SWU 252: Aesthetics for Life

Progress Report (keep a PDF back-up)  

Your progress report should consist of five parts:

1.0 Introduction  
2.0 Research Question and Hypothesis  
3.0 Methodology  
4.0 Preliminary Results/Pilot Study  
5.0 References/Bibliography  
Materials Appendix

→ Additionally, provide a list of group members with the following information

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<tr>
<th>Group ID</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Student Number</th>
<th>Nickname</th>
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1.0 Introduction

Introduce the main topic of research. In this section, you should provide relevant background knowledge on the topic to the reader; you should provide enough information so that the reader understands why the research question is interesting.

2.0 Research Question and Hypothesis

In this section, introduce your main research question. You should also provide a hypothesis, and a justification for this hypothesis.

Eg.,

The main question we address is as follows: is an urban sketcher's popularity related to how realistic their drawing style is? According to the representational approach to art, the value of a piece of art is correlated with how closely it represents a real object. We thus predict that urban sketchers with more realistic styles will be more popular than those with less realistic styles.
3.0 Methodology

In this section, explain how you will acquire the data required to answer your research question. You should also explain how the data gained from this methodology should either support, or disconfirm your hypothesis. You should have already created materials for your methodology (e.g., a survey, photo manipulations); please include these materials in an appendix.

Eg.,

We will select ten urban sketchers and collect three representative sketches from each sketcher. We will make a survey where 50 participants (1st year university students) are asked to rank the sketching styles from 1 “not very realistic” to 7 “very realistic,” and to rank their appreciation of the sketching styles from 1 “I don't like it” to 7 “I love it.” We will then take an average of these results to create a score for each sketcher, and then check to see if these “realistic” scores correlate “likeability” scores. If our hypothesis is correct, then the sketcher with the highest “realistic” score should also the highest “likeability” score.

4.0 Preliminary Results

For this progress report, I want you to TEST your methodology with a “pilot study” before you - this means that you will use your methodology to try and gather the data that will answer your research question, but you will try it on a small scale. You will report the results of the pilot study in this “Preliminary Results” section and (i) indicate whether the preliminary data supports or does not support your hypothesis, and (ii) indicate whether you noticed any problems with your methodology. If so, suggest how you will improve your methodology for the real research project.

Eg.,

For our pilot study, we selected three urban sketchers and collected representative sketches from each of them. We gave 20 surveys asking participants (1st year university students) are asked to rank the sketching styles from 1 “not very realistic” to 7 “very realistic.” The results from the surveys are given in Table I.
Table I: The number under 1 indicates the number of responses that chose 1 “not very realistic,” the number under 2 indicates the number of responses that chose 2, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Realistic Score</th>
<th>Likeability scores</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sketcher</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
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The preliminary data is not consistent with our hypothesis; although the sketcher with the highest “realistic” score (Sketcher C; 6.1) is also the one with the highest “likeability” score (7), the sketcher with the second highest “realistic” score (Sketcher B; 5.5) ranks below the sketcher E, who has the lowest “realistic” score (2.85). We suspect that this reflects a flaw in our methodology - all of the survey we used ask the participants to rank first Sketcher A, then Sketcher B, and then Sketcher C. By the time the participant gets to ranking Sketcher E, they may be too tired to be critical. In order to avoid this possibility, we will make it so that five of the surveys have the order ABDCE, five with BDCEA, five with DCEAB, five with CEABD, and five with EABDC.

5.0 References/Bibliography

In this section, provide any references you used to write the previous three sections! You must use a consistent style - eg., MLA, APA, Turabian/Chicago Style
Appendix A: Survey

In this section, please include any of the materials you have created for your methodology.

Eg.,

Please rank the following sketching styles from 1 “not very realistic” to 7 “very realistic,” and rank them on likeability from 1 “I don't like it” to 7 “I like it very much.”

Style A: NAME OF SKETCHER A

![Sketches](image1)

Realistic Score: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Likeability Score: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Style B: NAME OF SKETCHER B

![Sketches](image2)
Style C: NAME OF SKETCHER C

insert example sketch here

insert example sketch here

insert example sketch here

Style D: NAME OF SKETCHER D

insert example sketch here

insert example sketch here

insert example sketch here
Style E: NAME OF SKETCHER E

Realistic Score: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Likeability Score: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Marking Criteria

• **INTRODUCTION** ( /1 marks)
  Did you introduce the main topic? ✗ ✓

• **RESEARCH QUESTION** ( /2 marks)
  Is your research question related to course content? (2) ✓ ✗

• **HYPOTHESIS** ( /2 marks)
  Did you provide a hypothesis? ✓ ✗
  Is the hypothesis motivated by theoretical/empirical reasons? ✓ ✗

• **METHODOLOGY** ( /5 marks)
  Did you propose a methodology? ✓ ✗
  Did you explain the steps of your methodology? ✓ ✗
  Is it clear how the methodology will answer the question? ✓ ✗
  Did you explain what results would confirm your hypothesis ✓ ✗
  Does your explanation connecting results & hypothesis make sense? ✓ ✗

• **MATERIALS APPENDIX** ( /5 marks)
  Did you provide materials? ✓ ✗
  Is it clear how the materials relates to your methodology? ✓ ✗
  Are your materials comprehensive? ✓ ✗

• **PRELIMINARY RESULTS** ( /8 marks)
  Did you explain the properties of your pilot study? ✓ ✗
  Did you provide preliminary results? ✓ ✗
  Did you follow your proposed methodology? ✓ ✗
  Did you provide the raw data? ✓ ✗
  Did you make a generalization for the raw data? ✓ ✗
  Is the data presented in a clear and easy to understand way? ✓ ✗
  Did you explain whether the data supports your hypothesis? ✓ ✗
  Did you assess/revise your methodology based on your results? ✓ ✗

• **OTHER** ( /2 marks)
  Did you provide references, if necessary? ✓ ✗
  Did you provide a list of group members/student numbers? ✓ ✗