**Feedback**

**Research questions & objectives**

* “This study aimed to provide **valid** answers for the following questions”: You don’t need to say “**valid**” because logically we seek always for valid results. You should say directly: This study aims to provide answers to the following questions”:
* What are the prevalence and levels of overweight and obesity in Omani adolescent girls? Since you stated prevalence, it is preferable to use incidence instead of levels.
* The candidate has stated a lot of objectives (eight in total). You should try to merge those that tend to have the same meaning.
* When stating objectives, the candidate each time states methods she will use. For example: To assess dietary habits by:
  + Completion of an online questionnaire,
  + Completion of un-weighed 7- day diet diary to record the type and of food eaten, how often and the portion size.

So, methods must be stated independently from research questions.

**Results and methodology**

* The candidate did not explain why she only chooses a range of 4 years for the studied target group (only from 15 to 18 years old). A justification is necessary.
* Despite the fact that the candidate introduced interesting variables in the study, but she did not show the basis of her choice (theory, previous studies,…).
* The candidate talked about plotting a BMI chart (page 1), but I do not find the plot in the chapter.
* The candidate talked about Skewness and Kurtosis analysis but she did not presented their corresponding results. In case of skewed data, the mean becomes not representative, but the candidate relied on it in her analysis (you should use mode or median instead).
* Graphical representations are insufficient because the candidate relies only on histograms in her thesis, which might less describe the studied phenomenon. The candidate should also use bivariate and multivariate charts to better describe associations between variables.
* The candidate needs to review the methodological aspect of her thesis because there are many shortcomings. For example, after presenting some results in page 1, the candidate stated the aim of the study at the end of page 2. So the aim of the study should be introduced first…
* In each presented section, the candidate says “the aim of this study”. The aim of the study should be presented one time and at the beginning of the thesis. When we present results we should not talk about the objectives but only about study outcomes.
* The candidate should give a short introduction to a table before presenting it. The interpretation of a table results comes after the table presentation.
* In displaying her results, the candidate repeats each time the word “significant” or “significantly”, which makes from the word very redundant. She can say one time at the beginning, at 5% level of significance, we have the following results:
* …………………………………………………………………………………………
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* The candidate results are mostly descriptive (tables, proportions, means,…) and did not use advanced methods in order to check and test research hypotheses and to study the phenomenon as a whole. For example:
* In order to examine the association between normal weight, obese and overweight adolescents and, physical activities, sedentary behaviours and dietary habits, the candidate should use a regression model because the dependant variable (weight) has only two choices (normal, overweight/obese).
* In order to identify the differences or similarities between adolescents, an exploratory analysis or clustering analysis would be more appropriate to do this.
* The analysis of the impact between variables passes by validating a particular theory using regression theory. ANOVA analysis and correlation coefficients used in this study are only useful to study associations between variables but don’t allow to diagnose cause and effect relationships.