



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2009/2010

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE

HFN 523: RESEARCH METHODS

DATE: Friday, 27th November, 2009

TIME: 9.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer **ALL** the questions in the answer booklets provided.

1. a) Giving examples, explain the following terms used in research:
 - i) Hypotheses
 - ii) Sampling frame
 - iii) Sampling bias
 - iv) Unit of observation
 - v) Randomization

(10 marks)
- b) Differentiate between systematic sampling and stratified sampling, stating the conditions under which each method is used (10 marks)
2. a) Explain the criteria used for the selection of study designs (4 marks)
- b) Give suggestions of the appropriate study designs for the following studies:

- i) A situational analysis of the household characteristics with malnourished children less than five years of age in Kilifi, Kenya.
- ii) A comparison of the prevalence of anemia among children under five years of age living in communities with and without iron/folate supplementation.
- iii) Factors associated with wasting among children less than five years of age in Kakuma refugee camp, Kenya.
- iv) The efficacy of plumpy nut in rehabilitating severely malnourished children under five years of age.
- v) Risk factors for Diabetes Mellitus Type II among adult women in Nairobi, Kenya.
- vi) A comparison of the diarrhea mortality in a community before and after the introduction of piped water into that community.

(6 marks)

3. Giving examples, discuss the rationale for conducting qualitative research

(10 marks)

4. Why is it necessary to:

- a) Develop a proposal in preparation for carrying out research?

(4 marks)

- b) Conduct a literature review in the development of a research proposal

(6 marks)

5. Explain the main considerations to make in the process of questionnaire development

(10 marks)