Checklist for Evaluating a Research Report

Provided by Dr. Blevins [adapted for this class]

(http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/pe/exs514web/How2Evalarticles.htm)

1. **The Title**
   a. Is it clear and concise?
   b. Does it promise no more than the study can provide?

Introduction

2. **The Problem**
   a. It is clearly stated?
   b. Is it properly defined?
   c. Is its significance recognized?
   d. Are specific questions raised; hypotheses clearly stated?
   e. Are assumptions and limitations stated?
   f. Are important terms defined?

3. **Review of Related Literature**
   g. Is it adequately covered?
   h. Are important findings noted?
   i. Is it well organized?
   j. Is an effective summary provided?

Methodology

4. **Procedures Used**
   a. Is the research design described in detail? Are methods clearly described or referenced so the experiment could be repeated?
   b. Is it adequate?
   c. Are the samples described? Is the test population clearly stated? Is it appropriate for the experiment? Should it be larger? More comprehensive?
   d. Are relevant variables recognized?
   e. Are appropriate controls provided? Is the control population clearly stated? Are all variables controlled? Should it be larger? More comprehensive?
   f. Are data-gathering instruments appropriate?
   g. Are validity and reliability established?
   h. Is the statistical treatment appropriate?
   i. Are materials clearly described and when appropriate, manufacturers footnoted?

Results

5. **Data Analysis**

a. Is appropriate use made of tables and figures?

b. Is the textual discussion clear and concise? Are results straightforwardly presented without a discussion of why they occurred?

c. Is the analysis of data relationships logical and perceptive? Are all statistical analyses appropriate for the situation and accurately performed?

d. Is the statistical analysis accurately interpreted?

Discussion/Conclusion

6. **Summary and Conclusions**

a. Is the problem restated?

b. Are the procedures and findings concisely presented? Are all results discussed?

c. Is the analysis objective?

d. Are appropriate previous studies integrated into the discussion section?

e. Are the findings and conclusions justified by the data presented and analyzed? Are all conclusions based on sufficient data?