**Concise Critical Notes: Books**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of author |  |
| Full title of book |  |
| Author of chapter |  |
| Chapter title |  |
| Year published | Edition |
| Publisher | Place published |
|  | |
| Theoretical position or type of theory? |  |
| Essential background information |  |
| Key arguments |  |
| Reasons and evidence to support the arguments |  |
| Strengths of the arguments |  |
| Weaknesses of the arguments |  |
| Comparison of contrast with other sources |  |

**Concise Critical Notes: Articles and papers**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of author(s) |  |
| Full title of article |  |
| Full title of journal |  |
| Year published | Month |
| Volume number | Issue number |
|  | |
| Hypothesis: What is the paper setting out to prove? Are research hypotheses supported? |  |
| What is the theoretical position underlying the research? Type of theory? |  |
| What is the key literature used as background to the article or paper? |  |
| Which research methods are used? |  |
| What kind of sample is used? |  |
| Key results |  |
| Key conclusions or recommendations |  |
| **Strengths of the research**  - How does it advance our understanding of the subject or how to research it?  - Are there appropriate hypotheses, methods to test the hypotheses, sample sizes or types, controls for variables, recommendations?  - Considerations of ethics? |  |
| **Weaknesses of the research:**  - In what ways is it limited? When and where would it not apply?  - What are the flaws in the research, in the hypotheses, research design and methods, sample size and type, conclusions drawn on the basis of the results? |  |

**Concise Critical Notes: Analysing argument**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of author(s)/source |  |
| Title of book/programme |  |
| Website address | Date downloaded |
| Date and/or time | Edition |
| Publisher/channel | Place published |
| Volume of journal | Issue |
|  | |
| Author’s position/theoretical position? |  |
| Essential background information |  |
| Overall argument or hypothesis |  |
| Conclusion |  |
| Supporting reasons | 1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8 |
| Strengths of the line of reasoning and supporting evidence |  |
| Flaws in the argument and gaps or other weaknesses in the argument and supporting evidence |  |