Math 9 Research Survey Project

**QUESTION:** Can research make a difference? Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Group: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**TASK:**

You have the chance to carefully plan and implement a research project. You will work with a partner to decide a topic of interest, develop a research question, choose a sample group, and then collect, summarize and report the data. Once you have completed the research you will decide a special interest group to ensure your data is used in an impactful way.

* **Purpose / Topic of Interest**
* **Question**
* **Hypothesis**
* **Identified Special Interest Groups**
* **Population of Interest**
* **Sample**
* **Sampling Technique**
* **Collecting Data**
* **Summarizing Data**
* **Reported Data**
* **Contact Special Interest Group(s)**
* **Final Presentation** – All components put together in a presentable manner. See rubric!

**CONTENT:**

**Purpose / Topic of Interest:**

When selecting your research topic carefully consider the following (1) it interests you, (2) is rather easy to gather information on, (3) it is appropriate for a grade 9 math class, (4) it is important to other people that you come to a conclusion and (5) will be interesting to your audience.

Topic of Interest: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Why is this topic important to you?

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**Research Question:**

The key to a successful survey design is to ensure that your questions are concise and easy-to-understand. This way, you will get valid, reliable and relevant information. Use well-written, tested pre-existing questions as much as possible, especially from surveys done in your specific industry or topic area. Pretesting questions is the best method to determine whether a question is correct for your own survey.

* Must be clearly defined
* Should be relatively simple
* FINER (Feasible, Interesting, Novel, Ethical, Relevant)
* Does your question pass the “So what test”?

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**Hypothesis:**

A hypothesis is a clear statement of what you believe will be the result of your research.

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**Identify Special Interest Groups:**

Identify the groups of people that you may report the research results to and describe how they may use the information in a positive way. One part of the planning stage is thinking about how you will use the results. Your objective when creating survey questions is to keep the survey as brief as possible while still gathering all pertinent information.

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**\* Select Sample and Prepare for Survey\***

* Add question to 20 survey slips
* Conduct a random sample
* Fill in all components on survey slip

**Population of Interest:**

* Who are the people that are the focus of your study? You need to consider their age, education and attention span when developing a survey.

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**Sample:**

* Sample is a section of your population that you are actually going to survey.
* Describe your sample and the size of your sample

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**Sampling Technique:**

As you plan a survey, you need to determine which method – or methods – you should use to collect data from respondents. Some options include by telephone, by mailed questionnaire, by face-to-face interview, by e-mail, over the Internet or other electronic methods. Sometimes, it takes a combination of methods to get the best results.

* Choose the type of sample you are going to use (convenience, random (**simple**, stratified or systematic) or voluntary response).
* Provide reasons why you choose that specific method

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**Collecting Data:**

In order for this step in the survey research process to be a success, you need to collect clean, unbiased and up-to-date data in an efficient manner.

* Describe how you will send out this survey question to a sample group and your method for collecting the results
* Count the responses

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**Summarizing Data:**

Data analysis lets you extract useful information from your collected data so you can make informed decisions. Every piece of your acquired data has intrinsic value. The key is extracting this value. You are able to better understand your audience, whether it's customers, employees or prospects, by analyzing the most intimate details.

* Review, discuss and extract valuable information from your data and record it below
* Were you surprised by the results, why or why not?

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**Reported Data:**

Once you have analyzed your data, you need to report the results. The goal of the reporting stage is to create easy-to-understand results from your data analysis for decision makers who can quickly understand and act upon your information.

It's important to display results that highlight the information you want to emphasize. If your audience doesn't understand the point, then your thorough analysis is wasted.   One way to present information concisely is to create tables that deliver the analysis for specific groups (populations) of interest.

Reports can be generated as Microsoft Word documents, presentations, tables or through the Web on your organization's intranet. To help your end users make the most of the results – and take less of your survey researcher's time – use software that lets you create interactive, customizable reports. This way, each person can easily interact with the results.

* Discuss the methods you have decided to use to report your results

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**Deployment:**

When deploying your results, you put the results in the hands of people who can use them to make a difference. This helps you increase the return on your analytic investment. Your reports are most effective when you tailor them for your target audience. As a reminder, the goal of survey research is better decision making. Don't do the research if you are not going to deploy or take action on the results.

* Discuss your deployment plan
* TAKE ACTION (email, new letter, flyer, poster, phone call, PSA, website, etc.) to educate and inform the people who the results are important to. Ensure to provide them with the reason you have targeted them as your audience.

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**Class Presentation:**

Develop a class presentation that highlights your understanding and experience with the components of an effective research survey. Use the rubric below!

Presentation Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Evaluation: 5 Minutes Presentation**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Beginning** | **Developing** | **Accomplished** | **Exemplary** |
| **Planning**  **/ 4** | Two components are missing or all are done poorly | One components is missing but the rest are fully included OR all components are included but not detailed | All components are correctly included – somewhat detailed and thorough | All components are correctly included – detailed and thorough |
| - PURPOSE is stated clearly  - Concise and easy to understand QUESTION that will result in valid, reliable and relevant information  - A HYPOTHESIS is provided (what you believe the results will be)  - Multiple SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS are identified based on 2 or more possible results | | | | |
| **Sample**  **/4** | Two components are missing or all are done poorly | One components is missing but the rest are fully included OR all components are included but not detailed | All components are correctly included – somewhat detailed and thorough | All components are correctly included – detailed and thorough |
| - POPULATION OF INTEREST is determined  - SAMPLE is described  - Type of SAMPLING TECHNIQUE is decided  - Reasons for the specific sampling method are provided | | | | |
| **Data Analysis**  **/8** | Two components are missing or all are done poorly | One components is missing but the rest are fully included OR all components are included but not detailed | All components are correctly included – somewhat detailed and thorough | All components are correctly included – detailed and thorough |
| - Description of how you COLLECTED clean, unbiased and up-to-date DATA  - SUMMARIZED DATA through review, discussions and extracting useful information  - REPORTED DATA in a easy-to-understand and concise method  - Evidence of DEPLOYMENT (results provided to a target audience whom can use the info.), action has been taken | | | | |