

**Instructions for Paper II: Study One Method, Results, and Discussion (35 Points)**

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## Purpose of Paper II: Study One Method, Results, and Discussion

### 1). Psychological Purpose

Like those prior studies you looked at in Paper I, you will provide information about your participants, materials, and procedure in your Method section. Your materials and procedure sections include information about what you did and how you did it. You should write this section for an audience who is unfamiliar with your specific study but assume that they do know research Method. This includes explicitly describing your independent and dependent variables and talking about how you presented those variables to your participants.

Your Results section follows. The purpose of this section is to make sure you can show how you analyzed the data and describe what you found.

Finally, I want you to include a short description of your findings. Tell me if you supported or did not support your hypotheses.

### 2). APA Formatting Purpose

The second purpose of Paper II: Method, Results and Discussion is to once again teach you proper American Psychological Association (APA) formatting for these sections.

### 3). Writing Purpose

Finally, this paper is intended to help you figure out how to write a Method, Results, and Discussion section. Many students find statistics daunting, but my hope here is that writing this paper will help you understand both the logic and format of statistics in results sections. We will once again give you a lot of feedback and help in this paper, which you help you when you write Papers IV and V later in the course.

**Note: The plagiarism limit is 60% in this paper.** However, this **DOES NOT** mean that you can directly plagiarize 60% of your paper. These 60% similarity is set for our standardization—everyone is writing on the same topic, using almost same references, and using the same instruction & checklist as an example. In addition, I will check all the similarity reports in your paper. **Copying and pasting (plagiarism) is NOT ok even with a tiny percent. Furthermore, you will get an auto 0 on this paper with more than 60% overlapping.**

## Method

1. Title Page: I expect the following format **(3 points) ---1 page**
  - a. The title page for your Paper II is identical to the one you used for Paper I. DO NOT change your title page unless you need to revise some errors in it based on our comments left in your Paper I.
2. Method Section: I expect the following format **(10 points) ---min 1.5 pages**
  - a. For this paper, the Method section starts on page 2.
  - b. Write **Method** at the top of this page, make it bold, and center it
  - c. The participants section comes next. The word **Participants** is bolded and left justified. In this section ...
    - i. Tell me who your participants were (college students, family members, friends?) and how many there were.
      1. Note: If a number starts a sentence, then spell out the number. That is, “Two-hundred and five participants participated in this study.”
      2. If a number is mid-sentence, you can use numerals. “There were 205 participants in this study.”
      3. **Keep numbers consistent**, though. If you spell them out in the middle of the sentence, carry that through and spell out other numbers in the sentence.
      4. For statistics, though, use numbers (for the mean, standard deviation, %, etc.)
    - ii. Provide frequencies and descriptive statistics for relevant demographics.
      1. For some variables—like ethnicity and gender—you only need to provide frequency information (the number of participants who fit that category). “There were 100 female participants (49.08%) and 105 male participants (51.92%) in the study.” Or “The sample was 49.08% male ( $N = 100$ ) and 51.92% female ( $N = 105$ ).”
      2. Other variables—like age—are continuous (rather than categorical), so use descriptive statistics here (the range, mean, and the standard deviation). “Participants ranged in age from 18 to 77 ( $M = 24.45$ ,  $SD = 3.50$ ).” or “The average age of participants was 24.45 ( $SD = 3.50$ ).”
      3. Make sure to italicize the  $N$ ,  $M$ , and  $SD$  (the letters, not the numbers) and round up to 2 decimals
  - d. **Materials and Procedure**
    - i. For this section, things are flexible. Some studies include Materials and Procedure in the same section while others break them up into two sections. This is a matter of choice.
      1. In general, the more complex the design, the better it is to split up the materials and procedure.
      2. However, your Paper II is simple, so I recommend combining them into one overall Materials and Procedure section.
    - ii. Again, the words **Materials and Procedure** are flush left. In this section ...
      1. Provide information about your materials and your procedure.
        - a. I have the following recommendations:
          - i. First, talk about the oral informed consent procedure.

- ii. Second, talk about the three versions of the **Primacy Effect study** questionnaire. Provide enough detail including the scenario, differences among conditions, and random assignment, so that your readers know how the three conditions differ. I need to be able to replicate your design, so give me enough detail so I can do so.
  - iii. Third, talk about your dependent variables (that is, your survey questions). For these dependent variables, once again provide enough detail but do not copy every question from the survey. You can talk about the questions per their part. For example, “Part II in the survey describes xxxxxx, including A, B, C, D as questions”, etc., or “Participants provided their gender, age, and race”. For dependent variables, tell me how the responses were recorded (yes/no, true/false, a scale of -5 to 5, or 1 to 7, etc.). If you used a scale, **note the endpoints**. That is, does a 1 mean it is high or is it low? “Participants were asked, ‘How frustrating was this task?’, and they responded on a scale from 1 (very) to 9 (not at all).”
  - iv. Fourth, make sure to highlight which specific DVs you analyzed (for our **Primacy Effect** study, we focus on **Part V (manipulation check)**, **Part II Q9-Good person**, and **Part II Q14-Positive impression**). **Notice that I restrict the DVs for you as I fixed the hypothesis for you.**
  - v. Finally, mention debriefing. Tell reader what was debriefed to participants: general purpose, hypothesis, IV, DV?
- e. Remember, make sure that another researcher can replicate your study based on your Method section. If they can't, then you may not have enough detail!
3. Results Section: I expect the following format **(15 points) ---hard to set page limit for this section because you are strictly required to have 3 analyses.**
- a. The results are the hardest part of this paper, and your lab will help you with this part of the paper. But this section is the most standardized part.
  - b. First, write **Results** at the top of this section, center it, and use boldface. This section comes directly at the end of the Method section, so the results section DOES NOT start on its own page.
  - c. For this assignment, include statistics about the most important variables in your study, including your IV (**primacy condition – Positive, Negative, and Mixed**) and the DVs (here, I require **Part V (manipulation check)**, **Part II Q9-Good person**, and **Part II Q14-Positive impression**).
  - d. For this paper, **you must run at least three different analyses (that is, focus on three different dependent variables).** One **must** be a chi square for Part V, our manipulation check. One **must** be a one-way ANOVA on **Part II Q9-Good person**. The last one **must** be one-way ANOVA on **Part II Q14—Positive impression**. Please note that if you run

three tests on the same DV, that still only counts as one DV, you will lose points. We count the number of DVs you analyze – NOT the number of tests you run!

- i. **Chi square:** Your first analysis will be a chi square, which you use if your DV is categorical (yes / no; yes / no / maybe; male / female, or ... in our case, we have [First Facebook friend trait description](#) question in Part V ([The word provided by the first friend was positive, neutral, or negative](#)). So, let's discuss the chi square, which does not look at means but rather counts how many responses there are compared to how many you would expect.
  1. [Consider DV last question on your questionnaire – “Without looking back, think about the first Facebook friend who provided a one word description for Casey. Was the word from this person positive, neutral, or negative?”](#) Here, you can run a chi square looking at the frequencies of the three answer options
  2. We are interested in the chi square ( $\chi^2$ ) and  $p$  value. We also provide percentages for each of our groups (rather than means and  $SD$ ).
    - a. “Using [primacy condition \(positive, negative, or mixed\)](#) as independent and [recall of the nature of the first trait used to describe the Facebook user](#) as the dependent variable, Chi-square test had a significant result,  $\chi^2(1) = 68.49, p = .031$  (**directly report  $p$  value, however, if SPSS output shows  $p = .000$ , then write  $p < .001$** ). Most “positive” condition participants recalled seeing a positive word (98.45%); most “negative” condition participants recalled seeing a negative word (96.02%); and most “mixed” condition participants recalled seeing a neutral word (90.69%). This indicates that participants saw our manipulation as intended.”
    - b. Make sure to round up to 2 decimals (except for  $p$ ), italicize the  $\chi$  and  $p$ .
- ii. **ANOVA:** Since you have a condition independent variable with three levels, the most appropriate test is a One-Way ANOVA if your DV is scaled (like a 1 to 9 scale or a 1 to 6 scale). Your lab will show you how to conduct an ANOVA, but there are some guidelines I want to give you about how to write your results.
  1. First, for my example analysis below, I want to give you an example on [Casey seems like a good person](#).
  2. We look first at the ANOVA table (or  $F$  table) and focus on the between subject factor. We note the degrees of freedom, the  $F$  value itself, and the  $p$  value.
  3. If the  $p$  value is significant (less than .05), we have one more step to take. Since this is a three level IV, we need to compare mean A to mean B, mean A to mean C, and mean B to mean C. We do this using a Tukey post hoc test. That will tell us which of the means differ significantly. You then write up the results (Note: I completely made up the data below).
    - a. “Using [primacy condition \(positive-trait first v. negative-trait first v. mixed\)](#) as independent variable and ratings of [“I think Casey is like a good person”](#) as the dependent variable, One-way

ANOVA had a significant result,  $F(2, 203) = 4.32, p = .02$ . Tukey post hoc tests showed that participants agreed more strongly that Corey was like a good person in positive condition ( $M = 4.56, SD = 1.21$ ) than those in negative ( $M = 5.24, SD = 0.89$ ) and mixed ( $M = 5.23, SD = 0.77$ ) conditions. The negative and mixed conditions, however, did not differ from each other. This supports the prediction that the way people are impacted by the primacy effect.”

- i. Note there are three possible outcomes: NONE of the three conditions differ ( $A = B = C$ ). ALL differ from each other ( $A \neq B \neq C$ ). One differs from the other two, but those other two do not differ ( $A \neq B = C$ ). **You need to write out the results based on your analysis results.**
  - b. Make sure to round up to 2 decimals (except for  $p$ ), and italicize the  $F$ ,  $p$ ,  $M$ , and  $SD$  (as in the example)
  - c. Now you can run and write out the same ANOVA on our DVs (Part II Q9, Part II Q14).
4. Discussion Study One (2 points) ---1-2 paragraphs
  - a. In this section, first re-state the hypothesis in a summarized and brief way (do not copy the whole hypothesis), and then tell me whether the results supported your hypothesis. IMPORTANT – Do NOT give me statistics again here. I can find those in your results section. Here, all I want is a plain English summary of your findings.
5. Appendices (3 points)—3 pages, 1 page for each table
  - a. I want to make sure you are including the correct numbers in your results section, so I want you to include all relevant SPSS tables for each of your analyses in a series of appendices.
    - i. Appendix A: Include your tables for age, gender, and ethnicity.
    - ii. Appendix B: Include your tables for your chi square and the crosstabs
    - iii. Appendix C: Include one of your tables for your DVs
6. Overall writing quality (2 points)
  - a. Make sure you check your paper for proper spelling and grammar. I highly recommend visiting Research Method Help Center if you need additional guidance with writing or statistical analyses.

### Other Guidelines:

- **You may get 1-5 points deducted due to lack of originality. For heavy overlapping issue (directly copying from previous/other students work or other Academic Misconduct behaviors), you will be reported to Academic Integrity Office and will bear course, educational, and university sanctions.**
- Use the Checklist on the next page before you turn in your paper to make sure it is the best paper you can write!

## Checklist – Paper II: Study One Method, Results, and Discussion

Use the check sheet below to make sure your paper is the best it can be! Make sure you answer “Yes” to all questions before submitting your paper! The first two sections duplicate the Paper I checklist, but those elements in **purple** are unique to you Method / Results / Discussion Paper II

General Paper Format (This section is identical to the Paper I Checklist)		
Yes	No	
		1. Is <u>everything</u> in your paper in 12-point Times New Roman font?
		2. Is <u>everything</u> in your paper double spaced?
		3. Do you have one-inch margins on all sides of the paper?
		4. Are the <u>first</u> lines of all paragraphs indented ½ inch?
		5. Are your paragraphs aligned left?

Title page (This section is identical to the Paper I Checklist)		
Yes	No	<i>Header</i>
		1. Is your Running head title in ALL CAPS?
		2. Is your Running head in 12 point Times New Roman font?
		3. Do you have a page number that is flush right (also in 12 point Times New Roman font)?
		<i>Title / Name / Institution</i>
		1. Is your title capitalized using title case, centered and bold?
		2. Are your name and institution correct?

Method Section (New Information in this section)		
Yes	No	<i>Header</i>
		1. Is your header title present and identical to your header title on the title page?
		2. Is your header title in ALL CAPS and 12-point Times New Roman font?
		3. Do you have a page number starting on page 2
		<i>Title for the Method section</i>
		1. Is the word “ <b>Method</b> ” centered and in bold at the top of your Method page?

Method Section Continued		
Yes	No	<i>Participants</i>
		1. Do you have the word “ <b>Participants</b> ” flush left and in bold, right below the word “Method”?
		2. Did you list out your demographic characteristics, including gender, age, and ethnicity / race?
		3. Did you provide the descriptive statistics for (means and standard deviations) for age and italicize the letters <i>M</i> and <i>SD</i> ?
		4. Did you provide frequencies for gender and ethnicity/race and italicize the <i>N</i> ?
		<i>Materials and Procedure</i>
		1. Did you mention informed consent?
		2. Did you thoroughly describe your independent variable in enough depth and detail that another researcher could duplicate your materials?
		3. Did you give this IV a name that matches up with the name you refer to in the results section?
		4. Did you describe all of your most relevant dependent variables, noting the scales you used (e.g. “Yes / No”, A scale ranging from 1 to 7, -5 to 5, etc.) for EACH of your DVs?
		5. Did you fully describe what participants went through in the study, noting the order in which they received study materials (e.g. first informed consent, then IVs, DVs, and debriefing)?

Results Section (New Information in this section)		
Yes	No	
		1. Do you have the word “ <b>Results</b> ” centered and in bold, immediately following the Method section?
		2. Did you run three analyses (one Chi-square on manipulation check, two one-way ANOVA on two required DVs)?
		3. Did you mention both the IV and the DV by name when talking about your analysis?
		4. Did you include means and standard deviations within parentheses for each level of your independent variable when reporting post-hoc tukey results?
		5. Did you italicize the letters <i>F</i> , <i>p</i> , <i>M</i> , <i>SD</i> , and $\chi$ (where appropriate)?
		6. Did you round up to 2 decimals when writing out numbers, except <i>p</i> value?

Discussion Section (New Information in this section)		
Yes	No	
		1. Do you have the word “ <b>Discussion</b> ” centered and in bold, immediately following the results section?
		2. Did you remind your reader of your hypothesis?
		3. Did you mention whether you supported or did not support your hypothesis?
Appendix Section – Study One (New Information in this section)		
Yes	No	
		1. Do you have the word “Appendix” centered on each Appendix page, followed by a description of the appendix content, immediately following the results section?
		2. In Appendix A (Demographics), do you have SPSS tables for gender, ethnicity, and age? (Note: Age might be in a general “statistics” table, but you should have specific frequency tables for both gender and ethnicity)
		3. In Appendix B (Chi Square), do you have the crosstabs table (with percentages) plus the chi square test (with Pearson)?
		4. In Appendix C (ANOVA), do you have the descriptives table, the ANOVA table, and the post hoc table for your dependent variable?