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| **Heading** | **Report Title (Size 24 font)**   * this is the research question |
| **Criteria** | **FYI: The following sections are marked using the *Research and planning criterion*** |
|  | Rationale, RQ and background are to be incorporated into 1 big section |
| Content | **Rationale and Background** (Subtitle. Size 18 font)  * Exemplar word count was approx. 170-200 words, not including quotes/references in brackets.   Research Question Development:   * In this section, detail your development of the research question from the claim. * Rationale shows the process by which the research question has been clearly developed from the claim. To help you, reflect on the information you researched when following the steps to convert a claim into a research question. * Do not state your research question here. |
| Research Question | **The research question (This is not a title)**  * Directly underneath the rationale, write your research question.   ***Bold and italic font***   * The question needs to clearly state the two variables being investigated. * Research question is connected to the rationale and the topics covered in the unit. |
| Criteria | **The following sections are marked using the *Analysis and interpretation criterion.*** |
| Background | **Background Information**   * Exemplar word count was approx. 220-250 words, not including references in brackets. * In this section, you need to provide background information a reader would need to know to understand your report and to justify your evidence found in next section (focus on the Biology) * Needs to show development of information from your sources to support your arguments in ‘evidence; section. |
| Evidence | **Evidence** (Subtitle. Size 18 font)  * 350 to 400 words * This sections draws upon the quantitative data to respond to the research question. It links directly to the research question. ( tables/graphs; 1 to 2) * Data must be applicable to the formation of the scientific argument and be based on the variable in your research question. (must come from a scientific credible source) * From this you need to identify the relationships in the data for responding to the research question and can support a valid conclusion. * Raw data table * End of each variable- discuss limitation of evidence. * Do the sources provide adequate information- review the literature ( limitations) |
| Evaluation | **Evaluation** (Sub title. Size 18 font)  * In this section you need to identify all the limitations of the evidence * Discuss and explain the quality of the evidence - type 1 and type 2 errors, sampling techniques, sample size, method * (Do not repeat above limitations) * Can data be compared fairly. |
| Criteria | **The following sections are marked using the *Conclusion and evaluation criterion*** |
| Conclusion | **Conclusion** (Sub title. Size 18 font) (150-250 words)   * Conclusion needs to be linked to research question * Response should include information to address the claim * Include improvements and extensions to the investigation that relate to the claim. (fix the limitations mentioned above) |
| Word count | **Word count:**   * required for the communication criterion |
| Reference | **Reference list** (Sub title. Size 18 font)  * no numbers required, in alphabetical order * shows appropriate use of referencing conventions * count towards communication mark  Referencing: using APA 6th edition Reference a direct quote from a source or paraphrasing (writing a statement in your own words) or referencing data:  (Smith, 2019)  (Smith, n.d.)  (Smith & Thompson, 2018)   * can be the authors last name, or a company name if the author is unknown   If there are more than two authors, you can write only the first authors last name and et.al. after. However, in your bibliography all authors must be included.  (Watts et al., 2019) |
| Additional | **Further information:**Scientific credible sources are (QCAA Biology syllabus) :  * scientific journals * books by scientists (PhD or above) * websites from: * government * universities * independent research bodies * science and technology manufacturers |