

QUALITATIVE Article Outline

QUALitative studies will NOT have lots of numbers in the results. If you see quotations from the people in the study, use this Outline. If you see numbers in the results, use the QUANTitative Outline. The purpose of Article Outlines is to focus your reading to improve your reading comprehension and increase your familiarity with the sections of a research article.

Remember that Abstract, the paragraph at the very beginning, summarizes the whole article. Do not include this in your Outline. Do refer to it if you have questions about key points of the article.

1. Introduction- just the first one or two paragraphs
 - a. Key point a
 - b. Key point b
2. Topic of this study
 - a. Central question or phenomenon being studied (if not clearly stated, put it in your own words)
 - b. Subquestions (you may need to look ahead in the article to find these)
3. Review of Literature
 - a. Topic 1
 - i. Key point
 - ii. Key point
 - b. Topic 2
 - i. Key point
 - ii. Key point
 - c. If more than 2 topics in lit review, list no more than 4 total.
4. Method
 - a. Author's positionality (their background related to the topic of participants)
 - b. Informants (people in a qualitative study. May be called participants)
 - i. Demographics (sex, age, instrument if relevant, urban...)
 - ii. Why were these participants chosen?
 - c. Qualitative method- grounded theory, phenomenology, etc.
 - d. Data collection procedures- include as appropriate
 - i. interviews
 - ii. observations
 - iii. artifacts
 - e. Data triangulation/trustworthiness
5. Themes/Interpretations/Findings (this would be the results in a quantitative article)
 - a. Theme 1
 - b. Theme 2
 - c. Theme 3
 - d. Name up to 4 themes.
6. How do the Findings relate to previous literature?
7. Implications or Conclusions (remember that the purpose of qualitative research isn't to generalize widely. The research is important for examining a unique situation. Any recommendations for future research?)
8. Relevance to you (if not directly related to your teaching/learning/performing, perhaps there was an aspect you found interesting)