

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

DEPARTMENT OF ADULT EDUCATION

PART-TIME DIPLOMA IN ADULT EDUCATION YEAR 1

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY, 2011

TITLE OF PAPER : RESEARCH DESIGN AND TECHNIQUES

COURSE CODE : DAE 116

TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS :**
- 1 ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS FROM SECTION A.**
 - 2. ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B.**

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SECTION A: COMPULSORY

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS. CHOOSE AN OPTION THAT BEST FITS YOUR ANSWER TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS

QUESTION 1

When writing the research report, the description of instruments used for data collection are normally included in the _____ section.

- a) introduction
- b) method
- c) results
- d) discussion

[2marks]

QUESTION 2

When writing the research report, information regarding the study design is normally included in the _____ section.

- a) method
- b) review of literature
- c) introduction
- d) results

[2 marks]

QUESTION 3

The abstract is included in the:

- a) end matter
- b) front matter
- c) appendices
- d) body of the report

[2 marks]

QUESTION 4

The measure(s) Central tendency that is/are appropriate for use with nominal data is/are:

- a) the median only
- b) the mode only
- c) the median and the mean
- d) the median and the mode.

[2 marks]

QUESTION 5

When summarizing ordinal data, the _____ is the most useful measure of central tendency.

- a) arithmetic mean
- b) mode
- c) median
- d) geometric mean

[2 marks]

QUESTION 6

The requirements to keep information provided by research participants confidential apply:

- a) to legal minors, but not to adults.
- b) only in cases where it is specifically requested by the participants
- c) to all persons under almost all conditions.
- d) only in cases where participants divulge information that is potentially illegal

[2marks]

QUESTION 7

When conducting observations to be used as data in a qualitative study, it is:

- a) always necessary to obtain informed consent from those being observed.
- b) not necessary to obtain informed consent if the observations are being conducted in a public place.
- c) not necessary to obtain informed consent if the observer is in full view of those being observed.
- d) only necessary to obtain informant consent if the study will be published

[2 marks]

QUESTION 8

Observational research, as a form of descriptive research:

- a) focuses on rich narrative description of the phenomenon of interest.
 - b) involves counting or rating of behaviour in as objective a manner as possible.
 - c) relies on open-ended techniques that can respond to the evolving situation.
 - d) allows the researcher to gather behavioural data in a relatively quick and easy manner.
- [2 marks]

QUESTION 9

Regarding the length of questionnaires to be used in survey research, which of the following statements is most accurate?

- a) including a large number of items on the survey assures that you will get useful data for all of your trouble
- b) keeping the survey short makes it more likely people will be willing to complete it.
- c) a relatively lengthy survey communicates your seriousness about the research endeavor so people will be willing to complete it.
- d) shorter surveys produce data that are ambiguous and therefore not useful.

[2 marks]

QUESTION 10

In a normal distribution, what percentage of scores falls between one standard deviation below the mean and one standard deviation above the mean?

- a) 16%
- b) 50%
- c) 68%
- d) 90%

[2 marks]

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS

QUESTION 11

- a) Outline four guidelines for increasing the rate of return for mailed questionnaires [8 marks]
- b) What information should be contained in a covering letter for a mailed questionnaire? [12 marks]

QUESTION 12

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of face-to-face interviews and telephone interviews. [20 marks]

QUESTION 13

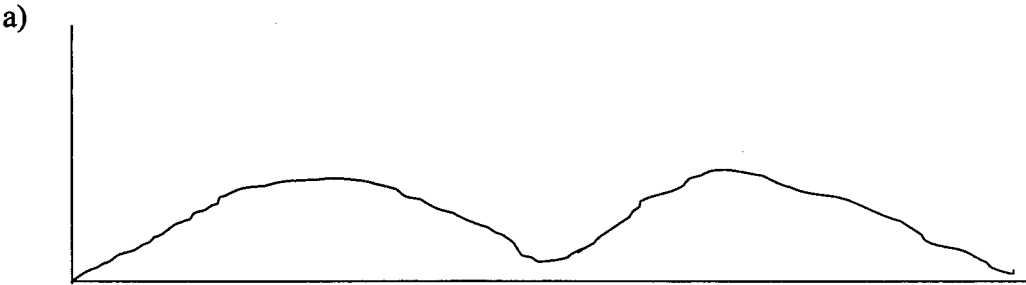
Use the grouped data frequency distribution shown below to calculate the mean.

Class interval	F
30 – 39	2
40 – 49	6
50 -59	12
60 – 69	16
70 – 79	13
80 – 89	5
90 – 99	2

[20 marks]

QUESTION 14

Label the following drawing showing the positions of the mode, median and mean.



With respect to the type of curve, how would you describe the curve?

- a) unimodal distribution
- b) skewed distribution
- c) bimodal distribution
- d) normal distribution. [10 marks]

- b) i) List the four scales of measurement
- ii) In which scale of measurement are the following:
 - 1) Students gender
 - 2) Test scores
 - 3) Rank positions on the test. [10 marks]