

Concise critical notes: Books

Names of author(s)	
Full title of book	
Author of chapter	
Chapter title	
Year published	Edition
Publisher	Place published
Theoretical position or type of theory?	
Essential background information	
Key arguments	
Reasons and evidence to support the arguments	
Strengths of the arguments	
Weaknesses in the arguments	
Comparison or contrast with other sources	

Concise critical notes: Articles and papers

Names of author(s)	
Full title of article	
Full title of journal	
Year published	Month
Volume number	Issue number
Hypotheses: What is the paper setting out to prove? Are research hypotheses supported?	
What is the theoretical position underlying the research? Type of theory?	
What is the key literature used as background to the article or paper?	
Which research methods are used?	
What kind of sample is used?	
Key results	
Key conclusions or recommendations	
Strengths of the research: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does it advance our understanding of the subject or how to research it? • Are there appropriate hypotheses, methods to test the hypotheses, sample sizes or types, controls for variables, recommendations? • Consideration of ethics? 	
Weaknesses of the research: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In what ways is it limited? When and where would it not apply? • What are the flaws in the research, in the hypotheses, research design and methods, sample size and type, conclusions drawn on the basis of the results? 	