Research Variables

- | | | | |
|-----|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 4.a | Are any independent and dependent variables operationally defined? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 4.b | Are any confounding variables present? If so, are they identified? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

STEP 5. Hypotheses

- | | | | |
|-----|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 5.a | Are hypotheses clear, testable, and specific? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
|-----|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|

5.b Does each hypothesis describe a predicted relationship between two or more variables included in the hypothesis? Yes No

5.c Do the hypotheses flow logically from the theoretical or conceptual framework? Yes No

STEP 6. Sampling

6.a Is the sample size adequate? Yes No

6.b Is the sample representative of the defined population? Yes No

6.c Is the method for selecting the sample appropriate? Yes No

6.d Is any sampling bias in the method acknowledged? Yes No

6.e Are the criteria for selecting the sample clearly identified? Yes No

STEP 7. Research Design

7.a Is the research design clearly described? Yes No

7.b Is the design appropriate for the research problem? Yes No

7.c

10.a	Does the investigator clearly distinguish between actual findings and interpretations?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
10.b	Are the interpretations based on the data obtained?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
10.c	Are the findings discussed in relation to previous research and to the theoretical/conceptual framework?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
10.d	Are all generalizations warranted and defended?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
10.e	Are limitations of the results and interpretations identified?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
10.f	Are implications of the results discussed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
10.g	Are recommendations for future research identified?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
10.h	Are the conclusions justified?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No