

Activity ➔ 62

Reasoning inductively and deductively

STUDENT HANDOUT

Find out what is meant by *inductive reasoning* and *deductive reasoning*. Once you have done this, find two research reports (journal papers, monographs or theses, for example), one that uses inductive reasoning and one that uses deductive reasoning. Choose any research reports that you wish, as long as they are relevant in some way to your subject of study. Describe how reasoning has been used in each research project and provide an analysis and critique of the reasoning methods and the way they have been reported. We will discuss your findings when we next meet.

Learning outcome: By the end of this activity you will have a greater understanding of what is meant by inductive and deductive reasoning, and will know how to recognise, analyse and critique their use in different types of research.