

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

**FINAL EXAMINATION MAY, 2014**

**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.

**QUESTION 1**

Why is it necessary that a mail questionnaire be accompanied by a covering letter?

(5 marks)

**QUESTION 2**

Unobstrusive measures are commonly used in \_\_\_\_\_ studies.

- a) Correlational studies
- b) Observational studies
- c) Experimental studies
- d) General survey studies

(2 marks)

**QUESTION 3**

In critiquing a research report under sampling the following would be considered except for:

- a) Is the sample size adequate?
- b) Is the sample representative of the defined population?
- c) Is the method for selection of the sample appropriate?
- d) Is the research design appropriate for the research problem?

(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 mean

(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 to cases where it is specifically requested by the participants
- c) To all persons under all conditions
- d) Only in cases where participants divulge information that is potentially illegal.

(2 marks)

### **QUESTION 6**

In an experimental design, the variable that is manipulated is the:

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

(2 marks)

### **QUESTION 7**

“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 respondents task simple
- d) It uses technical language that may not be known to all

(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)

**QUESTION 11**

An ordinal scale measurement:

- a) Assigns a name to a category
- b) Is tied to an absolute zero
- c) Incorporates equal units of measurement
- d) Communicates greater than/less than relationships.

**SECTION B: ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS**

**QUESTION 12**

Use the grouped data frequency distribution below to calculate the mean. Also indicate the mode.

Class Interval	F
30 – 39	2
40 – 49	6
50 – 69	12
60 – 69	16
70 – 79	14
80 – 89	13
90 – 99	6
100 – 109	3

(25 marks)

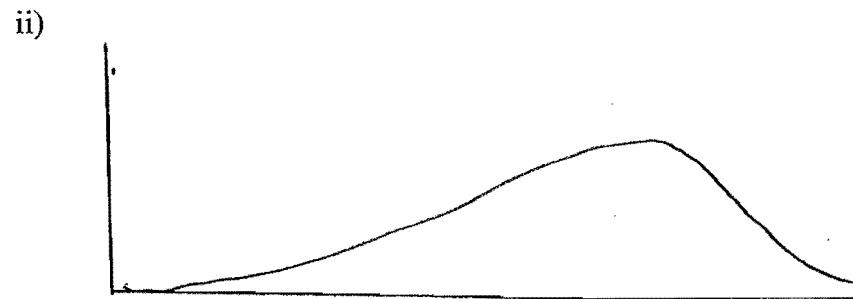
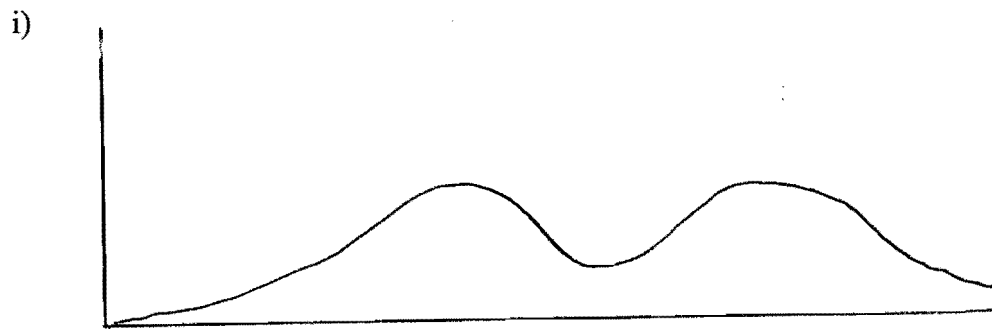
**QUESTION 13**

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of face-to-face interviews. (25 marks)

**QUESTION 14**

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

(b) Label the drawings below showing the positions of the mode, mean and median. Also classify them in terms of symmetry and skewness.



17  
(8 marks)

**QUESTION 15**

a) i) List the FOUR scales of measurement. (8 marks)

ii) In which scale of measurement are the following?

- 1) Student gender
- 2) Test scores
- 3) Rank positions on a test. (9 marks)

b) Discuss the following ethical issues in social and educational research:

- i) Informed consent
- ii) Right to privacy (8 marks)