Southern New Hampshire University

PSY 540 Short Paper Guidelines and Rubric

Learning two or more languages can be beneficial to cognition in several ways. After reading the textbook and the article The Cognitive Benefits of Being Bilingual, sum up some of the major findings of research on being bilingual. For example, what advantages or disadvantages do bilinguals have? Given what you have learned about being bilingual this week, how do you think second language acquisition should be approached? How do you think your approach could increase cognitive function in different professional settings? Be sure to defend your answer with scholarly research.

Your paper should include all of the following elements:

- A summary of major research findings on being bilingual
- A discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of bilingualism
- A description of a recommended approach for second language acquisition
- An explanation of how your recommended approach could increase cognitive function in different professional settings
- A defense of your approach with scholarly research

Guidelines for Submission: 12-point Times New Roman font, one-inch margins, and APA-formatted citations for all sources used. The paper should be 3–4 pages, not including references.

Critical Elements	Exemplary (100%)	Proficient (90%)	Needs Improvement (70%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
Research Summary	Meets "Proficient" criteria and identifies patterns and trends within scholarship on bilingualism	Summarizes major research findings on being bilingual	References major research findings on being bilingual, but does not include a summary	Does not reference major research findings	20
Advantages and Disadvantages of Bilingualism	Meets "Proficient" criteria and provides specific, concrete examples from the readings and scholarly research	Discusses the advantages and disadvantages of bilingualism and makes connections to the readings	Provides incomplete discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of bilingualism	Does not discuss the advantages and disadvantages of bilingualism	20
Recommended Approach	Meets "Proficient" criteria and provides specific, concrete examples of this approach in practice	Describes a recommended approach for second language acquisition and explains why it is an effective approach	Describes a recommended approach for second language acquisition, but does not explain why it is an effective approach	Does not describe a recommended approach for second language acquisition	20
Recommended Approach in Professional Settings	Meets "Proficient" criteria and provides specific, concrete examples to illustrate improvement of cognitive	Explains how the recommended approach could increase cognitive function in different professional settings	Explains how the recommended approach could increase cognitive function, but does not apply explanation to different professional settings	Does not explain how the recommended approach could increase cognitive function	20

	function in different professional settings				
Scholarly Research	Meets "Proficient" criteria and provides specific, concrete examples from research to defend recommended approach	Includes references to scholarly research to defend recommended approach and connects research findings directly to recommended approach	Includes references to scholarly research to defend recommended approach, but does not connect research findings directly to recommended approach	Does not include references to scholarly research to defend recommended approach	10
Writing (Mechanics/Citations)	Includes no errors related to organization, grammar and style, and APA citations	Includes minor errors related to organization, grammar and style, and APA citations	Includes some errors related to organization, grammar and style, and APA citations, but errors do not impede understanding	Major errors related to organization, grammar and style, and APA citations impede understanding of the submission	10
				Earned Total	**100%**