

Course Code: BAE 304-1(M) 2006

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION**  
**BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ADULT EDUCATION) YEAR III**  
**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2006**

**TITLE OF PAPER** : **RESEARCH METHODS IN ADULT EDUCATION**

**COURSE CODE** : **IDE-BAE 304-1**

**TIME ALLOWED** : **TWO (2) HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS** :

1. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS FROM SECTION A.
2. ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B.
3. MARKS WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR POORLY WRITTEN ENGLISH.
4. ALL QUESTIONS IN SECTION B CARRY EQUAL MARKS.

**THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR**

**SECTION A: COMPULSORY**

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer all Questions

**QUESTION 1**

In historical research the wide range of written and printed material recorded for purposes of transmitting information is called

- (a) relics
- (b) documents
- (c) primary sources
- (d) preliminary sources

[2 marks]

**QUESTION 2**

In historical research the physical objects related to the period being studied are called

- (a) documents
- (b) primary documents
- (c) secondary sources
- (d) relics

[2 marks]

**QUESTION 3**

Which of the criteria does the following hypothesis most violate?

Hypothesis: The upper-division courses in civics will produce better adult citizens than the lower-division courses in civics.

- (a) Hypotheses should be worth of testing
- (b) Hypotheses should be testable
- (c) Hypotheses should be brief
- (d) All the above are correct

[2 marks]

**QUESTION 4**

An advantage of survey research in education is that

- (a) rigorous cause-and-effect evidence is produced
- (b) random samples of national populations can often be selected

- (c) the researcher can be sure that his results are not biased
- (d) it provides better information on complex human behaviour than other research methods

[2 marks]

**QUESTION 5**

Which of the following is not a pitfall in planning research?

- (a) the researcher puts off selection of a problem till the completion of all or most of the courses
- (b) prepares poor hypotheses or untestable hypotheses
- (c) fails to conduct a pilot study
- (d) does not accept the first research idea that comes to mind

[2 marks]

**QUESTION 6**

Which of the following may not be a suitable topic in historical research?

- (a) how was adult literacy introduced 40 years ago?
- (b) causes of the high drop-out rate in the adult education programme?
- (c) what has been the role of Government in the development of adult education in the last 10 years?
- (d) How have working conditions of Agricultural Extension officers changed since 1968 in Swaziland?

[2 marks]

**QUESTION 7**

Systematic sampling may be used instead of simple random sampling if the

- (a) population list is in random order
- (b) sample size is small
- (c) population is heterogenous
- (d) expected differences are small

[2 marks]

**QUESTION 8**

Compared to simple random sampling, the main advantage of cluster sampling is the

- (a) degree of randomness it achieves
- (b) accuracy of sampling is achieves
- (c) reliability of research findings to which it leads
- (d) saving in time and money

[2 marks]

**QUESTION 9**

In cluster sampling the unit of sampling is the

- (a) individual
- (b) population
- (c) naturally occurring group of individuals
- (d) population after having been subgrouped on characteristics not related to the research

[2 marks]

**QUESTION 10**

If the researcher defines his population in a narrow fashion, the research results will be

- (a) useless
- (b) generalisable to a limited population
- (c) generalisable to a broad population
- (d) of no theoretical value

[2 marks]

**SECTION B**

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer ANY three questions.

**QUESTION 11**

- (a) When would a researcher use non probability sampling techniques instead of the recommended probability sample techniques? [10 marks]
- (b) With examples explain the difference between experimental and quasi-experimental designs. [10 marks]

**QUESTION 12**

Discuss the four factors to be considered in determining the size of a sample.

[20 marks]

**QUESTION 13**

- (a) Using examples explain the difference between quota sampling and proportional stratified random sampling. [10 marks]
- (b) Explain the following terms
- i. Unobstrisive observation
  - ii. Participant observation
  - iii. Participatory research

[10 marks]

**QUESTION 14**

What are the main features of the survey design and what are the advantages and limitations of this design? [20 marks]