

Cherry Pie Contest Analysis

This research claim fails because of numerous problems.

1. In two sentences, at the literal and interpretive levels, briefly summarize the author's conclusion and reasons/methods for arriving at the conclusion.
2. Then, at the critical level, analyze the four most serious problems. **Explain thoroughly** why each of the problems in each of these categories affects the acceptance of the conclusion. There will be more than one problem in each category.
 - a. Ambiguous terms
 - b. Research methodology problems
 - c. Missing info
 - d. Statistical problems
3. If you were to redo this research study, what would you do differently in order to insure that you could meaningfully claim that you have found "*the best cherry pie in the state of Virginia?*" Write a narrative paragraph or two covering four to five changes and how those changes would improve the study.

I was recently hired to find the best cherry pie in the state of Virginia. I found it in the kitchen of Evelyn Smith. My search began by requesting all interested cherry pie tasters to answer my newspaper ad. All respondents in the state met in a central location and tasted cherry pies. Each of 68 persons tasted the five cherry pies that were judged superior at the recent Virginia State Fair. To assure fairness, each "taste" was made on a different day so that the taste buds would not be confused. The winner? Ms. Smith's pie! She received over 40% of the votes. Her closest competitor received 22%. Apparently, Ms. Smith has something special when it comes to cherry pies.