

JANUARY

2026 V 1.0

PROPOSAL CLARITY CHECK SAMPLE



Prepared by:

RESEARCHEDIT4U
SOLUTIONS PVT. LTD.
WHERE RESEARCH FIND WINGS



+91-8093778526



www.researchedit4u.in



info@researchedit4u.in

Proposal Clarity Check – Before to After

Shows how we fix problem statement and gap, objectives and research question alignment, and methodology red flags.

What this sample is, what service it gives, and who should take it

This sample shows how Research Edit4u reviews an early proposal draft and improves its clarity. It helps identify broad problem statements, weak research gaps, unaligned objectives, confusing research questions, and vague methodology direction. This service is useful for Master's students, PhD scholars, dissertation writers, and researchers who want a clearer proposal before moving ahead.

Sample Topic

Illustrative topic: Relationship between academic stress and depressive symptoms among international university students in India.

Before

Proposal element	Draft excerpt
Title	Stress and depression in students
Problem statement	Students face many problems in university life. Stress and depression are common and affect study, social life, and health.
Research gap	Many studies have been done on student mental health, but more study is needed.
Objectives	To study stress and depression. To know causes. To give suggestions.
Research question	What is the relationship between stress, depression, and student life in India?
Methodology	Survey will be done and results will be analysed.

What we found

Review area	Status	Research Edit4u note
Problem statement	Needs revision	Too broad; does not define the exact academic context or target group.
Research gap	Needs revision	Gap is generic and does not show what is missing in current literature.
Objectives	Needs revision	Objectives are not measurable and are not written in research language.
Research question	Needs revision	Question is too wide and mixes multiple issues in one line.
Methodology	Needs revision	Method is vague; no population, tools, or analysis direction is shown.

After

Proposal element	Improved version
Title	Relationship between academic stress and depressive symptoms among international students enrolled in Indian universities
Problem statement	International students may experience academic pressure, adjustment demands, and social isolation while studying in India. These experiences may affect emotional wellbeing and academic performance, but the pattern of this relationship remains insufficiently explored in the Indian higher education context.
Research gap	Existing literature discusses student stress and depression broadly, but fewer studies focus specifically on international students studying in India and on how academic stress relates to depressive symptoms in this group.
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To assess the level of academic stress among international students. 2. To assess the level of depressive symptoms. 3. To examine the relationship between academic stress and depressive symptoms.
Research question	Is there a significant relationship between academic stress and depressive symptoms among international students studying in India?
Methodology	A quantitative cross-sectional survey design is proposed. Standardised scales may be used to measure academic stress and depressive symptoms, followed by descriptive statistics and correlation analysis.

What this service helps with

Sharper topic framing • Better problem statement and research gap • Objective and research question alignment • Clearer methodology direction • Better readiness for supervisor discussion

THANK YOU

PROPOSAL CLARITY CHECK SAMPLE

This starter sample shows how early research ideas can be clarified before writing a full proposal.

When is this useful?

When you have a research idea but are unsure about the gap, objectives, or research questions.

What we helped with

We reviewed the draft idea and highlighted logic gaps, unclear variables, and methodology risks, and suggested a clearer proposal pathway.

Want to see the next step?

Request the Proposal Blueprint (Outline + Methods Map + Timeline) sample.

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