

CHAPTER 16

DRAWING CONCLUSIONS AND WRITING RESEARCH

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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

- Conceptualize and present conclusions from research.
- Conceptualize and present recommendations for research projects.
- Be able to complete the final written report of a research project.

RESEARCH SKILLS

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

- Explain what a conclusion is in a research project, and what conclusions represent in terms of the research endeavour.
- Explain how good and useful recommendations are conceptualized and presented.
- Critique the conclusions and recommendations from a given research project.

The aim of this chapter is to explain the concept of conclusions in research, to demonstrate how conclusions should be drawn and to help you, the student develop the skills needed to write a thesis. In this chapter, conclusions in research are explored and explained. The chapter demonstrates how conclusions are drawn in a research project and shows what conclusions are based on. The means by which the research project is brought full-circle is demonstrated by explaining how the conclusions of the research project

respond to the research question or statement of the research project. The chapter explains how the final chapter of the thesis, or the final section of the research report, is designed to answer fully and completely the research question, or is designed to respond fully and completely to the research statement.

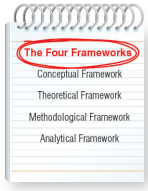
RESEARCH DIARY ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY 16.1

Read through the synopsis of a newspaper article presented in The Value of Good Research textbox on page 447.

In your research diary, explain what the problem was with the publication of the survey findings.

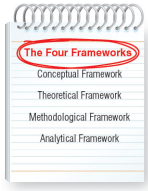
ANSWER:



ACTIVITY 16.2

Select any of the journal article detailed in the textbook and read it. Note how the conclusions were drawn from the analysis of the data gathered for the research project. Make a note in your research diary of how the conclusions were presented in the journal article.

ANSWER:



ACTIVITY 16.3

In your reading of the journal article note how the recommendations are made. Make a note in your research diary of how the recommendations of the study were made and how they were presented in the journal article.

ANSWER:

ACTIVITY 16.4

Read the end-of-chapter case study. In this case study a synopsis is presented of a research project. The title of the journal article from which the synopsis is taken is 'Why Do Management Practices Differ Across Firms and Countries?' When you have read the synopsis, source the journal article and read it.

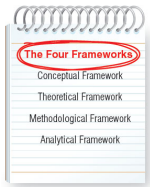
In your research diary, write a short critique of the conclusions and recommendations of this research project as they are presented in the journal article.

ANSWER:

ACTIVITY 16.5

In your research diary, write a note detailing and explaining the value of the research diary.

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.