

4.1 Copsheet Identify advantages and disadvantages of different data collection methods.

Think about costs, time involved, accessing people, etc., whether or not people are anonymous and the implications of this for what they might say, and analysing all of the information gathered, etc.

METHODS FOR COLLECTING DATA	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
Survey	Using a digital application that provides anonymous responses.	
	Using a digital application that provides responses that identifies people.	
	Paper based (anonymous or known responses).	
Face to face	Interview an individual person using a formally (semi) structured set of questions.	
	Focus group using a formally (semi) structured set of questions.	
	Interview or focus group-type of data collection that uses cultural approaches to discussion and sharing information.	
Informal	Informal ways of gathering data e.g. a feedback postbox at a community meeting or a graffiti sheet next to a display of materials related to a topic.	
	Brainstorm or graffiti sheets used by students in class.	
	Anonymous postbox activity where students are answering questions and 'posting' their responses which are then analysed by class members.	
Other	Name or describe another data collection method.	
Summary	What combination of factors helps to decide which method of data collection will be used when someone is seeking information from other people?	