

T-test report: General feedback

Commonly occurring errors

GENERAL:

Writing in first person

- I, we, our, you

Not including the sub-headings in the method section

Referencing not in APA style

- And using non-academic, non-peer-reviewed sources

Not proof reading work

- Spelling errors; grammatical mistakes; font changes/size changes

Not double spacing work!

- Apart from abstract, the report must be double spaced

Use of contractions

- Don't; shouldn't; it's; they've; etc....

Asking questions in the main body of work...?

Commonly occurring errors

INTRODUCTION:

Using this section to explain what a t-test is

Not including appropriate references

- You must give credit where credit is due – the claims you make are not yours!

Including too much irrelevant information

- This will develop with practice and time
- Far less room to construct a solid review of relevant literature than an essay

Either putting the hypothesis at the beginning, somewhere in the middle, or not including a hypothesis at all



Commonly occurring errors

METHOD:

Overall, participants sections are good

- You must ensure this keeps up now that you are working out the descriptives for yourselves

Issues in design section

- Error in stating that the design is a paired samples t-test
- Mixing up the IV and the DV
- Getting the IV and DV completely wrong

Materials and procedure, again, were good overall. Some confusion between what goes in the materials section and what belongs in the procedure



Commonly occurring errors

RESULTS:

Including just a picture of calculations as a results section

Not writing results up in the correct format

Including a graph that has no relevance to the findings and doesn't add to the interpretation

'sig' arrow facing the wrong way

- This is very important! If it's facing the wrong way then your results are, essentially, wrong!

Not including an interpretation

- Without an explanation, your results mean nothing

Not stating whether the hypothesis was accepted or must be rejected

Commonly occurring errors

DISCUSSION:

Not including any references at all and, therefore, not making links between the findings of the study and previous studies

Using the section to only highlight the limitations

- A discussion should do this, yes – but it shouldn't be the main focus!

Either suggesting unrealistic future directions, not alluding to any potential further research, or not supporting claims

- E.g., if you're saying that you should be using black participants too, include a reference to a study that HAS included black participants and what they found! This makes it a relevant and realistic suggestion.

Abrupt endings – no conclusion

Commonly occurring errors

REFERENCES:

Not in APA style

- This is something that you will definitely develop over the next year and, therefore, has not been penalised MASSIVELY for this report
- But you will receive comments at Level Five if you don't revise correct APA referencing now...

Either not including references that you have cited in the report, or including references that do not appear in the report

- This is not a bibliography – you should always and only reference the materials you have actually used in the report

