

Possible structure of a methodology chapter:

Labby

Introduction – tell us what the purpose of this chapter is and how you plan to present in in the following sections of the chapter – i.e. a map of the chapter

Research design – tell us what is meant by research design (from literature) and what meaning you are appropriating for your study and why you have selected this meaning of research design

Paradigm – tell us what paradigm you had selected for this study, what the (e.g. interpretive paradigm is (from text books) and why was it the most appropriate paradigm for your study – issues of understanding, meaning making and context, etc.

Research approach – tell us why you have chosen a qualitative research approach, what is possible within a qualitative approach and how it relates to the intentions of your study

Research methodology – tell us what a (e.g. case study) methodology is (from text books), what it allows one to do, why was it the most appropriate methodology for your study, what are some of the concerns of a case study methodology and how you had addressed these concerns. Perhaps you could show us how other researchers used case study as their methodology to explore issues related to your study.

The case study school – tell us about your case study school – how you chose the school, why you chose this school, what does it offer in terms of the uniqueness of this school to be considered as a case study school that is relative to your study focus.

Research participants – tell us how you selected the research participants, why these participants – what info can they offer

Research instruments (e.g. interviews, observations, etc.) – tell us how you collected the data, what instruments were used – what these instruments can do (from text books) – how constructed, how administered, what issues were or concern in the collection of data using these instruments and how you addressed these concerns during the collection of the data.

Data presentation and analysis – briefly how you developed the themes and categories for analysis – apriori/grounded/combo. How you analysed the data – content analysis or discourse analysis or a combination of both.

Validity and reliability issues

Biases and how minimised

Limitations of the methodology and data production process and how you have minimised the impact of these on the data production process

Conclusion