

WHAT IS RESEARCH?

It is a systematic investigation to discover new knowledge

1 Rationale and aim

Why do you want to do this?
What is the knowledge gap?
What would you then know?
And aim; be specific about what you aim to do.



Your aim or research question is your anchor.
You will return to it at each stage of your research.

Method 2



How will you make sure your research is done **ethically**?
(i.e. minimize risk of harm, get consent, protect anonymity, privacy and confidentiality).

How are you going to meet your aim or find the answer to your question?

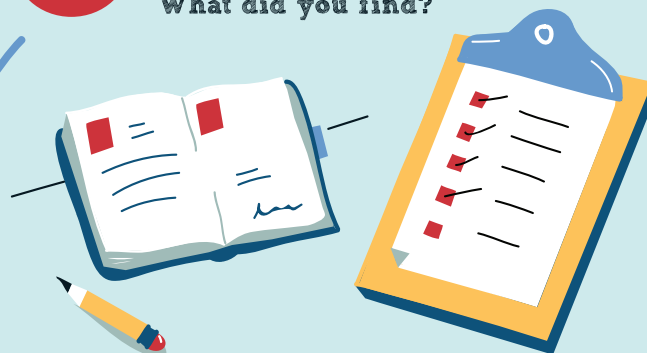
Two types of methods:

Quantitative – using numbers and statistics

Qualitative – words and ideas e.g. motivations, opinions, understandings

3 Results

What did you find?



Conclusion 4

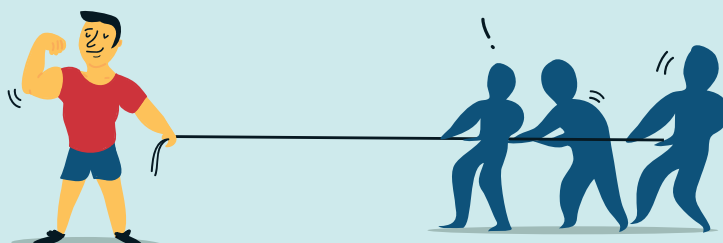
So what?

What's next?



5 Strengths & limitations

All methods have strengths and limitations, all research has them too, think about what they are and what that means about your results.



TOP TIPS

- ★ Keep it simple.
- ★ Keep a research diary or log of important decisions. This will help when you come to write up your work.
- ★ Whenever you are critical of your research, make notes in your diary – all research has strengths and limitations and this helps you capture these.
- ★ Stick to your aim and go back to it at each step of the process.
- ★ Your research tells a story, starting with the question you ask and ending with the answer.
- ★ Be prepared for setbacks. Anything worth doing is worth taking time over.