

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**FACULTY OF EDUCATION**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ADULT EDUCATION**  
**PART-TIME DIPLOMA IN ADULT EDUCATION YEAR I**

**FINAL EXAMINATION MAY, 2012**

- 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 (3) 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 fits an answer to the following questions/statements.

**QUESTION 1**

In qualitative research, the fact that the research methodology may be vaguely described or very general in nature at the outset of the study indicates.

- a) A normal and acceptable state of affairs.
- b) That the study is poorly designed.
- c) That the researcher is inexperienced.
- d) A common but unprofessional practice.

(2 marks)

**QUESTION 2**

A general term that is used to describe a distribution of data that is not symmetrical is a:

- a) bell-shaped distribution
- b) normal distribution
- c) abnormal distribution
- d) skewed distribution

(2 marks)

**QUESTION 3**

Qualitative studies typically serve three of the following purposes. Which purpose do they not serve?

- a) description of situations, processes, relationships etc.
- b) interpretation of information in order to gain new understanding.
- c) determining the final truth about a situation or phenomenon.
- d) evaluation of existing policies, practices, etc.

(2 marks)

**QUESTION 4**

The measures of 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 mode

(2 marks)

**QUESTION 5**

"How unhappy are you with your current salary?" This question violates which rule of good survey writing?

- a) It is not quantifiable
- b) It makes an unwarranted assumption
- c) It fails to keep the respondent's task simple
- d) It uses technical language that may not be known to all

(2 marks)

**QUESTION 6**

In experimental design, the variable that is manipulated is the

- a) Dependent variable
- b) Independent variable
- c) Confounding variable
- d) Constant

(2 marks)

**QUESTION 7**

In experimental design, the variable that reflects the outcome of the treatment is the:

- a) dependent variable
- b) Independent variable
- c) Confounding variable
- d) Constant

(2 marks)

**QUESTION 8**

Experimental research differs from descriptive research in that it:

- a) Is less sensitive to sampling bias
- b) Employs statistical analysis
- c) Attempts to determine causality
- d) Is conducted in a laboratory

(2 marks)

**QUESTION 9**

In \_\_\_\_\_, a particular group of individuals is studied in depth over a defined period of time.

- a) Case study
- b) Ethnography
- c) Grounded theory
- d) Phenomenology

(2 marks)

**QUESTION 10**

When writing the research report, information regarding the study design is typically included in the \_\_\_\_\_ section.

- a) Introduction
- b) Review of literature
- c) Method
- d) Results

(2 marks)

**SECTION B: ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS****QUESTION 11**

Explain how the following may affect the internal validity of studies

- a) history
- b) maturation
- c) experimental mortality
- d) instrumentation

(20 marks)

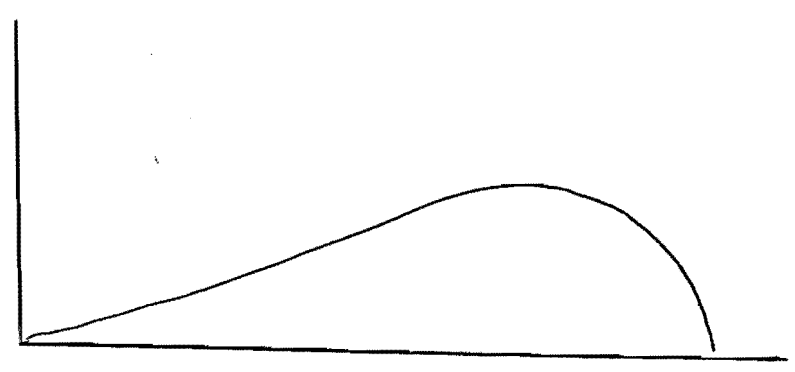
**QUESTION 12**

Calculate the mean for the following: Use the formular  $\frac{\sum fx}{N}$ .

Class	f(frequency)
10-19	2
20-29	5
30-39	12
40-49	17
50-59	14
60-69	7
70-79	2

(14 marks)

b) Label the drawing below, showing the positions of the mode, median and mean



(6 marks)

**QUESTION 13**

a) List FOUR guidelines for the construction of a good questionnaire. (8 marks)

b) Mention six guidelines that should be followed in conducting face-to-face interviews? (12 marks)

**QUESTION 14**

Discuss the following ethical issues in social science and educational research.

- a) Informed consent
- b) Right to privacy
- c) Protection from harm
- d) Honesty with professional colleagues

(20 marks)