

## Candidate 2 evidence

<b>Research topic/issue:</b>
<b>Describe the purpose/aims of your research.</b>
Hypothesis: Drones are effective in combatting terrorist groups.
Aim 1: Do drones kill civilians?
Aim 2: Are drones more effective than other methods?
Aim 3: What is the public's opinion of drones?
<b>Research methods:</b>
My first method of research was my survey. I used this to gather data on the public's opinion of drones. One advantage of this method was the fact I could ask questions tailored to my aims. This meant that I wouldn't get any unnecessary information. Another advantage of this method was the fact I could ask closed questions. This meant that I would only get answers that I needed. One disadvantage of this method was the fact a majority of participants were white and under thirty. This means that data collected may not represent society as a whole. Another disadvantage of this method was the fact I

**Research methods:** 10 marks

For two methods of research you have used to collect information during your assignment, you should comment on:

- ◆ why you chose each method for your research
- ◆ strengths and any weaknesses of each research method
- ◆ how you could do things differently

You should refer to the evidence for each research method which you have noted on your research sheet.

Mainly asked people I know. This means that they may have felt like answering question the way they thought I'd like them to. If I were to use this method again I would open it up to a more diverse range of people in order to represent society as a whole.

My ~~second~~ second research method was an article from the Guardian titled: "US drone strikes more deadly to Afghan civilians than manned ~~aircraft~~ aircraft - advisor". One advantage of this method was the ~~activity~~ accessibility of the website. This means that it was easy to gather information from the website. Another advantage of this method was the fact it is by an established news publication. This makes it likely to be reliable and accurate. One disadvantage of this method was the

Fact the article is almost five years old. This means that some information may be out-dated. Another disadvantage of this method is the fact that the Guardian is regarded as a left-wing publication. This means that there is a possibility of political bias in the article. I also found a poll by 'yougov.co.uk' which shows that 55% of people are in favour of British involvement in drone use against a known terrorist.

Research findings: 6 marks

Describe and explain the main findings of your research. You should refer to the research evidence on your research sheet.

When looking for information on whether ~~or~~ or not drones kill civilians, I found an article by the Military Times' discussing US drone strikes in Yemen. The article states that around one third of casualties in 16 years of the US drone campaign in Yemen were civilian. The source also mentions that bad intelligence provided by prisons that use torture can lead to civilian deaths.


When looking for information on drones' effectiveness compared to other methods, I found an article by the Guardian on a US military advisors' study into drones. The article says that drones are ten times more likely to kill civilians than manned aircraft. The source also states that drones are more likely to cause outrage amongst locals. This means that use of drones may stir up anti-Western feelings in some parts of the world.

I used my survey to find out the public's opinion on drones. I posed the ~~question~~ "Statement: 'The use of drone strikes ~~is~~ against terror groups to be ethical'. I then asked whether participants agreed or disagreed with the aforementioned statement. I found that a majority ~~however~~ agreed with this statement. I then asked the question: 'overall, do you believe drone strikes to be effective in combatting terror groups. I asked participants 'yes' or 'no' to this question. I found that a majority of participants answered yes to this question.


Research conclusions:	4 marks
What conclusions have you reached about your research topic or issue?	
<p>My conclusion is that no, drone strikes are not effective in combatting terror groups. This is due to the fact that they kill civilians and are not as effective as other methods. An article by The Bureau of Investigative Journalism shows that in Pakistan since 2004, between over 400 and over 900 civilians have been killed by US drone strikes. This shows that drone strikes kill civilians. I realise not everyone will agree with this conclusion though, as data from my survey show the public believe drone strikes to be effective. I believe that drone strikes are not effective in combatting terror groups and therefore, I recommend manned aircraft be used instead.</p>	

<b>Modern Studies National 5 Research Sheet</b>	
<b>Candidate Name</b>	<b>Scottish Candidate Number</b>

Source 1: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/jul/02/us-drone-strikes-afghan-civilians>  
 Read on: 02/02/19  
 Published: 20/7/13



Source 2: <https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-military/2018/11/14/hidden-toll-of-us-drone-strikes-in-yemen-nearly-a-third-of-deaths-are-civilians-not-al-qaida/>  
 Published: 14 November 2018  
 Read on 02/02/19



Source 3: Survey on 54 people conducted in February 2019,  
 Question 1: "The use of drone strikes against terror groups is ethical"  
 Agree or disagree  
 Question 2: "Overall, do you believe drone strikes to be effective in combatting terrorist groups?"  
 Yes or no

Source\_4: [https://www.thebureauinvestigates.com/projects/drone-war/charts?show\\_casualties=1&show\\_injuries=1&show\\_strikes=1&location=pakistan&from=2004-1-1&to=now](https://www.thebureauinvestigates.com/projects/drone-war/charts?show_casualties=1&show_injuries=1&show_strikes=1&location=pakistan&from=2004-1-1&to=now)  
 Published: February 2019  
 Read on: 28/02/19

