



"Investing in Africa's Future"

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

HSA303 INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL RESEARCH

END OF FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2016

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DURATION: 3HRS

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Do **NOT** write your name on the answer sheet
2. Answer **THREE** questions only
3. Begin your answer for each question on a new page
4. Each section is worth **20 marks**

Section A – Answer ALL questions (20 Marks)

Write the symbol of the correct answer ONLY. Do not re-write the question.

1. Social research is _____
 - a. social way of doing research
 - b. a type of research conducted by social scientists to seek answers to questions about the social world
 - c. a set of techniques that is identical to the techniques used by physical scientists
 - d. determined by positivists

2. Which of the following is NOT a goal of exploratory research?
 - a. to become familiar with the basic facts, setting and concerns of a research issue/question
 - b. to formulate and focus questions for future research
 - c. to locate new data that contradict past data
 - d. to generate new ideas, conjectures, or hypotheses

3. Which research paradigm is least concerned about generalizing its findings?
 - a) a. quantitative research
 - b) b. qualitative research
 - c) c. mixed research
 - d) d. none of the above

4. Research in which the researcher uses the qualitative paradigm for one phase and the quantitative paradigm for another phase is known as _____.
 - a. action research
 - b. basic research
 - c. e. mixed model research
 - d. mixed method research

3. Open-ended questions provide primarily _____ data.
 - a) Confirmatory data
 - b) Qualitative data
 - c) Predictive data
 - d) None of the above

4. When constructing a questionnaire it is important to do each of the following except ____
 - a) Use "leading" or "loaded" questions

- b) Use natural language
 - c) Understand your research participants
 - d) Pilot your test questionnaire
5. **When each member of a population has an equal chance of being selected, this is called:**
- a) A non-random sampling method
 - b) A quota sample
 - c) A snowball sample
 - d) Probability selection method
6. **People who are available, volunteer, or can be easily recruited are used in the sampling method called _____.**
- a) Simple random sampling
 - b) Cluster sampling
 - c) Systematic sampling
 - d) Convenience sampling
7. **Which scientific method is a confirmatory approach?**
- a) Deductive method
 - b) Inductive method
 - c) Hypothesis method
 - d) Pattern method
8. **Which scientific method is a generative approach to research?**
- a) Deductive method
 - b) Inductive method
 - c) Hypothesis method
 - d) Pattern method
9. **_____ research seeks to investigate an area that has been under researched with preliminary data that helps shape the direction for future research.**
- a) Descriptive

- b) Exploratory
 - c) Explanatory
 - d) Positivist
10. Qualitative researchers seek to analyze which of the following?
- a) Numerical data derived from the frequency of particular behaviors
 - b) Statistical associations between variables
 - c) The social meaning people attribute to their experiences and circumstances
 - d) All of the above
11. Which research paradigm is based on the pragmatic view of reality?
- a) quantitative research
 - b) qualitative research
 - c) mixed research
 - d) none of the above
12. Which research paradigm is least concerned about generalizing its findings?
- a) quantitative research
 - b) qualitative research
 - c) mixed research
 - d) none of the above
13. Which of the following is not true about stratified random sampling?
- a. It involves a random selection process from identified subgroups
 - b. Proportions of groups in the sample must always match their population proportions
 - c. Disproportional stratified random sampling is especially helpful for getting large enough subgroup samples when subgroup comparisons are to be done
 - d. Proportional stratified random sampling yields a representative sample
14. A _____ approach tests theory or a hypothesis against data, while a _____ approach develops theory directly out of the data.

- a) inductive, deductive
 - b) deductive, inductive
 - c) ontological, epistemological
 - d) epistemological, ontological
15. The independent variable (IV) changes the dependent variable (DV)
- a) True
 - b) False
16. Which of the following terms best describes data that were originally collected at an earlier time by a different person for a different purpose?
- a. Primary data
 - b. Secondary data
 - c. Experimental data
 - d. Field notes
17. A review of the literature prior to formulating research questions allows the researcher to do which of the following?
- a. To become familiar with prior research on the phenomenon of interest
 - b. To identify potential methodological problems in the research area
 - c. To develop a list of pertinent problems relative to the phenomenon of interest
 - d. All of the above
18. The research participants are described in detail in which section of the research proposal?
- a. Introduction
 - b. Methodology
 - c. Data analysis
 - d. Discussion

19. The Introduction section of the research proposal

- a. Gives an overview of prior relevant studies
- b. Contains a statement of the purpose of the study
- c. Concludes with a statement of the research questions and, for quantitative research, it includes the research hypothesis
- d. All of the above

20. According to your text, which of the following is not a source of research ideas?

- a. Everyday life
- b. Practical issues
- c. Past research
- d. Theory
- e. All of the above ARE sources of research ideas

SECTION B – Answer All questions (20 Marks)

Explain the purpose of each of the following elements in a research proposal.

- a. Problem (5 marks)
- b. Literature review (5 Marks)
- c. Methodology (10 Marks)

SECTION C– Answer one question only (20 Marks)

- 2. a. Identify and discuss 5 elements that are required for informed consent with human participants.
- b. Can research data obtained through unethical methods be used for ethical and beneficial results?

3. Evaluate the claim that in participant observation studies, what is gained in terms of validity is lost in reliability.
4. You have been asked to design a questionnaire. Describe and discuss the considerations you will take to ensure that the questionnaire measures what you intend to explore.

END OF PAPER