

Evaluating a study

Break one study into its parts.



NAME _____ CLASS _____ DATE _____

LEARNING GOAL

Summarise a study fairly, then judge how far to trust it.

SUCCESS CRITERIA

- ☐ I can say what a study set out to find and how.
- ☐ I can name the variables and report the results.
- ☐ I can judge the study with evidence.

Study X

Read this once. Its answers sit in the margin beside each part.

INVENTED

Does a 10-minute walk before a memory test change scores? 40 students aged 16 to 18 from one college took part. Half walked for 10 minutes then did a list-recall test; half sat quietly for 10 minutes then did the same test. The walking group's mean score was 14 out of 20 and the sitting group's mean was 12 out of 20.¹

My study

Use a study from your lessons or one your teacher gives you.

CITATION

TOPIC

1

Aim and hypothesis

THE AIM

STUDY X

Aim: to test if a 10-minute walk changes memory scores.

Prediction: walkers recall more.

PREDICTION

2

Method

DESIGN

STUDY X

Two groups of 20, one walks, one sits, same test.

SAMPLE

PROCEDURE

3

Variables

INDEPENDENT

STUDY X

IV: walk or sit. DV: recall score out of 20.
Control: 10 minutes each.

DEPENDENT

CONTROLLED

¹ Study X is invented for this sheet. Its numbers are made up for practice and are not from real research.



4

Results and conclusion

STUDY X

Means 14 and 12 out of 20, a difference of 2 marks. The walking group did a little better.

THE NUMBERS
SHOW

SO THE STUDY
SUGGESTS

Mean difference

STUDY X

14 – 12 = 2 marks.

WORKING

Higher mean _____ – lower mean _____ = _____ marks

01

Validity *Did it test what it claims to? Use evidence from the study.*

POINT

EVIDENCE

SO WHAT?

02

Reliability *Could someone repeat it and get the same? Use evidence from the study.*

POINT

EVIDENCE

SO WHAT?

03

Generalisability *Do the results fit people beyond the sample? Use evidence from the study.*

POINT

EVIDENCE

SO WHAT?



04

Ethics Were the people treated with care? Use evidence from the study.

POINT

EVIDENCE

SO WHAT?

Sampling

Tick the method your study used.

☐

Random equal chance for all.

☐

Opportunity whoever is easy to reach.

☐

Volunteer people choose to take part.

☐

Stratified groups in fair proportions.

What I would change

One improvement and the problem it would fix.

I WOULD
CHANGE

Evaluation

Write a paragraph. Use point, evidence, so what for at least two headings.

MY PARAGRAPH

Verdict

Circle one number.

☐

not at all

☐

a little

☐

partly

☐

mostly

☐

completely

I TRUST THIS
STUDY THIS
MUCH BECAUSE