

Sample Critical Appraisal Paper

- There are two extracts and questions on each extract in a separate booklet.
- You are strongly advised to read the questions before reading the extracts.
- Attempt all questions: marks will not be deducted for incorrect answers.
- When a specific number of answers is required in a question, only this number of answers will be allocated marks: i.e. if the question asks for two answers only the first two answers will be allocated marks.
- Use a separate answer book for each extract. Clearly write your Candidate number and the extract number on the front of each answer book.
- Begin the answer to each question on a new page of the answer booklet. Separate each answer by inserting the appropriate question number.
- Write legibly using a pen. Mistakes should be crossed out.

Example Critical Appraisal Paper

Reference material for Extract 1

Please read the reference material attached, adapted from a paper entitled "Title of paper". Authors' names. Title of journal; year of publication; edition number: pages.

Note: The content of reference material will normally consist of information under a series of headings, such as those listed below, and may include data or statistics in table format.

Introduction

Objective

Methods

Results

Questions for Extract 1

1. What type of study design is this? **(2 marks)**
2. Propose a null hypothesis for this study. **(1 mark)**
3. Comment on three sources of bias and/or error in this study. **(3 marks)**
4. Discuss the presentation of data in Fig 4. **(3 marks)**
5. Discuss the authors' conclusions as described in the abstract. **(2 marks)**