

Course Code: IDE-BAE 304-2 (M) 2008

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ADULT EDUCATION) YEAR IV
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2008

TITLE OF PAPER: RESEARCH METHODS IN ADULT EDUCATION

COURSE CODE: IDE-BAE 304-2

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
- 1. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS FROM SECTION A.**
 - 2. ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B.**
 - 3. 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. CHOOSE AN OPTION THAT BEST FIT YOUR ANSWER TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

QUESTION 1

The most basic consideration in selecting subjects for a questionnaire study is the

- (a) identification of a group that has the desired information
- (b) size of the sample
- (c) definition of method used for data collection
- (d) identification of the data analysis techniques [2 marks]

QUESTION 2

In writing a letter of transmittal to accompany a mailed questionnaire, the researcher is advised to:

- (a) avoid setting a time limit for the return of the questionnaire.
- (b) avoid associating the research project with a professional institution
- (c) request that the questionnaire be returned by a certain date
- (d) state that follow-up techniques will be used if the questionnaires are not returned by due date [2 marks]

QUESTION 3

A major disadvantage of observational research is that:

- (a) it is easily biased by the subjects
- (b) no standardised observation instruments are available
- (c) the presence of the observer changes the situation
- (d) only the most simple behaviour can be observed [2 marks]

QUESTION 4

It is good interview techniques to

- (a) ask leading questions
- (b) avoid engaging in small talk before starting the formal interview
- (c) cross-examine respondents if they seem defective
- (d) make sure that respondents appreciate the purpose of each question asked. [2 marks]

QUESTION 5

The goal of data collection instruments used in survey research is to

- (a) gather as much data as possible in the shortest time possible
- (b) obtain standardised information from all subjects in the sample
- (c) collect only information that will prove to be significant
- (d) collect non-quantitative data

[2 marks]

QUESTION 6

The methodology section of a research project proposal usually contains the

- (a) literature review and hypotheses
- (b) research design, subjects and instruments
- (c) definition of terms, literature review, and data analysis procedures
- (d) research design and literature review

[2 marks]

QUESTION 7

If a researcher obtains positive results with respect to a hypothesis, he/she can state that the results _____ the hypothesis

- (a) verify
- (b) prove
- (c) support
- (d) confirm

[2 marks]

QUESTION 8

The use of several data collection techniques in one study is called

- (a) triangulation
- (b) multiple method
- (c) smart instruments
- (d) comprehensive method

[2 marks]

QUESTION 9

In an interview, each question should relate to a specific objective.

True/False
[2 marks]

QUESTION 10

The validity and reliability of interview data depend on the skill of the interviewer.

True/False
[2 marks]

SECTION B

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS

QUESTION 11

In some respect the abstract is the most important section of the research report. Briefly describe the information that should appear in an abstract. [20 marks]

QUESTION 12

Why is it important, for the purpose of data analysis, that the researcher fully understands the levels of measurement (scales of measurement) of all the data that were collected? [20 marks]

QUESTION 13

Using the deviation score method. Calculate the standard deviation for the following: 40, 35, 30, 28, 20, 18, 17, 15, 13 and 8. [20 marks]

QUESTION 14

Discuss the points to be considered in an attempt to construct a good questionnaire.[20 marks]