Methodology: Experiment

	Exemplary 4	Proficient 3	Marginal 2	Unacceptable 1
Research Question Necessity	 The research question is clearly identified and stated in the paper. Moreover, it is highly significant and interesting. The question is novel, or it is a significant extension of an existing question. It is researchable and has an appropriate scope. 	 The research question is identified but is stated in an unclear manner. The question is significant, novel, or it is an extension of an existing question. It is researchable and has an appropriate scope. 	 The research question is identified but stated in an unclear manner. The question is overall significant, novel, or it is an extension of some parts of an existing question. It is overall researchable, but the scope is too broad or too narrow. 	• The research question is identified and stated in the paper, but it is unresearchable or not novel, or even erroneous.
Hypothesis Formulation	 The proposed hypotheses are precisely identified and stated in the paper. They are meaningful, testable, and falsifiable. They are highly relevant to the research question, and clearly identify the variables and their relationships at a high level. They are highly tied to theories, and the predictions of the hypotheses are reasonable. 	 The proposed hypotheses are testable and falsifiable but stated in an unclear manner. They are relevant to the research question, but lacking some details in identifying the variables and their relationships. They are tied to theories to some extent, and the predictions of the hypotheses are reasonable. 	 The proposed hypotheses are testable and falsifiable but stated in an unclear manner. They are relevant to the research question, and the variables and their relationships are stated but are based on some flawed logic. They are tied to theories to some extent, and the predictions of the hypotheses are somewhat reasonable. 	 The proposed hypotheses are not testable and falsifiable. They are not relevant to the research question, and the variables and their relationships are not stated or are stated but not logically sound. They are irrelevant to theories, and the predictions of the hypotheses are not reasonable.

Variable Design	 Independent and dependent variables are correctly identified. Variables are meaningful, realistic, operational, and well- observable, with states accurately specified. Variables are adequate for complete analysis. The relationships between the variables are fully discussed. 	 Independent and dependent variables are correctly identified. Some variables may be impractical, ambiguously stated, or inadequate for complete analysis. The relationships between the variables are discussed. 	 Variables are identified, but few of them are misclassified. Most of the variables are impractical, ambiguously stated or inadequate for complete analysis. The relationships between the variables are discussed. 	 Variables are not identified. The relationships between the variables are not discussed.
Experimental Design	 Representative participants of an appropriate size are recruited, given systematic instruction during the experiment. All materials and equipment used in the experiment are clearly described with complete justification. Well-constructed experiment procedures are listed in clear steps and detailed enough to be duplicated by another. Possible confounding variables are addressed as many as possible, and solutions like randomization are used. Data collection is systematic and logically controlled, providing adequate and reliable data for the analysis. 	 Representative participants of an appropriate size are recruited, but they may not receive systematic instructions during the experiment. Almost all materials and equipment used in the experiment are clearly described with incomplete justification. Experiment procedures are listed in logical steps without enough detail to follow. Possible confounding variables are addressed, and solutions like randomization are partially used. Data collection is systematic and logically controlled. 	 Representative participants are recruited but they may not receive systematic instructions during the experiment. Participants' numbers are not powerful enough to detect most effects. Many materials and equipment used in the experiment are described with incomplete justification. Experiment procedures are listed but not in a logical order, and details are omitted. Possible confounding variables are addressed without further solutions. Data collection may not be systematic and logically controlled. 	 Participants are non-representative or given systematic instructions during the experiment. Participants' numbers are not powerful enough to detect effects. Many materials and equipment are described inaccurately or not described at all. Experiment procedures are confusing and not in a logical order. Possible confounding variables are not addressed at all. Data collection may not be systematic and not clearly decided on how to measure the variables.
Data Quality	• With a clear definition and explanation, data is complete with	• With clear definition and explanation, data is complete	Data is defined and explained. Key information	Data is not clearly explained, not

and Analysis	 professionally-looking presentations. Able to leverage appropriate statistical methods to examine the data. Clear statistical results are presented and analyzed along with the confidence of the findings. A clear understanding of the characteristics and limitations of the data is demonstrated. Alternative interpretations of the data are provided. 	 with easy-to-follow presentations. Able to leverage appropriate statistical methods to analyze the data with results nicely presented. Justification is provided in selecting the analytical approach. Able to draw meaningful conclusions based on the analysis. 	 and relevant data are provided. Only rudimentary interpretation and analysis are conducted or the analytical methodology is flawed. Unable to explain the result from the data analysis or the interpretation is not correct. 	 accurate, or not relevant to the research question. Certain important information is missing or being left out. Data presentations are hard to follow. No analysis is conducted for the data.
Quality of Conclusion	 A convincing conclusion is presented to address the research question, with a high degree of articulation. The contributions and limitations of the findings are analyzed. Findings demonstrate significant implications with a high degree of external validity, theoretically, practically, or creatively. 	 A meaningful conclusion is presented in addressing the research question. The contributions and significance of the findings are clearly explained. Limitations of the research are discussed along with interesting future research directions proposed. 	 A conclusion is presented to address the research question. The contributions and significance of the findings are unclear. No discussion of its limitations or future research direction is included. 	• The conclusion presented is either not relevant to the research question or not convincing.