**Activity 2: Learning from someone else’s research second task – some tips for reading**

You may find it helpful to have to hand the two grids: one about ontology and epistemology and the other about methodology and methods.

As you read the article, consider the following. There’s space below each question for your notes.

1. Is there any evidence of the author(s) ontological perspective? How do I know?
2. Is there any evidence of the author(s) epistemological perspective? How do I know?
3. Is there any evidence of author(s) personal bias in respect of this research? How do I know?
4. Did the author(s) draw on (enough) literature about the topic under research? How do I know?
5. Am I clear how the research was carried out? How do I know?
6. Did the researcher(s) draw on the methodological literature in preparing to carry out research? How do I know?
7. Is the choice of methods clearly justified? How do I know?
8. How were findings analysed? How do I know?
9. Do the findings appear credible, given the methods used to collect and analyse data? How do I know?
10. What is my overall judgement about this piece of research, and why? [Here you should be drawing

on all the judgements you made in considering Qs 1 – 9].

**If your group pools answers to the questions above you should be able to assemble a convincing 5-minute presentation quite quickly. You might start by making evaluative judgements for the quality of evidence about each aspect, so you can talk about strengths and weaknesses.**

**Ethics**

1. Am I clear about the researcher(s) relationship to the research situation? How do I know? Am I (un)happy about it?
2. Were ethical issues properly considered? How do I know? How convincing is the evidence?
3. Is anything **missing** from the discussion about ethics?

**Thinking ahead to dissertation**

1. Would this kind of project be suitable for a TF Masters dissertation? If not, why not? To answer this, consider:
2. Are leadership /policy issues covered in this research?
3. Could the findings be used for school improvement?
4. Are the methods manageable in the time/resources/word count I will have available?