

Define Scope & Direction of Research



Developing a research problem, objectives, questions, and hypotheses is a crucial part of the research process. Here's a step-by-step guide using an example topic:

EXAMPLE TOPIC

THE IMPACT OF SOCIAL MEDIA USAGE ON ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS.

STEPS TO DEFINE RESEARCH DIRECTION

01.

Develop the Research Problem

02.

Define the Research Objectives

03.

Formulate the Research Questions

04.

Develop the Hypotheses

DESCRIPTION

EXAMPLE

Research Problem

This is a specific issue, difficulty, or gap in existing knowledge that your research aims to address. It should be clear and concise.

1

College students are increasingly using social media, but its impact on their academic performance is not well understood. Understanding this relationship is important for educators and policymakers to develop strategies that enhance student outcomes.

Research Objectives

These are specific goals that you aim to achieve through your research. They should be clear, measurable, and directly related to the research problem.

2

- To examine the frequency and duration of social media usage among college students.
- To analyze the correlation between social media usage and academic performance.
- To identify factors that mediate the relationship between social media usage and academic performance.

Research Questions

These are specific questions that your study seeks to answer. They guide the research process and are derived from the research objectives.

3

- How frequently do college students use social media, and what is the average duration of daily usage?
- What is the relationship between social media usage and academic performance among college students?
- What factors influence the impact of social media usage on academic performance?

Hypotheses

These are testable predictions about the relationship between variables. They are usually formulated based on existing literature or theory and are tested through research.

4

- H1: There is a negative correlation between the duration of social media usage and academic performance among college students.
- H2: The impact of social media usage on academic performance is moderated by the type of social media platform used (e.g., educational vs. non-educational).
- H3: Students who use social media primarily for academic purposes have higher academic performance than those who use it for non-academic purposes.

SUMMARY

Research Problem

Identifies the gap or issue (e.g., unclear impact of social media on academic performance).

Research Objectives

Set clear goals (e.g., analyze frequency and impact of usage).

Research Questions

Pose specific inquiries (e.g., what is the relationship between usage and performance?).

Hypotheses

Make testable predictions (e.g., more social media use leads to lower academic performance).