

The background is a dark blue gradient with a subtle pattern of white dots. On the left side, there are several concentric circles and a large circular scale with degree markings from 140 to 260. The scale is marked with small tick marks and larger numbers at 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210, 220, 230, 240, 250, and 260. There are also some curved arrows and dashed lines scattered across the left side.

IPA – EXAMPLE ANALYSIS

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SO WHAT DID I DO?

- I read the script once in its entirety and then considered my initial encounter with the text (I've not displayed this in the worked example, but you will need to do this in your report).
- I then read the script a second time and placed important points (e.g. themes) on the left hand margin – this is in line with the protocol recommended by Smith's book chapter (which is on Moodle).
- WHAT COULD I HAVE DONE BETTER HERE.....
 - I should have re-read the script more than once.
 - I should have considered more thoroughly if some of the subthemes were actually the same thing – look at the example.
 - I should have considered re-formatting the transcript to give me more room on the left hand side (hand writing issues).

WHAT I DID NEXT.

- I placed all themes in chronological order on a separate piece of paper (following Smith's suggestions) – I had the line number ready for quotes etc.
- I then JUST focused on the themes and considered the clustering.
- Overall I feel happy with the clustering, but I should have gone back over the script to see if all of those sub-themes were necessary and not just saying EXACTLY the same thing.

FINALLY

- With the information I have on page 4 of the worked example – the clustered themes, I could then provide my results table.
- **However, I should be using MORE than one example for each sub theme – which again makes me question if I have too many sub themes and are some measuring the same thing.**
- By reducing the number of sub themes, I might also reduce the number of superordinate themes.
- It is IMPORTANT that you are continually reading the document BEFORE you finalise your list of themes. Once you have finalised your themes, then the focus should be away from the actual text and onto your sheet of themes.

IMPORTANT TO NOTE

- This is just a suggested method in performing an IPA, ultimately you are in control of this and I know researchers who will not use separate paper, but actually use the right hand side column to look at clusters and a number system.
- **The most important thing is that you showcase engagement with the process by producing an “initial encounter of the text” and the results table.**
- The two big mistakes made in the example was the lack of re-reading of the text and the only one quote to support each sub theme (there should be at least two examples of each theme in the text).