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10/31 Journal Response:

*Introduction to Primary Research: Observations, Surveys, and  
Interviews*

This article thoroughly discussed the makings of a successful primary research paper. The author went in depth on how to conduct your research and transcribe it into your paper. It mostly focuses on defining interviews, observations, and surveys due to this being a critical portion of your research. You must determine which method would best suit your paper and it is important to perform this method appropriately.

Appropriate ways of communication, bias, participant consent, what types of questions to ask participants, formulating clear questions to ask your participants, and effectively relaying participants' answers are highlighted. I must admit this article was extremely insightful and has given me a better idea of how to compose primary research papers.

This has allowed me to come to the decision that the interview method would best best for my paper. My topic requires in depth answers and personal opinions in order to be able to have a better understanding.

“Closed questions, or questions that have yes/no or other limited responses, should be used in surveys. However, avoid these kinds of questions in interviews because they discourage the interviewee from going in depth.” This idea had never occurred to me but once it was discussed made a lot of sense. The answer you receive and how in depth it is depends on how the question is formulated and interpreted.

“In formal research writing in a variety of fields, it is common for research to be presented in the following format: introduction/background; methods; results; discussion; conclusion.” This is important to me because I personally like structure. I like being told exactly what is needed and in what format to make sure I have included everything that should be in my paper.

This article does not leave much room for question, but my biggest question is how do you know if your topic is narrow enough? Also, doesn't picking a topic with not much research behind it make it hard to keep the writer from being biased?