

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

FINAL EXAMINATION MAY, 2013

- 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.

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

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

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

(2 marks)

QUESTION 2

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

- a) method
- b) review of related 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

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

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

(2 marks)

QUESTION 5

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.

(2 marks)

QUESTION 6

Regarding the length of a questionnaires to be used in survey research, which of the following statements is not accurate?

- a) Including a large number of the items on the survey that you will get useful data for all of your trouble.
- b) Keeping the survey short make it more likely people will be willing to complete it.
- c) A relatively lengthy survey communicates your seriousness about the research endeavour so people will be willing to complete it.
- d) Shorter surveys produce data that are ambiguous and therefore not useful.

(2 marks)

QUESTION 7

Observation research, as a form of descriptive research:

- a) Focuses on rich narrative description of the phenomenon of interest
- b) Involves counting or rating of behavior 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 8

Among survey methods; _____ generally generate the highest response rate and _____ generate the lowest response rate.

- a) Face-to-face; telephone interviews
- b) Telephone interviews questionnaires
- c) Face-to-face interviews questionnaires
- d) Face-to-face interviews and questionnaires
- e) Questionnaires and telephone interviews

(2 marks)

QUESTION 9

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) Skewed distribution
- d) Abnormal distribution

(2 marks)

QUESTION 10

What are the advantages of using face-to-face interviews in collecting data for a study?

(7 marks)

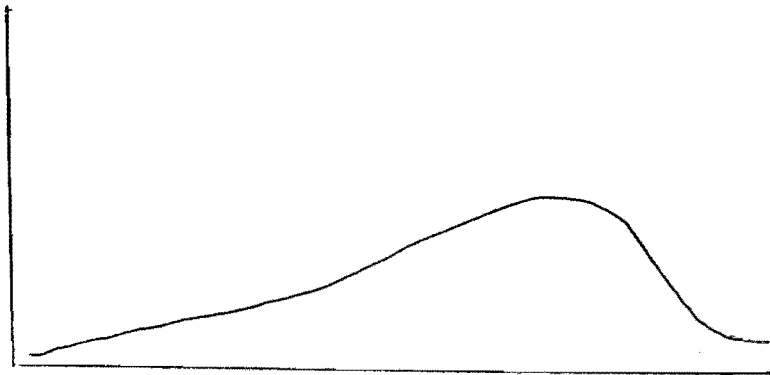
SECTION B: ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS

QUESTION 11

(a) Use the frequency distribution shown below to calculate the mean.

Class Interval	f	x (midpoint)	fx
62 – 64	3		
59 – 61	4		
56 – 58	2		
53 – 55	3		
50 – 52	3		
47 – 49	4		
44 – 46	4		
41 – 43	2		
38 – 40	1		
35 – 37	3		
32 – 34	3		
29 – 31	3		

b) On the curve below, mark the approximate position of the mean, median and mode.



(6 marks)

QUESTION 12

What are the advantages and disadvantages of using mailed questionnaires in collecting data for a survey study? [25 MARKS]

QUESTION 13

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

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 14

Outline five (5) guidelines for maximizing your return rate for mailed questionnaires.

[25 MARKS]