

Required Format for your Assignment

The Journal critique is required to be in word format and should have two sections;

I. SUMMARY

- This should be only a factual summary paragraph(s) of the article and should be no longer than a page
- The summary should be a synopsis of key parts of the research including but not limited to *Study Design, Study Population, Primary Outcome, Primary exposure, Research Question, Key Findings, Conclusion*
- In your summary you should include key statistics pertaining to the research question
- There should be no critique or commentary included in this section
- It should be written in paragraph form; NO BULLETS points

II. CRITIQUE

- Your critique should be written in paragraph form and should be exactly that, a critique; **No summarizing and No bullet points!**
- In writing the critique you should assume that I have read the article and that all matters that you wish to address in the critique have been mentioned in some way in the summary; this should reduce you repeating issues already presented in the summary
- Your critique should consider critique elements for all the sections of the article but for the most part most critiquing should focus on the methods
- You should have a minimum of 5 points to critique (3 must be critiques of the methods section), but you are not restricted this minimum.
- The 3 points selected from the methods should be discussed exhaustively considering key aspects of good research methodology that are applicable to the issue raised. These include potential for bias, internal validity or external validity of the study
- The end of your critique should have a summary statement stating whether you think the research presented was **Good, Poor or Fair evidence**

Item	Points	Points Assignment
Format	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Missing required sections=15/20 ✓ Bullets instead of paragraphs=15/20 ✓ Exceeding page number in summary section=15/20 ✓ Including critique in the summary section=15/20 ✓ Including summary in the critique section=15/20 <p>* If you miss two or more formatting items checked above you get 10/20 in the format section</p>
Summary	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ All key parts of the section included and identified correctly 14 points (each worth 2 points) ✓ Statistics related to the research question 6 points
Critique section	60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Each of the 5 critique points correctly identified (40 points ;each worth 8) ✓ Each of the 5 critique points discussed exhaustively (10 points; each worth 2 points) ✓ Final summary statement (10 points) <p>*Less than 5 critique points mentioned or less than 3/5 from methods section = subtract 10 points</p>

100 TOTAL

7 areas to raise in the summary section

1. Study design
2. Research question
3. Exposure variable
4. Outcome variable
5. Covariates
6. Describe the patient population
7. Key findings- (remember to include p-value)