

Purpose Statement Checklist

Use the following criteria to evaluate an author's purpose statement.

Look for indications of the following:

- Does the statement begin with signaling words?
- Does the statement identify the research approach (quantitative, qualitative, or mixed)?
- Does the statement clearly state the intent of the study?
- Does the statement mention the participants?
- Does the statement mention the research site?
- Is the statement framed in a way that is consistent with the identified problem?

If the study is **qualitative**, does the purpose statement do as follows?

- Focus on a single phenomenon
- Use an action verb to convey how learning will take place
- Use neutral, nondirectional language
- Provide a general definition of the central phenomenon

If the study is **quantitative**, does the purpose statement do as follows?

- Identify the variables under study
- Provide a general definition of each key variable
- Use words that connect the variables
- Identify a theory

If the study is **mixed methods**, does the purpose statement do as follows?

- Discuss the reason(s) for mixing both quantitative and qualitative data
- Include the characteristics of a good qualitative purpose statement (as listed above)

- Include the characteristics of a good quantitative purpose statement (as listed above)
- Indicate the specific method of collecting both quantitative and qualitative data