



"Investing in Africa's Future"

COLLEGE OF HEALTH, AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND NURSING (DPHN)

NREM500 RESEARCH METHODS (MPH)

END OF FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

NOV/DEC 2023

LECTURER: DR. S CHITUKU

DURATION: 3 HRS

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer **ALL** questions in section A and select **3 only** in section B

The mark allocation for each question is indicated at the end of the question

SECTION A

Question 1

A researcher has conducted an independent measures design experiment to investigate whether chewing gum influences concentration. She recorded how many changes were detected in a 'spot-the-difference' puzzle by people chewing gum when completing the task, compared to those who were not. The results are in the table.

- i. Name two variables present in this experiment research design. **[2 Marks]**
- ii. Outline one strength and one weakness of using an experiment research design. **[6 Marks]**
- iii. Explain the difference between a lab experiment and a field experiment research design. **[4 Marks]**
- iv. What is a quasi-experiment? **[2 Marks]**
- v. Why would a quasi-experiment not be appropriate for this study? **[2 Marks]**
- vi. State a strength and a weakness of using quasi experiments. **[4 Marks]**

Question 2

- (a) Justify the need for literature review in scientific research. **[10 marks]**
- (b) Define briefly an interview as a data collection tool **[5 marks]**
- (c) Describe five (5) major disadvantages of a questionnaire as a data collection tool **[5 marks]**

SECTION B

Question 3

- i. Describe the conceptual framework and how significant is it to the design of research proposal? **[5 marks]**
- ii. Describe the Health belief model. **[15 marks]**

Question 4

- i. Define research methods and methodology and explain the major difference between them? **[5 marks]**
- ii. What constitutes successful research proposal? Outline its elements in details. **[15 marks]**

Question 5

Write notes on the following

- i. Qualitative research **[7 marks]**
- ii. Quantitative research **[8 marks]**
- iii. Mixed Methods research **[5 marks]**

Question 6

- (a) Using a classroom example, describe the term “Sampling” in research process.
[5 marks]
- (b) Use an example to discuss two different types of sampling. **[8 marks]**
- (c) What are the advantages of sampling to a researcher? **[7 marks]**

END OF PAPER