**Assignment 2: Critique** of Zhao and Hirvela’s (2015) article, “Undergraduate ESL students engagement in Academic Reading and Writing in Learning to Write a Synthesis Paper,” in *Reading in a Foreign Language, 27*(2).

Write a 700 to 1000 word critique of the article, giving ample time to all sections and interpreting the importance of the information for a fellow teacher.

**Use the following conventions for a critique:**

1. Mention the source—the article, and journal title—with the author(s) and year of publication at the start of the summary.
2. Organize the body of the critique following the organization of the article, including the purpose of the study, the background, the methods, the analysis, the results, and the major conclusion(s).
3. Provide a complete summary so that the reader can understand your critique without having read the original article.
4. Aim to include a balanced critique – mention both strengths and weaknesses, and justify your criticisms.
5. Don’t forget to include **an general overall evaluative comment** at the beginning and at the end, along with thoughtful specific evaluative comments sprinkled throughout.

Factors to consider in critiquing a research study:

* The motivation (background) of the study
* The design of the study
* The data collection methodology employed
* The type(s) of analyses done on the data
* The presentation of results
* The interpretation and generalizability of the findings

**Format Issues:**

1. **Include your name and student number in the top left corner of the page.**
2. **Use double-spacing, to make it easier for feedback.**

**Remember:**

1. Avoid citing sources cited in the original.
2. **Use your own words, and keep direct quotes to a minimum**.