

Exercise walk-through

5.4

Political Studies

GAC Academic English

Method — Key knowledge: a measured preference and a value judgement need different support

A **criterion** makes a comparison's basis explicit, such as access, noise or cost. An **empirical claim** concerns what could be observed or measured. A **value judgement** concerns what should matter or how priorities should be weighed.

Represent another view accurately before evaluating it. A voluntary majority does not automatically establish everybody's preference or settle an access priority. Neutral classroom policy scenarios can support academic discussion without claims about real political institutions.

Method — Source A: text or task brief

Original written community-hall discussion: Forty residents voluntarily responded to a room-use survey: 24 preferred quiet study and 16 preferred group activities. The hall serves 200 residents. Use by time of day, noise levels and setup effort were not recorded.

Speaker A: “Quiet access matters to people without a calm space at home. The answers suggest demand, but missing residents may have other views.” Speaker B: “Group activities also need space. A scheduled-use trial might address both needs, although switching arrangements may take time.” Chair: “Let us compare quiet-only, group-only and scheduled-use options against access, noise and setup effort. No schedule is approved.”

Method — Source B: response or review record

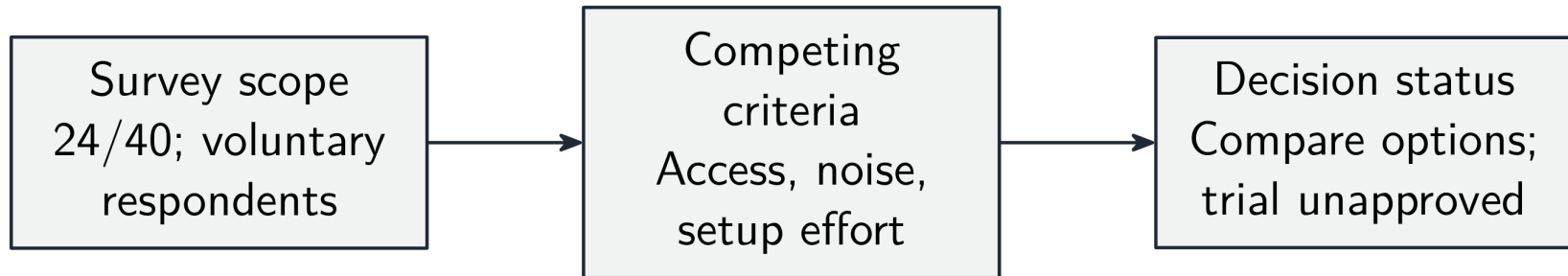
Draft record: “The survey proves 120 of the 200 residents demand quiet-only use. Speaker B says everyone must talk everywhere. Quiet matters more, so no further evidence is relevant. The scheduled-use trial has already solved the noise problem.”

A participant asks whether a count can decide how much weight to give the needs of residents without a quiet place at home. Another suggests checking actual demand by time slot.

Method — Worked example: do not multiply a voluntary sample into an invented census

Known: twenty-four of forty voluntary respondents preferred quiet study. Why avoid claiming 120 residents? Scaling a self-selected proportion to 200 does not produce observed population data.

The quiet-access priority and group-activity priority can both be represented. A recommendation should name its criteria and acknowledge unresolved noise, demand and setup questions. A proposed schedule has no measured results yet.



Exercises 2.1-2.3

2.1 Give the quiet and group preference counts. [2]

2.2 State the survey participation count and the hall's served population. [2]

2.3 Correct THREE claims in the draft record. [3]

Exercises 2.1-2.3

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2.1

Quiet 24; group 16.

2.2 State the survey participation count and the hall's served population. [2]

2.2

Forty respondents; 200 residents served.

2.3 Correct THREE claims in the draft record. [3]

2.3

Any three, B1 each: 120 residents is not an observed population count; B asks for group space rather than talking everywhere; a value priority does not make all evidence irrelevant; no approved or measured successful schedule exists.

Exercises 2.4·3.1

2.4 Identify one value priority, one measured empirical claim and one unresolved empirical question. [3]

3.1 Compare two proposed options using TWO explicit criteria, then give a conditional recommendation and one next check. [6]

Exercises 2.4·3.1

2.4 Identify one value priority, one measured empirical claim and one unresolved empirical question. [3]

2.4

Quiet access/group-space importance; 24 or 16 preferences among 40 respondents; time-slot demand, noise or switching/setup effort remains unknown.

3.1 Compare two proposed options using TWO explicit criteria, then give a conditional recommendation and one next check. [6]

3.1

Names two actual options; identifies two relevant criteria; compares the first criterion without invented results; compares the second criterion; recommendation states priority and condition rather than approval; relevant demand/noise/setup check.

Exercise 3.2

3.2 Write an 80–110 word academic discussion contribution that represents both views, limits the survey claim and recommends a next comparison. [8]

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3.2

Local analytic rubric, $8 \times B1$: accurate twenty-four/sixteen of forty result; voluntary respondents distinct from two hundred residents; fair quiet-access viewpoint; fair group-space viewpoint; explicit comparison criteria; proposed schedule distinct from approved/me outcome; relevant next question/check without invented census or motives; coherent truthful 80–110 word response. Example: “The voluntary survey records twenty-four quiet-study preferences and sixteen group-activity preferences among forty respondents. It does not establish how all two hundred residents would answer. Quiet access matters to residents without a calm space, while group activities also need space; neither view means banning the other activity everywhere. We should compare options against access, noise and setup effort, rather than let the count settle every priority. A scheduled-use trial might help explore both needs, but it is not approved or proven successful. Could we record demand by time slot and test switching arrangements before recommending a final schedule?”