# UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

## FACULTY OF EDUCATION

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATIONS AND MANAGEMENT
### MAY, 2010

## FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER

COURSE CODE    :    EDF 320: PAPER I

TITLE OF PAPER  :    RESEARCH METHODS AND EVALUATION

TIME ALLOWED   :    THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS    :    1.    THIS PAPER IS IN TWO PARTS.
2.    ANSWER ALL ITEMS IN SECTION ONE BY PUTTING A CIRCLE AROUND THE CORRECT RESPONSE ON THE ANSWER CARD PROVIDED.
3.    YOU ARE ADVISED TO SPEND NOT MORE THAN 45 MINUTES IN THIS SECTION.
4.    ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN SECTION B.

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION TO DO SO HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

1. The first nation to develop and use measurement were the
   a. Americans
   b. Germans
   c. French
   d. Chinese

2. A test that samples most of what has been taught is said to be
   a. Accountable
   b. Valid
   c. Usable
   d. Reliable

3. When two or more markers in a test award similar marks, the test is said to be
   a. Reliable
   b. Valid
   c. Discriminating
   d. Usable

4. In a multiple choice test, the part of the test item that tells the respondent the nature of response required is called
   a. a distracter
   b. an alternative
   c. a stem
   d. a key

5. A True/False test item is mostly affected by guessing because it
   a. it is very short
   b. has few options
   c. tests the truth of the statement
   d. has no lie detector

6. Evaluation that that occurs during the instructional process is called
   a. formative evaluation
   b. placement evaluation
   c. summative evaluation
   d. methodological evaluation

7.  When an instructor observes and assess a student preparing a meal, this called
    a. product evaluation
    b. formal evaluation
    c. process evaluation
    d. work evaluation

8.  From among the following categories in the cognitive domain, which is the most complex?
    a. Application
    b. Analysis
    c. Evaluation
    d. Synthesis

9.  What is the term used for data which can be broken into fractions of whole units?
    a. In-discrete
    b. Discontinuous
    c. Continuous
    d. Discrete

10. The most important advantage of the essay test over the objective test is that essay tests
    a. measure higher order skills
    b. allow those who know nothing to pass
    c. cover a wider content area
    d. all the above

11. For their final examination mark in Agriculture, the examiner went to the patch of land to assess the vegetables that each student was growing. This is called
    a. quality evaluation
    b. land evaluation
    c. work evaluation
    d. product evaluation

12. The most justifiable way to compare scores is to use
    a. deviation scores
    b. standard scores
    c. raw scores
    d. norm scores

13. If you were selecting a student to be trained in a specific area of study which of the following tests would you use?
    a. Aptitude
    b. Selection
    c. Placement
    d. Achievement

14. A very difficult test is represented graphically by a
    a. positively skewed curve
    b. negatively skewed curve
    c. symmetrical curve
    d. none of the above

15. Which one does not belong to this group?
    a. The height of Lubombo Mountain
    b. Petrol in a tank
    c. Bullet holes in a car
    d. Width of an entrance to a curve

16. The following are a characteristic of normal distribution <u>except</u>
    a. symmetrical
    b. unimodal
    c. skewed
    d. bell shaped

17. Which of the following correlation coefficients indicates the strongest relationship?
    a. $r = .55$
    b. $r = .09$
    c. $r = -.77$
    d. $r = .1$

18. If you obtained an "r" of $+1.3$ you would know for certain that
    a. the relationship is extremely strong
    b. the relationship is positive
    c. both a and b
    d. a computation error has been made

19. 44, 48, 53, 56, 57, 58, 59,60
    The median of the above scores is
    a. 55
    b. 55
    c. 56.5
    d. 57.2

3

20.  The lower quartile $Q^1$ is
     a.  48
     b.  50.2
     c.  50.5
     d.  51

21.  The upper quartile $Q^3$ is
     a.  58
     b.  58.1
     c.  58.5
     d.  59

22.  The interquartile deviation is
     a.  2
     b.  3
     c.  4
     d.  5

23.  When the Examination Council of Swaziland (ECoS) trains its markers, which aspect of the instrument is it taking care of?
     a.  Usability
     b.  Reliability
     c.  Validity
     d.  All the above

24.  One way in which ECoS ensures that Examinationss sample correct content is by
     a.  employing experts to set the examination
     b.  setting the examination paper long in advance
     c.  using subject panels to moderate them
     d.  both a and c

25.  The mean of a test in Science is 53.8 and the standard deviation is 5.4. If the student scored 62.2, what is the student Z score?
     a.  2.04
     b.  1.60
     c.  1.56
     d.  -1.78

26.  What is the name of the scale that describes the length of an object as twice the length of another?
     a.  A nominal scale
     b.  A ratio scale
     c.  An interval scale
     d.  An ordinal scale

4

27. (i) A ratio scale possesses an absolute zero
    (ii) A positively skewed curve has its tail to the left
    (iii) A variance is the square root of the standard deviation
    (iv) A correlation is a relationship between two variables.

    Which of the above statements are true statements?
    a. (i) and (iii)
    b. (i), (ii) and (iii)
    c. (i), (iii) and (iv)
    d. (i) and (iv)

28. The following are test scores for 10 students in History

    | A | B | C | **D** | E | F | G | H | I | J |
    |---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
    | 42 | 66 | 54 | **32** | 71 | 42 | 24 | 81 | 39 | 19 |

    Which of these; mean, median or mode score(s) will change their value(s) if D's score was changed to 61?
    a. The median
    b. The mode and the mean
    c. The mean
    d. The mean and the median

29. What is the simplest measure of variability?
    a. Range
    b. Variance
    c. Standard deviation
    d. Quartile deviation

30. What type of test is a driving test?
    a. Speed test
    b. Criterion referenced test
    c. Powers test
    d. Norm referenced test

31. What is most likely to happen to the reliability of scores of a multiple choice test in which the number of alternatives for each test item is increased from 4 to 5.
    a. The item will have no reliability at all
    b. It will decrease
    c. It will increase
    d. It will stay the same

5

32. What would happen to a Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient if the scores on both tests were increased by two marks each? Its value will
    a. not change
    b. change
    c. increase
    d. decrease

**(Total = 32 Marks)**

# SECTION B

## ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN THIS SECTION.

*Question 1*
Match the descriptive statements in List A with the type of assessment in List B. Use **all** the statements in List A.

### List A

1. No guarantee that you are assessing the work of the testee.
2. Observing the testees is tedious, may need more than one observer.
3. Students learn to be tactful feedback givers and self regulating individuals.
4. Helps the learner reflect on his learning
5. Enables learners to discuss, explain and challenge each other.
6. It tells the story of the learners' long term achievement in a given academic area.
7. Encourages student/teacher/parent reflection on the work of the child.
8. Increases ability of the learner to make independent judgement of own work

### List B
a. Peer Assessment
b. Self Assessment
c. Portfolio Assessment
d. Product Assessment
e. Process Assessment

**Total = 8 marks**

*Question 2*

(a)     Objective tests have become very popular in schools, colleges, universities and external examinations. However, they do have their disadvantages. Using any **four (4)** suitable examples discuss these disadvantages.                      (4x6 each =24 marks)

(b)     Describe a situation that would compel you as a teacher to use an objective test.                                (6 marks)

**Total = 30 marks**

*Question 3*

a.      Define the term "subjectivity" in assessing examination scripts.
                                                    (5 marks)

b.      Using any **three (3)** suitable examples explain how you would minimize subjectivity in making essay tests.      (3x5 = 15 marks)

c.      Cite and examine **two** different ways in which the Examination Council of Swaziland (ECoS) ensures that subjectivity in making national examinations is minimized.
                                          (2x5  = 10 marks)

**Total = 30 marks**

# UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
## ANSWER CARD

**IDENTIFICATION NO.** .....................................

**COURSE NO. EDF**............

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | a | b | c | d | 21. | a | b | c | d |
| 2. | a | b | c | d | 22. | a | b | c | d |
| 3. | a | b | c | d | 23. | a | b | c | d |
| 4. | a | b | c | d | 24. | a | b | c | d |
| 5. | a | b | c | d | 25. | a | b | c | d |
| 6. | a | b | c | d | 26. | a | b | c | d |
| 7. | a | b | c | d | 27. | a | b | c | d |
| 8. | a | b | c | d | 28. | a | b | c | d |
| 9. | a | b | c | d | 29. | a | b | c | d |
| 10. | a | b | c | d | 30. | a | b | c | d |
| 11. | a | b | c | d | 31. | a | b | c | d |
| 12. | a | b | c | d | 32. | a | b | c | d |
| 13. | a | b | c | d | 33. | a | b | c | d |
| 14. | a | b | c | d | 34. | a | b | c | d |
| 15. | a | b | c | d | 35. | a | b | c | d |
| 16. | a | b | c | d | 36. | a | b | c | d |
| 17. | a | b | c | d | 37. | a | b | c | d |
| 18. | a | b | c | d | 38. | a | b | c | d |
| 19. | a | b | c | d | 39. | a | b | c | d |
| 20. | a | b | c | d | 40. | a | b | c | d |