**Method Section**

* Your method section provides a detailed overview of how you conducted your research. Because your study methods form a large part of your credibility as a researcher and writer, it is imperative that you be clear about what you did to gather information from participants in your study.
* With your methods section, as with the sections above, you want to walk your readers through your study almost as if they were a participant. What happened first? What happened next?
* The method section includes the following sub-sections.

**Participants:**Discuss who was enrolled in your experiment. Include major demographics that have an impact on the results of the experiment (i.e. if race is a factor, you should provide a breakdown by race, if generation is factor break it down accordingly, etc.). The accepted term for describing a person who participates in research studies is a *participant* not a subject.

**Materials:** The apparatus is any equipment used during data collection (such as computers or eye-tracking devices). Materials include scripts, surveys, or software used for data collection (not data analysis). It is sometimes necessary to provide specific examples of materials or prompts, depending on the nature of your study.

**Procedure:** The procedure includes the step-by-step how of your experiment. The procedure should include:

* A description of the experimental design and how participants were assigned conditions.
* Identification of your independent variable(s) (IV), dependent variable(s) (DV), and control variables. Give your variables clear, meaningful names so that your readers are not confused.
* Important instructions to participants.
* A step-by-step listing in chronological order of what participants did during the experiment.