

ReviewForm3

JournalName:	SouthAsianJournalofSocialStudiesandEconomics
ManuscriptNumber:	Ms_SAJSE_122215
TitleoftheManuscript:	DeterminingthelevelofInnovativethinkingskillsofSMEownersinSouthAfrica
TypeoftheArticle	

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PART1: ReviewComments

Compulsory REVISION comments	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback (Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<p>Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. Why do you like (or dislike) this manuscript? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</p>	<p>This manuscript holds significant value for the scientific community as it addresses a critical area in entrepreneurship research—innovative thinking skills among SME owners, which are vital for business sustainability and growth. The focus on South Africa's construction and manufacturing industries provides valuable insights into sectors crucial for the country's economic development. By exploring the relationship between innovative thinking and SME longevity, the study offers practical implications for enhancing the competitiveness and resilience of SMEs, making it a valuable contribution to academic literature and industry practices.</p>	
<p>Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</p>	<p>The title "Determining the Level of Innovative Thinking Skills of SME Owners in South Africa" is clear and descriptive, but it could be refined for greater impact and specificity.</p> <p>Here are a few alternative suggestions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Assessing Innovative Thinking Skills and Their Impact on SME Longevity in South Africa's Construction and Manufacturing Sectors" 2. "Evaluating the Role of Innovative Thinking in the Sustainability of SMEs in South Africa's Construction and Manufacturing Industries" 3. "Exploring Innovative Thinking Skills Among SME Owners in South Africa: Implications for Business Longevity" <p>These alternatives better capture the focus on the impact of innovative thinking on SME longevity and specify the industries involved.</p>	
<p>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.</p>	<p>could be made more comprehensive with some refinements. Here are suggestions for improvement:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Incorporate a Brief Background: Adding a sentence or two at the beginning to provide context on why innovative thinking is critical for SMEs would enhance the background of the study. 2. Clarify Study Design and Methodology: While the study design and methodology are described, it might be helpful to briefly mention how the data were analyzed to conclude innovative thinking skills and their impact on SME longevity. 3. Highlight Key Findings: Expand on the results by specifying what aspects of innovative thinking were measured and how they relate to SME longevity. 4. Emphasize Practical Implications: The conclusion could be strengthened by briefly mentioning specific recommendations for practitioners based on the findings. 	

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<p>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</p>	<p>Introduction: 1. It might benefit from a more explicit statement of the research problem and objectives. While it mentions that few studies have focused on the longevity of SMEs concerning innovative thinking, it would be helpful to clarify how your study aims to fill this gap. 2. Consider structuring the introduction to flow from the general importance of innovative thinking, narrowing down to the specific context of SMEs in South Africa, and ending with a clear research question or objective. Literature Review</p> <p>2.1 Innovation Thinking: This section could be more concise. Avoid repeating similar points and ensure that each paragraph adds new insight.</p>	
	<p>2.3 Managerial Cognitive Ability: Innovative Thinking: This subsection could be more closely integrated with the preceding one to avoid redundancy. 2.4 Innovative Thinking and SMEs' Survival and Success The inclusion of Table 1 could be better explained. Ensure that the table's relevance to your study is clear and that it adds value to your argument. 2.5 The Significance of Innovative Thinking for SMEs: This section could be condensed as it repeats some points already mentioned in previous sections. Consider merging this with section 2.4. 2.6 Organizational Innovativeness Construct Measure: This section could benefit from a more critical analysis of the construct measures used in the literature.</p> <p>Data Analysis</p> <p>More detail on the questionnaire design, sampling process, and rationale for using Python 3.12.2 would strengthen this section. Also, consider discussing the validity and reliability of the data analysis process.</p> <p>This section could benefit from more explicit connections between the analysis and the research questions or hypotheses.</p> <p>4. Results and Discussion</p> <p>The discussion could be more tightly linked to the literature review, specifically how your findings compare with existing research. It would also be beneficial to interpret the findings in the context of the research objectives stated in the introduction.</p> <p>Consider separating the results and discussion into two distinct sections. The results should focus on what was found, and the discussion should interpret these findings in the context of the literature and your research questions.</p>	

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<p>Please write a few sentences regarding the scientific correctness of this manuscript. Why do you think that this manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</p>	<p>The manuscript "Determining the Level of Innovative Thinking Skills of SME Owners in South Africa" is scientifically robust and technically sound due to its comprehensive research design and systematic approach. The study's clear aim to assess innovative thinking skills within the construction and manufacturing sectors, combined with a well-defined quantitative methodology, ensures the reliability and validity of the findings. By employing quota sampling and analyzing data using Python software, the study offers a thorough examination of the prevalence and impact of innovative thinking on SME longevity. Additionally, the conclusions are well-supported by the results, highlighting both the current state of innovation among SME owners and the potential for further development, making this research a valuable contribution to understanding the role of innovation in SME sustainability.</p>	
<p>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</p>	<p>some of the references are outdated, with a significant portion dating back more than a decade. While classic works like those by Drucker and Schumpeter are valuable, incorporating more recent studies would strengthen the manuscript's relevance to current trends and developments in SME innovation.</p>	
<p>Minor REVISION comments</p> <p>Is the language/English quality of the articles suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>a few minor grammatical adjustments and improvements in phrasing could enhance readability and precision</p>	
<p>Optional/General comments</p>	<p>General Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistency: Ensure consistency in terminology and the presentation of ideas throughout the manuscript. For example, the term "innovative thinking" should be consistently used and defined early on. Tables and Figures: When using tables, such as Table 1, provide a clear explanation of their relevance and how they support your arguments. Tables should complement the text, not just summarize it. Language and Clarity: Avoid overly complex sentences and ensure that each paragraph has a clear main idea. Simplify where possible without losing the depth of analysis. Conclusion (missing): Consider adding a conclusion section that summarizes the key findings, discusses their implications for theory and practice, and suggests areas for future research. 	

PART 2:

	<p>Reviewer's comment</p>	<p>Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</p>
<p>Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?</p>	<p><u>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</u></p>	

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Reviewer Details:

Name:	Mohammad Khaled Azzam
Department, University & Country	Jordan