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Sophia Learning

English Composition II

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Source Evaluation on "Understanding the Bright Side and Dark Side of Telework" (2021)

In my research essay, I argue that employers with the capacity for remote work should offer the option for employees to work from home because of the increased productivity, work-life balance, job satisfaction, and organizational benefits that remote work provides. During my research, I came across the scholarly article "Understanding the bright side and dark side of telework: An empirical analysis of working conditions and psychosomatic health complaints," written by Dr. Anne Marit Wohrmann and Dr. Christian Ebner. This article was published in 2021 by the *New Technology, Work and Employment* journal. Due to the authors' expertise in this field, and the recency of publishing, I find this article to be credible, and the findings presented by the authors are useful to both my argument and counterargument because they explore the benefits and disadvantages of working remotely.

Dr. Wohrmann is a guest scientist at the Institute of Management and Organization at Leuphana University in Luneburg, Germany. Dr. Ebner is the Chair of Sociology at the Technical University of Braunschweig and specializes in work and organizations. Both have contributed articles to numerous peer-reviewed journals on working conditions and employee experiences. Their co-authored article was published in 2021 in the *New Technology, Work and Employment* journal. This international peer-reviewed journal focuses on "theoretically informed, critical scholarly analysis" of the work environment and its relationship with changing technology and was founded in 1986 (Wiley Online Library, n.d.). The article concludes with a

statement confirming that there was no conflict of interest (p. 366), and they also highlighted the limitations of their study's sample size (p. 365), which shows that they are presenting their findings as they are and not in a way that benefits their hypotheses. Their extensive backgrounds in this field make them subject matter experts, which also adds credibility to this article, especially considering their work was published in a peer-reviewed journal.

Wohrmann and Ebner's (2021) study showed that employees working remotely had more control over their working time, resulting in greater working autonomy. They hypothesized that working remotely would lessen the time pressure felt by employees as they do not have to commute to and from a workplace at a certain time, but their data showed the opposite (pp. 359-360). They also found that while working from home limits disturbances and interruptions, this also lowers the quality of relationships with coworkers (p.364). The benefits of remote work highlighted by this study will prove to be useful in my argument, specifically regarding work-life balance. The disadvantages will be useful in presenting my counterargument.

With the publishing of this article being so recent and the authors being subject matter experts with experience in conducting studies of this nature, I find this article to be credible. Being published in a peer-reviewed journal means that their work was analyzed by other experts to confirm the authenticity and reliability of the findings. As this article highlights the benefits and disadvantages of remote work, it is useful for both my argument and counterargument on whether employers with the capacity for remote work should offer employees the option to work from home.

References

Wöhrmann, A. M., & Ebner, C. (2021). Understanding the bright side and the dark side of

    Telework: An empirical analysis of working conditions and Psychosomatic Health

    Complaints. *New Technology, Work and Employment*, *36*(3), 348–370.

    https://doi.org/10.1111/ntwe.12208

Wiley Online Library. (n.d.). *New Technology, work and employment - wiley online library*. New

    Technology, Work and Employment Overview. Retrieved January 10, 2023, from

    https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/1468005X

Reflection Questions

01. What types of questions did you ask yourself when evaluating the credibility and usefulness of your source? (2-3 sentences)

As I evaluated the credibility of this source, I asked myself who the authors were and what made them experts in this subject. I also asked what was required for them to be published in the *New Technology, Work and Employment* journal. I looked into the presentation of their findings to see if there was any sense of bias. Were they only presenting data that reflected their hypotheses? As far as the usefulness of this source, I asked myself, does this support my argument or counterargument, and if so, how strong is this support?

02. How do you feel this evaluation practice will help you as you continue to move through the research process? (2-3 sentences)

This evaluation will help me as I search for other sources to support my argument. Being able to identify the credibility of a source will help make sure my argument is as strong as it can be. I am confident that this will be helpful, especially when determining if the source is useful.

Touchstone 2.1 Rubric and Feedback

Rubric Category	Your Grade
Thesis Statement (10 points) - 20%	Advanced (100%) - The thesis statement consists of an original observation that is clear, focused, and well-supported.
Evidence and Analysis (20 points) - 40%	Advanced (100%) - The analysis includes specific examples from the text as support; claims for credibility and usefulness are fully developed.
Organization (5 points) - 10%	Advanced (100%) - Presents all of the required components of a source evaluation essay, including an engaging introduction with background information and a clear thesis, a body paragraph or paragraphs addressing the source's credibility, a body paragraph or paragraphs addressing the source's usefulness, and a conclusion with a concluding statement.
Style (5 points) - 10%	Advanced (100%) - Demonstrates thoughtful and effective word choices, avoids redundancy and imprecise language, and uses a wide variety of sentence structures.
Conventions (5 points) - 10%	Advanced (100%) - There are only a few, if any, negligible errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling, capitalization, formatting, and usage.
Reflection (5 points) - 10%	Advanced (100%) - Demonstrates thoughtful reflection; consistently includes insights, observations, and/or examples in all responses, following or exceeding response length guidelines.

SCORE: 50/50

Nathan,

This looks like an excellent, credible, and contemporary source to use in your research paper. You introduce and contextualize the source nicely before providing your thesis. Also, your observations and analysis about the source's credibility and usefulness are astute. I wish you the best of luck as you to gather and evaluate sources for your annotated bibliography in Touchstone 2.2. - James