



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2020/2021

DIGITAL SCHOOL OF VIRTUAL AND OPEN LEARNING (DSVOL)
SECOND TRIMESTER EXAMINATION FOR POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN
EDUCATION

EMP 724: RESEARCH METHODS

DATE: WEDNESDAY 19TH MAY 2021

TIME: 4.30 P.M. – 6.30 P.M.

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer ALL questions in Section A and any Two in Section B.

SECTION A

Question 1

PART A

Complete the following statements with one of the options provided

- a) A smaller group of the target population is _____ (1 mark)
(Sample, sub-population, unit of analysis)
- b) The principle of protecting research subjects from harm is _____ (1 mark)
(Benevolence, non-injury, non-maleficence, beneficence)
- c) Research that is based on people's lived experience is _____ (1 mark)
(Ethnography, positivism, anthropology)
- d) _____ is a statement of causal relationship between variables. (1 mark)
(Correlation, directional hypothesis, effect size)
- e) Which of the following is not a type of validity in research? (1 mark)
(Construct, content, concurrent, consistency)

PART B

Indicate which is TRUE or False in the following statements

- a) Phenomenology is a type of quantitative research method (1 mark)
- b) Quasi-experiments are most suited to produce valid conclusions about causality (1 mark)
- c) the type of data is a criteria used in selecting data analysis technique (1 mark)
- d) Systematic sampling involves selecting subjects from a population list (1 mark)
- e) Participatory research empowers the otherwise powerless voices (1 mark)

PART C

- 1) Which of the following is TRUE regarding validity
 - a) Threats to validity can be completely eradicated
 - b) Validity cannot be addressed through the scope of data
 - c) Validity is a matter of degree rather than an absolute state
 - d) Evaluate validity is not a type of validity
- 2) Which of the following statements is FALSE
 - a) Sample integration enable high-quality inferences to be made
 - b) Choosing an appropriate timescale can minimize threats to reliability
 - c) Stability, equivalence and internal consistency are all types of reliability
 - d) Spearman-Brown formula is not a good measure of reliability
- 3) Which of these methods cannot address *replicability* in qualitative research
 - a) Stability of observations'
 - b) Parallel forms
 - c) Inter-rater reliability
 - d) Convergent forms

4. The following are causes of bias in interviews. Which ONE is not?
- a) Biased sampling
 - b) Poor rapport between interviewer and interviewee
 - c) Prompting and probing
 - d) Alterations to the sequence of questions
- 5) Choose the statement that is true about *naturalistic* research
- a) Humans actively construct their own meanings of situations
 - b) Meanings arises out of social situation
 - c) Knower and known are inseparable
 - d) All the above
- 6) Which of the following is **NOT** a method of data collection in naturalistic research?
- a) Participation observation
 - b) Surveys
 - c) interviews and conversations
 - d) documents and field notes
- 7) The following are types of surveys Except?
- a) Review of studies
 - b) Opinion polls
 - c) Test scores
 - d) Students preference for particular courses
- 8) Surveys may be conducted through the following EXCEPT?
- a) Cross-sectional studies
 - b) Longitudinal studies
 - c) Correlation studies
 - d) Trend studies

- 9) Which of the following is not a hindrance to inter-based surveys?
- a) Sampling representativeness
 - b) Under-representation
 - c) Internet bandwidth
 - d) Over—representation
- 10) Which one is not a measure of central tendency?
- a) Standard deviation
 - b) Mode
 - c) Median
 - d) Mean
- 11) Which one is not a measure of dispersion?
- a) Standard deviation
 - b) Median
 - c) Variance
 - d) Interquartile range
- 12) Which one is not a level of measurement?
- a) Nominal
 - b) Scale
 - c) Ordinal
 - d) Ratio
- 13) Cross-sectional studies deals with _____
- a) Snap-shot of different samples at one or more points
 - b) Selected factors studied continuously over time
 - c) Individual and micro-level analysis
 - d) Single sample over extended period of time

- 14) Trend studies deals with _____
- a) Snap-shot of different samples at one or more points
 - b) Selected factors studied continuously over time
 - c) Individual and micro-level analysis
 - d) Single sample over extended period of time
- 15) Which of the following is a characteristic of Ex post research?
- a) Examines data retrospectively to establish causes
 - b) Lack of control over the independent variables
 - c) Control of the dependent variable
 - e) Lack of randomization
- 16) Why is it important to read original articles when you are reviewing the literature?
- a) To obtain an overview of methods and procedures
 - b) to look for flaws in the method
 - c) to examine the validity of the conclusions
 - d) all of these
- 17) Which section of a journal article is provided in most online electronic databases?
- a) Introduction
 - b) Results
 - c) Conclusions
 - d) Abstract
- 18) The difference between the mean of a researcher's sample and the mean of the population of the sample is known as the:
- a) Sampling error
 - b) Standard deviation
 - c) Confidence interval
 - d) significance level

- 19) When reading a journal article you should do what?
- a) Accept their ideas- after all they are published authors
 - b) Read it as a way of obtaining more information
 - c) use the same ideas for your project
 - d) Approach it with a questioning style
- 20) A mediator variable is:
- a) Responsible for the relationship between two other variables
 - b) another name for the dependent variable
 - c) another name for the independent variable
 - d) all of the above

SECTION D

Question 2

Discuss Five advantages and disadvantages of cross-sectional designs? (20 marks)

Question 3

Discuss the strengths of open (unstructured) interviews compared to the closed-ended self-completion questionnaire? (20 marks)

Question 4

- a) Explain the four levels of measurement used in quantitative data analysis (8 marks)
- b) Describe three methods a researcher may use to analyze qualitative data. (12 marks)

Question 5

With reference to how research differs from common sense approaches, explain four ways of gaining knowledge (20 marks)