

### ***Novice Student Work***

*Question 5: Ways that science may be limited for studies testing the effectiveness of antidepressant medications.*

Paper 1: Coded as Novice (1): This student's answer appears to discount the potential of self-report measures of depressive symptoms as inherently flawed, instead of recognizing that psychologists often collect data on individuals' self-perceptions of their experiences as an important measure of phenomenological characteristics. While other measures of depressive symptoms may also be collected (e.g., number of days the participant missed work in the last month, neurological measures) in concert with self-report data, the student fails to see the relevance and value of self-reported experiences. Further, while the placebo effect (i.e., the receipt of treatment often results in individuals believing that their symptoms have improved, even when a placebo is given) does operate in this scenario, it is a psychological phenomenon that can be accounted for in study designs, and as such, is not a limit of the scientific enterprise.