Exercise walk-through

6.4
Political Issues

GAC Academic English

Method — Key knowledge: keep sample boundaries and practical questions visible

Synthesis connects relevant ideas from different sources within your reasoning. It does not merge incompatible denominators into one invented statistic. Unknown **overlap** means you cannot assume groups are either disjoint or identical. A **feasibility** question asks whether a proposal can be carried out with available resources. State the relevant priority and uncertainty rather than letting a preference count alone settle access or staffing choices. These cards concern an invented local service, not actual political or legal duties.

Method — Source A: text or task brief

Original fictional source S, Online survey, §1: Forty users voluntarily responded; thirty preferred online room booking. Nonrespondents and people unable to respond online were not surveyed.
Source L, Desk log, §1: During one week, eight of twenty logged visitors asked for booking help. It is not recorded whether those visitors also answered S.
Source N, Planning note, §1: A telephone booking route would require staffing time. No cost, demand estimate or measured route performance is supplied.
Local question: Should the centre move to online-only room booking? Evaluate convenience, access and feasible staffing. Credit sources by label and section, and distinguish a proposal from a measured result.

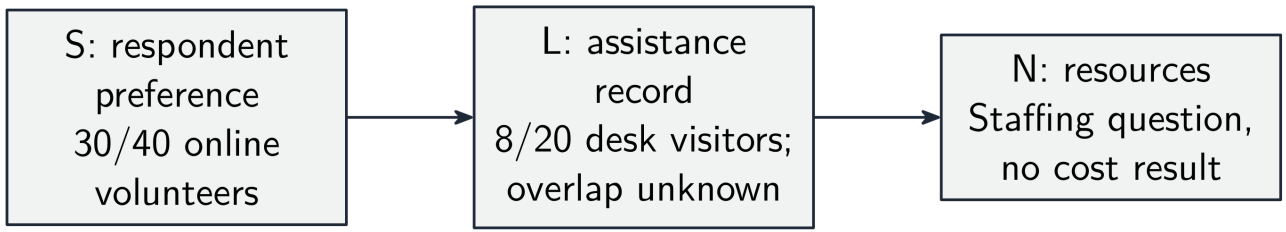
Method — Source B: response or review record

Draft paragraph: “Seventy-five percent of all users want online-only booking. Thirty plus eight proves thirty-eight distinct people were served. The help requests prove that all users cannot go online. N proves a telephone route is both free and successful.”
Fair counterargument: Staffing an alternative route takes resources. A writer proposes checking assistance demand and staff time before committing to online-only access.

Method — Worked example: combine roles in an argument rather than people in a count

Known: S concerns preferences among forty voluntary online respondents; L concerns help among twenty logged desk visitors. Why retain both source boundaries? Their overlap is unknown and their outcomes differ.

The two records can motivate checking convenience and assistance together. N adds a resource question rather than a cost estimate or proven solution. A synthesis can therefore propose evaluating an accessible alternative without inventing a population percentage or distinct-user total.



Exercises 2.1·2.3

2.1 Give S's preference count and denominator. [2]

2.2 Give L's assistance count and denominator. [2]

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

Exercises 2.1·2.3

2.1 Give S’s preference count and denominator. [2]

2.1

Thirty preferred online booking; forty voluntary online respondents.

2.2 Give L’s assistance count and denominator. [2]

2.2

Eight asked for help; twenty logged desk visitors.

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

2.3

Any three, B1 each:75% applies to S respondents, not all users/online-only; overlap unknown so 38 distinct people unestablished; help records do not show all users lack access; N supplies neither zero cost nor successful performance.

Exercises 2.4·3.1

2.4 Identify one useful contribution and one limit from N, and explain why S and L cannot be added as distinct people. [3]

3.1 Develop a bounded thesis using S and L, address N’s resource objection and name a next check. Explain how each source contributes. [6]

Exercises 2.4·3.1

2.4 Identify one useful contribution and one limit from N, and explain why S and L cannot be added as distinct people. [3]

2.4

Staffing-time concern; no cost/demand/performance estimate; unknown overlap and differing groups prevent a distinct-person sum.

3.1 Develop a bounded thesis using S and L, address N's resource objection and name a next check. Explain how each source contributes. [6]

3.1

Conditional online route/assistance evaluation rather than universal online-only conclusion; S supports respondent convenience; L supports investigating assistance among recorded visitors; acknowledges staffing resource objection; demand/time/cost check proposed; source roles and boundaries retained instead of merged.

Exercise 3.2

3.2 Write a 150–180 word policy paragraph using S, L and N, with source credit, an explicit priority, a fair resource objection and a conditional recommendation. [8]

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3.2

Local analytic rubric, 8 × B1: bounded convenience/access thesis; accurate S count and source boundary with credit; accurate L count and scope with credit; unknown overlap and no invented distinct-person total; N staffing objection with honest credit; no invented cost or route performance; feasible conditional evaluation retaining priorities and evidence limits; coherent truthful 150–180 word response. Example: “The centre should investigate an online route with accessible assistance before committing to online-only booking. Thirty of forty voluntary online respondents preferred digital booking (S, §1), which suggests convenience for that group but does not establish every user’s preference or access. Separately, eight of twenty logged desk visitors asked for booking help during one week (L, §1). These visitors may overlap with survey respondents, so the counts cannot be added as thirty-eight distinct people.

Full solution on next slide

Full solution 3.2

3.2

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Together, the sources support considering convenience and access, not declaring that all users can or cannot book online. A fair resource objection is that a telephone route requires staffing time (N, §1). The note supplies no cost estimate, demand count or proven performance, so an alternative cannot be assumed free or successful.

A limited evaluation could record assistance demand, response effort and user difficulties through clear accessible routes. The recommendation should remain conditional on feasible staffing and reviewed evidence, rather than letting a voluntary preference majority settle every access question.”