ENGL 301

Unit 3.3 Peer Review of Formal Report

Last Updated: Aug 10, 2017

ENGL 301: Linked Peer Review Form

Date: 2017-07-14

Peer Reviewer: Matthew Fung

Author: Maggie (Yin) Zhou

Hello Maggie,

Thank you for posting the formal report draft titled “Raise Awareness of Antibiotic Resistance”. Below is a list of comments and recommendations. If any aspect is unclear, feel free to contact me.

**First Impression**

One aspect that is done well in the report is your effort to reduce personal bias. In particular, the paper effectively establishes the fact that antibiotics itself is not innately bad as it is capable of saving lives, and that antibiotic use should not be minimized if it defies the prescription of health care professionals. An area that will benefit with revision is the description of the purpose of the report. In particular, there is some ambiguity regarding whether the report is a causal analysis, or if it is a persuasive paper. By including key words such as “causal analysis” in the title and the introduction, the purpose and aim can be more explicitly made known.

**Content**

*Problem & solution*

The report is successful in providing feasible and reasonable solutions to the identified problem. The introduction states that antibiotic misuse is linked to antibiotic resistance which poses as a threat to global health. Subsequently, the paper proposes questions regarding whether or not the public realizes antibiotic resistance, and how informed are the people in Vancouver.

1. The questions are definitely relevant to the antibiotic misuse, however in order to focus the reader’s attention, I would suggest further elaborating on how answering the following questions will contribute to mitigating the problem.

One example would be to point out that in order to tackle the problem of misuse, public awareness is crucial. Consequently, gaining a better understanding of how much the public knows about antibiotics allow health care authorities to strategically raise awareness effectively.

2. Moreover, the main research questions are introduced using rhetorical questions in the start of the paper. It is suggested that the such questions be phrased as statements for better clarity. As well, this allows the questions to tie back to the problem for better consistency.

Ex. “Do the general public realize the problem of antibiotic resistance?”

can be phrased as “This study aims to see the level of awareness regarding antibiotic resistance in order to gauge whether the current public education is adequate to address the problem.”

*Research, Content*

The research methodology is clearly defined. In particular, the statement on limitations based on participant demographic is thoughtful. The content shows your knowledge in the field. Plus, the portions that outline the principles on deciding when one should use antibiotics is especially informative to me since it is relevant and useful information.

3. The technical terms in the introduction are well defined. I appreciate your use of various sources of references such as the World Health Organization report. Hopefully, the quotes will have citations for the final submission.

*Organization*

The report is well organized with descriptive headings and subheadings. Titles like ‘Misuse or Overuse of Antibiotics and Antibiotic Resistance’ provides readers a good summary of the section without being too wordy. Plus, each section is connected to one another and none of the sections seem out of place.

4. One recommendation would be to include page numbers and headers as indicated in page 549 of the textbook.

*Style*

The language used in the report is clear and easy to understand and mindful of the audience. The portion explaining the right situations to use antibiotics is not too technical and free of undefined jargon.

5. Although grammatical errors did not compromise the content, the report will benefit with added revisions. Please refer to the annotations in the attached copy of the report. As well, avoid using direct language when stating negative facts as it can be perceived as insulting. Instead, objective and indirect phrasing can be used.

For example, “Most participants do not really know under what situation they should take antibiotics”

can be phrased to “The results suggest that knowledge regarding when it is appropriate is take antibiotics is lacking among the targeted demographic.”

*Design*

The design and appearance of the report is professional and organized. The font and formatting is well done. Moreover, the graphs are well illustrated with appropriate labels.

6. One thing to be aware of is that the figure axis label font may be too small if the report is printed out.

**Summary**

In all, the report is covers various aspects of the problem of antibiotics misuse and provides feasible recommendations for the issue. Suggestions for revisions include:

1. Connect research questions with the proposed problem, use key words to identify the nature of the report
2. Rephrase research questions into statements
3. Include citations for referenced sources
4. Insert page numbers and headers
5. Revise report of grammatical errors, use objective voice
6. Increase the graph axis label font

Link to Report Draft: <http://engl301.arts.ubc.ca/2017/07/10/formal-report-draft-8/>