

## *Checklist for conducting research*

*Questions to guide the design of a research project:*

*Checklist:*

1. Is the question worth investigating? Is the question feasible?
2. Does the research imply a strong causal relationship between two or more variables?
3. What are the constructs underlying the (research) question?
4. How are these constructs to be operationalized?

*Introduction:*

Statement of Purpose:

Where is the study heading?

What is the purpose of the study,

What are the research questions and hypotheses posed by the study?

*Design:*

- a. Does the question suggest an experimental or a non-experimental design?

*Method:*

- a. What methods are available for investigating the question?
- b. Which of these are feasible given available resources and expertise?

- c. Is it possible to utilize more than one data collection method?

- d. Given my chosen data collection methods, what threats are there to the internal and external validity of the study?

*Subjects:*

- a. Is the description of the participants adequate?
- b. Is the method of selection clear?

*Materials:*

- a. Is there a description of the tests, questionnaires, rating scales etc?
- b. Do the variables represent reasonable operational definitions of the underlying constructs?
- c. Is there a description of any equipment?

*Results:*

- a. Does it answer any other questions?
- b. What are the findings of similar studies?
- c. Are there any contradictory findings?
- d. How can these be accounted for?
- e. What additional questions and suggestions for further research are thrown up by the research?

David Nunan (1990)