

# HYPOTHESIS

The hypothesis is a predictive, testable statement predicting the outcome and the results the researcher expects to find.

The hypothesis provides a summary of what direction, if any, is taken to investigate a theory.

In scientific research, there is a criterion that hypotheses need to be met to be regarded as acceptable.

## Importance of Hypothesis in Research

The purpose of including hypotheses in research is:

- To provide a summary of the research, how it will be investigated, and what is expected to be found.
- To provide an answer to the research question.

When carrying out research, researchers first investigate the research area they are interested in. From this, researchers are required to identify a gap in the literature. This research gap leads to identification of the research problem.

Filling the gap essentially means finding what previous work has not been explained yet, investigated to a sufficient degree, or simply expanding or further investigating a theory if doubt exists.

Remember, the hypothesis is a predictive statement of what is expected to happen when testing the research question.

- The hypothesis is a predictive, testable statement concerning the outcome/results that the researcher expects to find.
- Hypotheses are needed in research to provide a summary of what the research is, how to investigate a theory and what is expected to be found, and to provide an answer to the research question so that the hypothesis can be used for later data analysis.
- There are requirements for the formulation of testable hypotheses.

- There are different types of hypotheses: Null hypothesis, Alternative hypothesis (this is also known as the non-directional, two-tailed hypothesis), and Directional hypothesis (this is also known as the one-tailed hypothesis).