**Group Work: Identifying Elements of a Research Report**

**Instructions**: Please complete the following sections after reviewing the empirical article you chose from your library research.

Introduction: Please highlight the main points setting the background and rationale for the hypothesis.

Literature Review: Issues to consider: Is the review complete and current?

Are there important relevant topics not covered?

How accurate is the critical analysis of previous research?

Hypothesis or Purpose of Study

What is the rationale stated to support the hypothesis?

Is the Hypothesis a reasonable expectation given the past research and stated rationale?

Specific Predictions from Hypothesis

Are the predictions specific and clear?

Can other predictions be made?

Method:

Subjects

Are the subjects representative of the population hoped to study?

How are the subjects acquired?

Are the subjects treated ethically?

External Validity Concerns

Materials

What materials are used to acquire the data (surveys, questionnaires, interviews, etc.)

How are the variables under study being operationally defined and measured?

Construct Validity concerns

Procedure

What was the procedure in conducting the data collection?

Is there enough detail to allow for replication of the study?

Results

Statistical Findings (Descriptive and Inferential)

What type of design was used? Was it appropriate to study the questions?

Was the appropriate statistics used?

Were there any significant findings?

How large was the effect found?

Discussion

Results impact on hypothesis

Are the conclusions appropriate given the design of the study?

Impact of results in general

How does it add to the understanding of the phenomenon under study?

Implications of Findings to the science/profession of psychology

Does it inform better diagnosis or treatment?

Are there public policy implications?

Do the findings inform some aspect of civic society (education, law, health, etc.)?

References: Is the list complete and with sufficient information?