



Summer Independent Learning

Subject/Group	BTEC Diploma in Health and Social Care (Y12-Y13)
Topics	Research Methods Reading
Timescale	10 - 16 hours + reading
To be completed by	This work must be completed and handed in to your subject teacher on the first day of term

SECTION ONE: RESEARCH METHODS

Background/Context

There are many reasons why research is carried out into contemporary health and social care issues, for example to explore the effect of diet on health and wellbeing or the provision and impact of addiction centres in the local community.

As a health and social care professional you will need to understand the purpose of research, how it is carried out and the importance of research for improving the wellbeing of those using health and social care services.

This is an externally assessed unit made up of types of issues where research is carried out in the health and social care sector, research methods in health and social care and carrying out and reviewing relevant secondary research into a contemporary health and social care issues.

Don't forget to use your Health and Social Care textbooks and other resources to help you complete this work.

Unit 4 is found in the BTEC Health and Social Care Student Book 2.

There are THREE parts to this work. ALL parts are mandatory.

1. A variety of activities aimed at developing your understanding of enquiries into research.
2. Read and analyse a research document.
3. Produce a research poster.

PART ONE

Purpose of Research

The purpose of research is to find out information or gain knowledge. Research is a systematic or orderly procedure that explores issues to establish facts or reach new conclusions.

Activity 1

There are FOUR key purposes of research in health and social care. **What are they?**

1	
2	
3	
4	

Activity 2

Using reputable websites, identify TWO examples of research that have been carried out in health and social care within the last five years.

	Name of research projects, the web links and a summary of the research conducted
Health	<u>Research article 1</u> Title of research project: URL link: Summary of the research that has been conducted:

	Summary of the research that has been conducted:
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Activity 3

As part of your learning, you need to have a clear understanding of the key terms used within this Unit.

Define the following key terms used in research.

Command verb/key terms	Definition/Explanation
Article	
Issue	
Health and social care practice	
Research methods	
Qualitative research	
Quantitative research	

Primary research	
Secondary research	
Ethical issue	
Literature review	

Activity 4

Research involves the collection of data. Data can be numerical, or it can be descriptive. Numerical data can be statistically analysed whereas descriptive data cannot be measured. There are several methods used to collect the data. In the table below are examples of the commonly used research methods.

There are several research methods which you need to know about.

Below is a table which includes most of the research methods you will come across in Unit 4.

- Define each research method
- Identify ONE strength and ONE weakness for EACH research method

Research methods	Strengths	Weakness
Observations Definition:		
Interviews Definition:		
Focus Groups Definition:		
Experiments Definition:		
Surveys Definition:		
Questionnaires Definition:		
Case studies Definition:		

PART TWO – READING TASK

Read the two articles and complete a SQ3R worksheet (see end) for each article.

Article 1: <https://www.wypartnership.co.uk/application/files/4316/0284/3010/bame-review-report-summary.pdf>

Article 2: <https://workforce.wypartnership.co.uk/application/files/5316/4555/4180/WYHCP - People Plan - Workforce Strategy 2021-2025 Public summary.pdf>

PART THREE – RESEARCH TASK

What can we learn from...

The 'Women's Health – Let's Talk About It' research

In spring 2021 the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) launched a 'call for evidence' to inform the government's very first Women's Health Strategy.

Your task is to complete background research on the Women's Health Strategy and produce a research poster on the 'Women's Health – Let's Talk About It' research. Using the links below:

- <https://www.thewomensorganisation.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Womens-Health-Survey-findings-2022.pdf>
- <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6308e552e90e0729e63d39cb/Womens-Health-Strategy-England-web-accessible.pdf>
- <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/62d93c65d3bf7f2862f26a48/Womens-Health-Strategy-easy-read.pdf>

Posters are widely used in the academic community, and most conferences include poster presentations in their program. Research posters summarise information or research concisely and attractively to help publicise it and generate discussion.

The poster is usually a mixture of a brief text mixed with tables, graphs, pictures, and other presentation formats. At a conference, the researcher stands by the poster display while other participants can come and view the presentation and interact with the author.

What Makes a Good Research Poster?

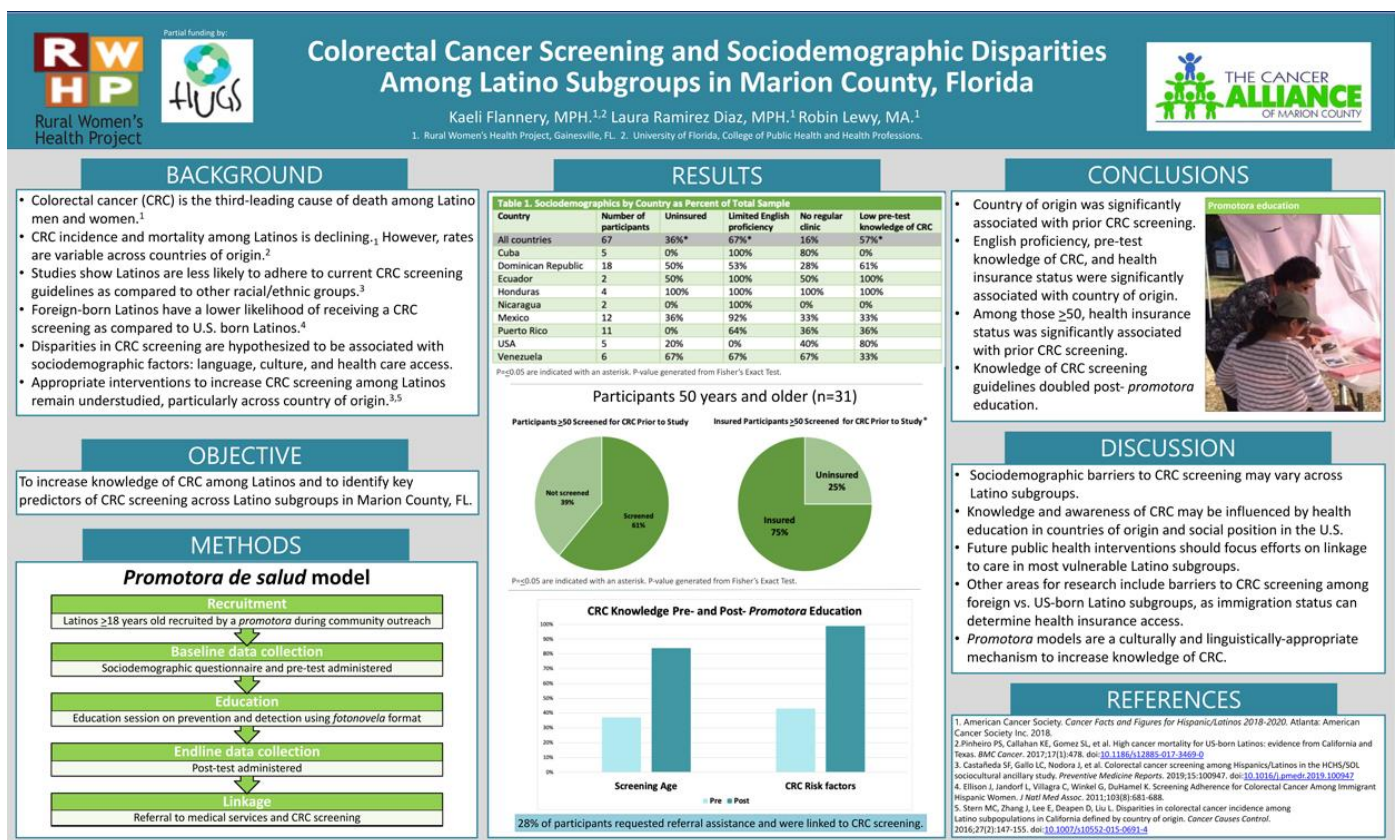
- Important information should be readable from about 3 metres away

- Title is short and draws interest
- Word count of about 300 to 800 words
- Text is clear and to the point
- Use of bullets, numbering, and headlines make it easy to read
- Effective use of graphics, colour and fonts
- Consistent and clean layout

What to include?

- Introduction to the research
- Why do we need a Women's Health Strategy?
- What did the survey involve?
- What were the priority topics?
- What did the results show?
- What were the gaps in data and research?
- What are the disparities in health outcomes for women?
- What are the future recommendations?
- Include images and ensure that all your work is in your own words and referenced.

Examples of Research Posters



SQ3R

SURVEY • QUESTION • READ • RECITE • REVIEW

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. SURVEY

Answer the following questions before reading the text.

-What is topic of the text?

-What is the title of the text?

-Notice any subtitles, headings, or chapters. How is the text organized?

-Describe a picture or graphic included in the text.

3. READ

Look for the answers to your three questions as you actively read the text. It is important to take the time to re-read any sections or portions of the text that are unclear.

4. RECITE

Write a short summary of the text in your own words.

2. QUESTION

Before you start reading, write three questions you have about the text.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

5. REVIEW

Answer each question you generated before reading the text.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

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SECTION TWO: READ A BOOK

How often do you read a book for pleasure?

What stops you from choosing to read a book?

Why read? Clark and Rumbold (2006) identify several main areas of the benefits to reading for pleasure:

- Reading attainment and writing ability
- Text comprehension and grammar
- Breadth of vocabulary
- Positive reading attitudes
- Greater self-confidence as a reader
- Pleasure in reading in later life
- General knowledge
- A better understanding of other cultures
- Community participation
- A greater insight into human nature and decision-making

Over the summer, we would like you to read at least one book (this can be fiction / non-fiction and does not have to be related to Health and Social Care). Be prepared to give feedback to the rest of your class in September; you might want to prepare a flashcard to help.

We have books available in college (see your teacher) or you can borrow books from your local library, for free, once you have registered. You can also buy books from charities shops, often for under a pound.

<https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/libraries-and-local-history/your-local-library/>

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/libraries/>

SIL Checklist

Have you:

- Completed parts A, B and C for section one on Research Methods?
- Referenced your work correctly?
- Read a book and prepared a flashcard?

If you have difficulty in accessing IT resources to produce this work, you may complete it by hand, making sure you write clearly and neatly.

Make sure you have put your name on all sheets of paper.