

# Recognizing Case Studies

*The goal of this exercise is to learn how to recognize case studies, and identify their key elements. Read the assigned paper, and note down your answers to the following questions.*

Title of Paper \_\_\_\_\_

## 1) Is it a case study?

Circle: Yes / No

Hint: Does it meet the following criteria:

- ☐ Is motivated by a clear research question;
- ☐ Addresses How/Why questions;
- ☐ Researcher had little control over the variables;
- ☐ Studies contemporary events;
- ☐ Is not a toy problem, nor an experience report;
- ☐ Has planned, consistent data collection;
- ☐ Uses inferences from the data to answer the question;
- ☐ Produces an explanation / description / causal analysis.

## 2) What is the study question?

## 3) What type of case study is this?

Circle one: Explanatory / Descriptive / Causal / Exploratory

## 4) What are the study propositions? (note: may not be any if it is an exploratory study)

## 5) What unit of analysis was used?

## Advanced Questions:

## 6) What linking logic was used?

## 7) What threats to validity are there?