

CHAPTER 5

DEVELOPING A RESEARCH PROPOSAL

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of this chapter the student should be able to:

- Generate ideas for research projects.
- Develop research questions/statements, define and refine them.
- Provide a sample literature review for a research proposal.
- Outline a methodological framework for a research project.
- Develop a research proposal.

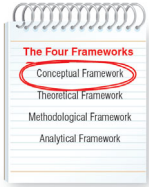
RESEARCH SKILLS

At the end of this chapter the student should, using the exercises on the accompanying online platform, be able to:

- Generate research ideas.
- Outline researchable problems.
- Develop research proposals.

In this chapter the focus is on the development of research proposals. This is a very important chapter. As well as teaching you how to develop formal proposals for research projects, this chapter looks again at how to generate ideas for research, and how to critically evaluate those ideas to make sure they are researchable.

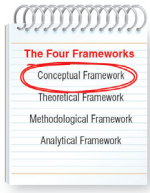
RESEARCH DIARY ACTIVITIES



ACTIVITY 5.1

Using your research diary, list five ideas for research projects that you would like to carry out.

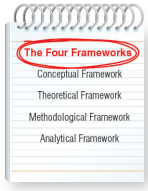
ANSWER:



ACTIVITY 5.2

From the list of five research ideas that you have created in your research diary, develop two of those ideas into researchable projects. Refer to Chapter Five in the textbook for help with this exercise.

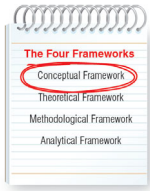
ANSWER:



ACTIVITY 5.3

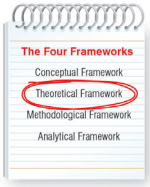
In your research diary, outline the structure of a research proposal for one of your research ideas. Use Chapter Five to help you with this exercise and read the end of chapter case study in which a student research proposal is presented (Tom's research proposal).

ANSWER:

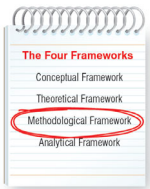


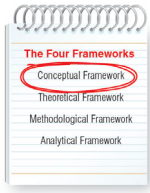
ACTIVITY 5.4

In the section 'Generating Ideas for Research Projects' which starts of page 128 of the textbook, there is outlined a very useful research diary exercise. The questions provided in the section, there are three different series of questions on pages 129 and 130, are designed to help you with the exercise. Read the section and complete the exercise.



ANSWER:

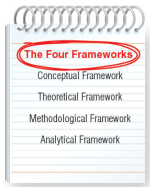




ACTIVITY 5.5

Draw some spidergrams in your research diary. Use this exercise to practice developing ideas for research projects and ideas in relation to your research project.

ANSWER:



YOUR RESEARCH DIARY

Please use this section to start your own Research Diary and keep accurate records of your research as it progresses

DATE:

RESEARCH ELEMENT/ASPECT:

Detail the topic or section of research being undertaken

SOURCE:

Record website addresses, book citations, library references, contact details etc.

SUMMARY:

Reflect on your experiences, thoughts, ideas and developments

NOTES:

Make general notes on your research, for example questions for further reflection and/or investigation, your thoughts, your observations and plans for future research.