**Assessing Key Elements of a Research Project**

This template is to help you in your assessment of the article you have read. Note that often due to word length restrictions by the publishers, you may find some blurring of the content. The key thing is after carefully reading the article what is your overall reflection of it in terms of it addressing the key elements of a research project as noted in Chapter 1 of the book by Opie and Brown (2019).

Article reference details:

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| --- |
| The Research Focus and Rationale |
| **From the Abstract/Introduction, identify what you see as the focus and rationale for the research undertaken? For example:** * *What was the background which prompted the research being undertaken?*
* *What is your overall understanding of the research i.e. its purpose; procedures used; key findings?*
* *Does it identify and provide appropriate research questions?*
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| Literature Review and Referencing |
| **From what you can tell (you are unlikely to be completely conversant with the literature surrounding the research being undertaken) but how well do you think the following apply:*** *The writer makes good use of other people’s research as supporting evidence for the research being undertaken? Are all references cited and, as far as you can tell correctly presented?*
* *The writer makes reasoned/critical evaluation of other people’s views, especially those that contradict their point of view?*
* *The writing does not contain any inconsistencies, at least that you can see.*
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| Methodology |
| **Does the article:*** *Provide some theory to support its chosen research approach(es) and procedure(s) for the research?*
* *Use what you would deem as an appropriate research approach or approaches? Could they have employed others?*
* *Use what you would deem as an appropriate research procedure or procedures? Have aspects such as the sample chosen, and sample size been well argued for?*
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| Findings |
| **Looking at these:*** *What are the main findings and does the evidence presented support them?*
* *Do they address the key research questions given?*
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| Analysis, Conclusions and Recommendations |
| **In your opinion:** * *Is the data analyzed and presented appropriately?*
* *Are the conclusions clearly expressed and based on the research evidence provided?*
* *If any recommendations are made, are they supported by the research findings?*
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| Overall view of this article |
| **Give a brief overview of your opinion of this article in terms of providing the kind of detail you might expect to see in a research project:** |

Opie, C. and Brown, D. (eds) (2019) *Getting Started in Your Educational Research: A Student’s Guide to Design, Data Production and Analysis*. London: Sage.