**Post-reading- Support sheet**

* 1. **Predicting and making assumptions before reading**

Make notes regarding your initial thoughts before reading the text.

Think about the following areas:

* What did you think the main idea of the text was going to be?
* What opinion(s) did you have on the topics discussed within the text before your read it?
* What forms of evidence did you assume would be used to support claims within the text?
* How do your assumptions before reading the text compare with what you have learnt from reading the text?
  1. **Drawing ideas from previously read materials**

An academic practice that is instrumental to critical thinking and consistency within writing is known as synthesis. In short, this is the process of aligning or comparing ideas from a variety of sources or finding overlaps in literature. This can be comparing new ideas with old ideas, or looking at sources which speak about the same subject.

* Reflect on the text you have just read and try to synthesise it with other source you’ve previously read. Here are somethings to think about:
  + What commonalities did you find? E.g. were there similar findings within the texts? Did they refer to similar sources? Were the sample sizes or cohorts/subjects in the texts similar?
  + What methodologies were implemented in the texts?
  + What makes this text unique from the other texts you’ve read?

**1.3 Keeping a reading log**

Here is an example of a reading log that will help you to perform effective analysis and synthesis.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Source bibliographic information** | **Key themes** | **Methodology** | **Main arguments** | **Overall finding(s)** |
| Example  Byrne, J., Kirwan, C., and Mc Guckin, C. (2019) ‘Social media surveillance in social work: Practice realities and ethical implications’, *Journal of Technology in Human Services,* 37(203), pp. 142-158, DOI: 10.1080/15228835.2019.1584598 | * Social work * Networking * Social media * Surveillance * Technology | * Qualitative   interviews   * Focus groups * Interviews * Anecdotal accounts | * Ethical dilemma faced using social media * Facilitation * Safeguarding issues * Staff responsibility * Blurred boundaries | * There is an overarching concern of the ethical dilemma in using social media to facilitate social work functions. * The advantages of using social media as a tool are overshadowed by the ethical implications. * There is also the issue of professionalism and concerns of convoluted relationship boundaries. |
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