

Synthesize Sources Without Overclaiming



Use the matching sheet ID when checking answers.

Use the material to work through each task. Show the requested response.

1. What outcome does Note A actually report?

Answer: 20 of 30 volunteers reported feeling more organized

2. Why does Note A not establish that planners caused higher achievement?

Look for:

- Identifies design and outcome limitations.

One possible response: It has no comparison group and measures self-reported organization, not achievement.

3. What shared, limited conclusion do the notes support?

Look for:

- Combines both notes without asserting universal causation.

One possible response: Planning may help some students organize, with differing experiences.

4. Write a defensible thesis based on the two notes.

Look for:

- Matches the evidence boundaries.

One possible response: These notes suggest potential organizational benefits, but do not establish long-term academic gains.

5. Critique: Planners guarantee better grades for every student.

Look for:

- Addresses outcome, population and certainty.

One possible response: The evidence neither measures grades nor represents every student; guarantee is unsupported.

6. Suggest a further research question and what evidence it would need.

Look for:

- Defines a question and relevant evidence.

One possible response: Do planners improve organization over a term compared with similar nonusers? Collect comparable measures over time.

Open responses use criteria and an illustrative response. Other well-supported responses can be acceptable.