

**Course Code: IDE-BAE 304-1 (M) 2009**

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION**

**BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ADULT EDUCATION) YEAR III**

**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2009**

**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 TWO (2) QUESTIONS IN 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 FITS YOUR ANSWER TO THE QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS**

1. In historical research the wide range of written and printed materials recorded for purposes of transmitting information is called
  - (a) relics
  - (b) documents
  - (c) primary sources
  - (d) preliminary sources

(2 marks)
  
2. 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 testing
  - (b) Hypotheses should be testable
  - (c) Hypotheses should be brief
  - (d) All of the above are correct

(2 marks)
  
3. Which of the following is not a pitfall in planning research?
  - (a) the researcher puts off selection of a topic till the completion of all 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)
  
4. Systematic sampling may be used instead of simple random sampling if the
  - (a) population list is in some random order
  - (b) sample size is small
  - (c) population is heterogeneous
  - (d) expected differences in the population are small
  
5. In cluster sampling the sampling unit is the
  - (a) individual
  - (b) population
  - (c) naturally occurring group of individuals
  - (d) population after having been sub-grouped on characteristics not related to the research.

6. What should the researcher consider when determining how large a sample should be?
- (a) number of individuals collecting data
  - (b) sites from which the sample will be selected
  - (c) convenience of sampling
  - (d) amount of time available for the research [2 marks]
7. What is the major advantage of the survey method?
- (a) The population size is taken into account
  - (b) The results can be generalized
  - (c) Data can always be quantified
  - (d) The investigation can always result in further research [2 marks]
8. One major weakness of the quasi-experimental design is that
- (a) it is not clear how much of the change is due to intervention and which are due to other factors
  - (b) the researcher works out and controls the intervention programme
  - (c) the researcher has to observe the group at some point in time
  - (d) the group has to be very large for the research to be meaningful [2 marks]
9. One of the limitations of historical research is that
- (a) Events of the past have much bearing on the future
  - (b) One cannot generalise the findings
  - (c) Information is easy to get from those who are keen to volunteer it
  - (d) the data the researcher finds may have been tempered with [2 marks]
10. If the researcher defines his/her population in a narrow fashion, the researcher results will be:
- (a) useless
  - (b) generalisable to a limited population
  - (c) generalisable to a broader population
  - (d) of no theoretical value [2 marks]

**SECTION B: ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS**

**QUESTION 11**

Discuss the four factors to be considered in determining the size of a sample. [20 marks]

**QUESTION 12**

Outline the steps followed in drawing a cluster sample. [20 marks]

**QUESTION 13**

What are the advantages and limitations of the survey design? [20 marks]

**QUESTION 14**

What are the main features of an experimental research design? [20 marks]