



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2016/2017

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ECONOMICS

ECO 300: RESEARCH METHODS

DATE: Tuesday, 16th May, 2017

TIME: 11.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer question **ONE (Compulsory)** and any other **TWO** questions. Question **ONE** carries 30 marks and the rest carry 20 marks each.

QUESTION ONE - (30 MARKS)

- a) Differentiate in meaning the following concepts used in research.
 - i) Research methods and methodology (2 marks)
 - ii) Categorical and continuous variables. (2 marks)
 - iii) Type I and II errors in testing a hypothesis. (2 marks)
 - iv) Case study and opinion polls (2 marks)
- b) Discuss five features of a good research design. (10 marks)
- c) A census inquiry is a sampling method that entails a complete enumeration of all items in the 'population'. Explain six reasons why this method is not commonly used. (6 marks)
- d) State and explain six essentials of a good questionnaire. (6 marks)

QUESTION TWO - (20 MARKS)

- i) Clearly explain the four main factors that should be considered when selecting a method for data collection. (8 marks)
- ii) While formulating a research problem the researcher should consider a number of steps. With examples where possible explain these steps. (12 marks)

QUESTION THREE - (20 MARKS)

- i) Theoretical literature review involves reviewing the existing theories in the area of interest.
Explain the roles that a theory plays in research. (10 marks)
- ii) State and explain the four types of variables in a casual relationship giving relevant examples where necessary. (10 marks)

QUESTION FOUR - (20 MARKS)

- i) Briefly explain the four types of measurement scales commonly used in research. (10 marks)
- ii) A hypothesis is important in terms of bringing clarity to the research problem. Explain the four main functions of hypothesis in the research process. (10 marks)

QUESTION FIVE - (20 MARKS)

- i) Briefly discuss four types of non-probability sampling technique. (10 marks)
- ii) Highlight the features of a good statement of the problem in research. (10 marks)