Rubric: APA Format Final Paper (#2B)

Section & Weight	Target Criteria	Common Deductions
Document Type *(5%, 2.5 pts)*	Submitted as Microsoft Word document.	Submitted as any document type other than MS Word.
General Formatting, Mechanics, Style, & Title Page *(15%, 7.5 pts)*	1" margins, double-spaced, same font used consistently throughout paper. Perfect title page (professional), running head flush left, all caps, and 50 characters or less, page numbers flush right, clear headings (level 1, 2, 3, etc.), and proper 0.5" paragraph indentation. Zero spelling or grammar errors. Professional tone. Areas relating to group's research project written in past verb tense. Changes that were suggested by professor from Research Proposal Paper #2A are fully incorporated (see professor's comments in your paper submission in TurnItIn).	Errors in APA style (e.g., inconsistent font, margins slightly off). Title page missing details. Paragraphs are not indented properly. Looks unprofessional. Some or many elements (margins, spacing, font) are wrong. No cover page or incorrect cover page. May contain spelling or grammar errors. Conversational or unprofessional tone. Failed to change verbs to past tense. Failed to make the changes that were suggested by professor from Research Proposal Paper #2A (see professor's comments in your paper submission in TurnItIn).
Abstract *(10%, 5 pts)*	**Summarizes all sections** in 150–250 words; includes independent/dependent variables and explicitly stated, clear hypothesis (e.g., It was hypothesized that...). Paragraph is not indented.	Exceeds word count; misses key findings; includes personal opinions or citations. Incorrect formatting; Indented paragraph. Missing hypothesis or unclear research hypothesis.
Introduction & Literature Review *(5%, 2.5 pts)*	Introduces a clear problem; synthesizes past peer-reviewed studies; ends with an explicit, **testable hypothesis**. Properly APA formatted in-text citations. Contains 3 peer-reviewed, and one additional, citation. Updates any references to group's research project to past verb tense.	Reads like a list of summaries rather than a synthesis; fails to connect past research to the current hypothesis. Improperly formatted in-text citations. Missing some or all required citations. Fails to update any references to group's research project to past verb tense.
Methodology *(20%, 10 pts)*	Provides extreme detail across subheadings: **Participants, Materials, and Procedure**. Anyone could exactly replicate the experiment. Updates any references to group's research project to past verb tense.	Missing sample sizes, demographic info, or step-by-step procedure; forgets to state the experimental design. Missing detailed description of materials, providing examples of some survey questions. Missing subsections (i.e., Participants, Materials, Procedure). Fails to update any references to group's research project to past verb tense.
Results *(25%, 12.5 pts)*	Followed Results Section Guide; Includes all subsections: Descriptive Statistics, Hypothesis Test, Secondary Analyses. Reports statistical findings accurately using proper APA math notation (e.g., \(t\)(28) = 2.41, \(p\) < .05). Includes clear APA-formatted tables or figures. Anyone could exactly replicate the experiment.	Fails to follow Results Section Guide or missing a subsection: Descriptive Statistics, Hypothesis Test, Secondary Analyses. Interprets findings here instead of just stating facts; formats statistics incorrectly; leaves out a statistical element such as sample sizes or degrees of freedom.
Discussion *(10%, 5 pts)*	Evaluates whether the data supported the hypothesis; links results back to the intro literature; names **limitations and future research directions**.	Merely repeats the Results section data; overstates the impact of findings; ignores alternative explanations or design flaws.
References & Data Display *(10%, 5 pts)*	Perfect hanging indents on the reference page; references properly cited using proper punctuation, containing all appropriate APA format elements, and in the correct order; tables have bold numbers and italic titles above the data grid; zero personal pronouns (*"I"*, *"We"*).	Tables look like screenshots or use vertical gridlines; in-text citations do not match references; improperly formatted references; missing elements for some or all reference; references not in alphabetical order.