

**SHOW EVIDENCE of an ABILITY to  
INTERPRET, ANALYSE and EVALUATE the data**

Well Jack, here I am, some hours later having consumed a large glass of wine and snoozed on the patio all afternoon. I needed that break, but was much too lazy to go on one of Judi Marshall's bike rides! Mind you, even though I was dozing in the sunshine, my brain was still in top gear and I couldn't wait to get back to writing my letter to you. At last this criteria business is becoming interesting.

I go back to your letter of 5 September 1996 again to find that you suggested I could emphasise how I've demonstrated a high ability to interpret (make sense of), analyse (use some form of categories), and evaluate data (judging the quality and effectiveness of what I'm doing) in relation to the features in the literature to which I most closely relate. I'd listed those, in a bundle of papers that I sent you last September, as issues such as:-

- case study and self study
- reflective practice
- the integration of personal life with professional practice
- the admission of emotion into research
- forms of representation
- tentative style
- dialogue and dialectic enquiry
- confidence in personal knowledge
- contradiction
- holding together diverse and multiple ideas
- freedom and justice
- responsibility and integrity
- kindness, sensitivity, and caring
- spontaneity and informality
- practice before theory
- learning from experience
- doing the right thing in the circumstances
- being involved in the research as opposed to being outside it

I added that I did not feel comfortable when I read literature that seemed to me to rely upon:-

- rigour
- action planning
- judgement
- criteria
- rules and conditions
- systems
- procedures, methods, and structure

However, what I'd like to do is address this in an introduction to my dissertation, as I feel that might provide the necessary "signposts" for my audience that I've been told have been missing from my accounts to date. That said, I'd like to suspend this one and refer you to the introduction when it's eventually written. I also feel that when I start drawing conclusions acknowledging the limitations of the study, my abilities to interpret, analyse, and evaluate may become more apparent to you. However, I feel I must point out that any

interpretation, analysis and evaluation of an account such as this must be seen as tentative and probably temporary.

\* Note: See also pages 72-73 for further discussion on interpreting, analysing, and evaluating data in a dialectic account.