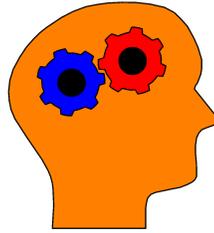


# Psychology Experiment Final Report



*Not all Psychology research is done in the laboratory with little white rats. In fact, much of it is conducted out among human being type creatures right where they live and work and interact (It's called "field research"). What a great way to study these interesting specimens. We'll design a field experiment, conduct the research, then publish an analysis of our results. Below are the specifications for your report.*

## **TITLE:**

This may be creative & enticing, but it should also reveal the nature of the experiment (e.g. Your Mother Wears Combat Boots: An Investigation of Trash-Talking in High School Sports)

## **INTRODUCTION:**

Present a brief background on the topic you are studying. Usually includes a summary of existing research. It should begin with a statement similar to "This study is designed to explore the effects of (SOME VARIABLE) on the (SOME TYPE) behavior of (SOME SUBJECTS)."

## **HYPOTHESIS:**

This is your educated guess. Be sure to define all the terms of your hypothesis (operationalize your variables). If you assert that soothing music annoys people and disrupts concentration, you need to define soothing, annoying, and concentration as they relate to your experiment. If you find that your data do not support this hypothesis, do not change your hypothesis. This information could be just as valuable to your research.

Also, define your independent (manipulated) and dependent (measured) variables in this section.

## **METHODOLOGY: How exactly did you put your research into action?**

**Subjects:** Your subjects are the people or animals that you test in your experiment. Added together, your subjects are called your sample. In order for your results to be meaningful, your sample should be fairly large.

List in this section as much of the following information as possible:

- exact # of subjects
- approximate ages & gender of subjects
- how subjects were chosen (randomly is highly preferred)
- where subjects were found (which school, mall, etc.)
- whether subjects were alone or in a group
- how many in experimental/control groups (same total?)
- any other relevant information

**Apparatus:** List everything that was used (e.g. equipment, data sheets, surveys, rooms, tv monitor, researchers posing as someone else, etc.). Attach all relevant paperwork to this report.

**Procedure:** Explain exactly how the experiment was conducted. Be specific and precise. What did the research team do first, next, etc.? When & how were the experimental subjects exposed to the independent variable? What actions did the research team perform? How did they record data? THINK DETAILS HERE!

## **RESULTS:**

Compile the information on your data sheets and calculate the mean, median, mode, frequency distribution, statistical significance and margin for error (Consult the appendix in your text). Create a table/chart to clearly present these findings & calculations. Then, communicate your findings in a clear written form, explaining the results and whether or not the hypothesis was confirmed.

## **DISCUSSION, ANALYSIS & SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH:**

Discuss in more detail your results. What do they suggest? Analyze how/why you believe these results occurred. Were there any intervening variables? What suggestions do you have for improving this experiment? What additional experiments could improve the quality of overall learning in this area?