

Worksheet 1: Fieldwork in practice

Choose a location of your choice, such as a shopping mall, a park, a busy street, a square or anywhere else in the city you live in. Pick a bench or a coffee shop where you can comfortably sit and watch people throw out their garbage (i.e., choose a location near a garbage bin). Stay there for 2 hours and watch what people throw out. Describe what you see in your Field notes, then analyse in the Analysis section how the items we choose to dispose reflect any aspect of our society, culture or habits.

Hint: possible topics are consumer culture, fast food, environmental protection, plastic and packaging, food waste, environmental pollution, street littering, different littering habits of various groups (based on age, for example)

Pre-fieldwork preparations:

Hint: students might want to explore the sight first to make sure there is a place to sit, take notes, observe, etc.

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| Length of observation (in days, hours): | |
| Number of people observed (approx.): | |
| Limitations (visibility of garbage bins, weather conditions, etc.): | |

Field notes:

Analysis (description of society)

Reflexivity (how the description was created, where you were, how did you feel...)
