

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL NURSING
MAIN EXAMINATION MAY 2011**

COURSE CODE	NUR 332
COURSE TITLE	INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH
YEAR OF STUDY	YEAR THREE (3)
PLACEMENT	SEMESTER TWO (2)
NUMBER OF STUDENTS	TWENTY-NINE (29)
TOTAL MARKS	SEVENTY-FIVE (75)
DURATION	TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. THIS EXAMINATION PAPER HAS NINE PAGES TO IT – CHECK.**
- 2. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS.**
- 3. READ ALL QUESTIONS THOUGHTFULLY.**
- 4. FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN PER EACH SECTION.**
- 5. HANDWRITING MUST BE LEGIBLE TO AVOID LOSING MARKS.**
- 6. FIGURES IN BRACKETS REPRESENT MARKS ALLOCATED PER QUESTION AND/OR A PART THEREOF.**
- 7. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN THE PROVIDED ANSWER BOOKLET.**

DO NOT TURN OVER THIS PAPER OVER UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE CHIEF INVIGILATOR

SECTION A

True/false statements

Instruction:

Write down in your answer booklet the correct answer either as **T** (for true) or **F** (for false) from the following ten statements. Do **NOT** copy the entire statement into the answer booklet.

Example:

1. The sample of a study comprises only human beings. **True / False**
2. The sample of a qualitatively designed study is not predetermined like the one for a quantitatively designed research. **True / False**

Answers:

1 = F

2 = T

1. The sample of a qualitatively designed study is relatively small. **True / False**
2. A pilot study is usually precedes data collecting of the main study. **True / False**
3. Deductive reasoning is the process of thinking whose direction is from general to specific. **True / False**
4. Newspaper articles may also be included in the chapter with related literature review. **True / False**
5. A survey design is not classified under experimental research. **True / False**
6. A hypothesis is made by the participants of the study. **True / False**
7. When conducting research using an experimental design the researcher is mostly interested in the dependent variable. **True / False**
8. Findings from studies that use probability sampling may not be generalized to the entire population of the study. **True / False**
9. Descriptive studies are not recommended where little is known about the phenomenon of interest to the researcher. **True / False**
10. In a true experiment, the control group is the one that the researcher does not manipulate. **True / False**

[10 points]

SECTION B

Guided question

Instruction:

Answer as dictated by the question

Question One

Nurses in Swaziland need to foster the habit of conducting research.

- 1.1 Define the term research (**NB:** The definition must **NOT** exceed six lines). (3)
- 1.2 Describe any four benefits of conducting research by nurses in Swaziland. (8)
- 1.3 Describe any three factors that pose as challenges to engaging in research activities by nurses in Swaziland. (6)
- 1.4 List any three features/characteristics/attributes of a quantitatively designed study. (3).

[20 points]

SECTION C

Fill in the blank spaces

Instruction:

Complete each blank space with the most appropriate missing word. All the missing words are provided in **bold** in Table 1, below. Note that five of these bolded missing words will remain unused. Write your answers in the answer booklet as follows. *Example:* 1 = population, 2 = randomized and so forth.

Table 1 The missing words

breadth, non-maleficence, small, non-experimental, participants, purpose, comparison, population, borrowed, non-traditional, large, validity, justice, depth, title.

1. The group that is not manipulated in a quasi-experimental research is generally termed as a _____ group.
2. The theory of Abraham Maslow, when used by nurses, is a typical example of a source of knowledge that has been _____ from another discipline.
3. The study _____ must first of all give their informed consent.
4. The principle of _____ holds that no harm may be inflicted upon the participants.
5. The _____ of literature review refers to the number of different sources that are examined by the researcher.
6. The _____ statement of a study should include the following four pieces of information: the (i) aim of the study, (ii) target population, (iii) setting and (iv) research variable .
7. A case study is classified under _____ research design.
8. A study that investigates a phenomenon from the perspective of the participants is classified as being _____ in approach.
9. The sample size of a study with a quantitative design is relatively _____.
10. Construct _____ refers to whether the research instrument actually measures that which it is supposed to measure.

[10 points]

SECTION CInstruction

Read the following first.

Situation

It was during her field attachment at the Sithobela *Inkhundla* in 2010 that one third year nursing student perceived, especially from the elderly generation, marked resistance with regards to male circumcision. She immediately identified that as her topic area for research in year four. This same nursing student, now in her fourth year has successfully completed, presented and defended her research proposal whose title is: “*How much knowledge about male circumcision do rural-based elderly Swazi men in the Sithobela Inkhundla possess?*” The novice researcher will use the descriptive research design to investigate the identified phenomenon of interest. The data are going to be collected on one of the days when the elderly come to the *Inkhundla* centre to collect their old people’s grant.

Now, answer all the following questions. They are related to the above-written situation.

1. Studies with a descriptive design are broadly classified as
 - a. experimental.
 - b. quasi-experimental.
 - c. non-experimental
 - d. non traditional .
 - e. qualitative. (1)

2. According to Uys and Bassom (2000) the title of the intended study by the novice researcher is stated
 - a. declaratively.
 - b. explanatory.
 - c. interrogatively.
 - d. relationally.
 - e. in a predictive manner. (1)

3. According to Brink (2006) the proposed study may be classified as
 - a. nursing research.
 - b. health science research.
 - c. applied research.
 - d. medical research.
 - e. a and c. (1)

4. The phenomenon of interest to the novice researcher in the intended study is
 - a. Swazi men’s feelings about male circumcision.
 - b. knowledge elderly Swazi men possess on circumcision.
 - c. knowledge rural-based elderly Swazi men possess on male circumcision.
 - d. circumcised rural-based elderly Swazi men’s ideas about circumcision.
 - e. uncircumcised rural-based elderly Swazi men’s attitudes about male circumcision. (1)

5. The population of this study is
- all circumcised men in the Sithobela *Inkhundla*.
 - all elderly Swazi men in the Sithobela *Inkhundla*.
 - all uncircumcised elderly Swazi men the Sithobela *Inkhundla*.
 - only circumcised elderly Swazi men the Sithobela *Inkhundla*.
 - all uncircumcised men in the Sithobela *Inkhundla*.
- (1)
6. The research setting will be the
- Sithobela *Inkhundla* centre.
 - homesteads of the participants.
 - Umpakatsi* (official residence of the Chief).
 - cattle dipping site at Sithobela *Inkhundla*.
 - Sithobela Rural Health Centre.
- (1)
7. The variable of interest to the novice researcher in this investigation is
- perceptions.
 - circumcision.
 - knowledge.
 - attitudes.
 - opinions.
- (1)
8. According to Brink (2006) in which phase did the novice researcher document extensively about the research problem? The
- interpretive phase.
 - empirical phase.
 - the communication phase.
 - conceptual phase.
 - pilot phase.
- (1)
9. The phase you have indicated as answer in 8, is generally characterized by
- displaying the findings from the data.
 - outlining many aspects of the identified research problem.
 - describing the research methodology.
 - displaying the research abstract.
 - displaying all acknowledgements.
- (1)
10. The standard element of the phase you indicated in 8 is referred to as the _____ element.
- empirical.
 - sets of conclusions.
 - research problem.
 - research design.
 - scientific.
- (1)

11. In the second chapter of her research report, namely the completed research, this novice nursing researcher will include a lot of empirical evidence whose origins are
- primary.
 - secondary.
 - tertiary.
 - statistical. .
 - all the above are applicable.
- (1)
12. Permission to carry out this study will be sought and obtained from the
- Ethics Committee in the Ministry of Health.
 - Indvuna Yenkhundla* of the Sithobela.
 - Research Committee at the Faculty of Health Sciences.
 - participants of the study.
 - Ethics Committee in the University of Swaziland.
- (1)
13. By avoiding calling the elderly participants using their first names, the novice researcher will be operationalizing the fundament ethical principle of
- respect for personhood.
 - justice as fairness.
 - beneficence.
 - anonymity.
 - confidentiality.
- (1)
14. Descriptive designs usually collect data by means of
- group discussions.
 - structured instruments.
 - unstructured instruments.
 - written essays.
 - interview guides.
- (1)
15. One of the limitations of the data collection means you have identified in answer 14, is that
- it offers privacy.
 - the participants use forced response answers.
 - the collected data are easy to analyze.
 - it is a quick way of obtaining a lot of information.
 - none of the above.
- (1)
16. Which sampling methode is likely to be used in recruiting the sample of the study?
- Snow balling.
 - Rain balling.
 - Fish bowling.
 - Probability sampling.
 - Non probability sampling.
- (1)

17. The type of sampling process you have indicated in 16 refers to that
- a. not all subjects of the population have an equal chance of being in the study.
 - b. all subjects of the population have an equal chance of being in the study.
 - c. each subjects will inform you where the next participant may be allocated.
 - d. the researcher will use those subjects she/he finds at the research setting.
 - e. the researcher uses readily available subjects.
- (1)

18. The form of data that are going to be collected and analyzed are going to be predominantly
- a. non numerical.
 - b. numerical.
 - c. both non-numerical and numerical.
 - d. graphics, such as tables, bar charts and pie charts.
 - e. all the above are applicable.
- (1)

19. To display the characteristics of the sample, the researcher is going to use, among others,
- a. graphics, such as bar and pie charts.
 - b. tables and summaries.
 - c. descriptive statistics such as percentages, range and mean.
 - d. only a and c.
 - e. all the above are applicable.
- (1)

20. According to Brink (2006), some of the sample characteristics such as age, marital status and educational level of participant, are referred to as
- a. hypotheses.
 - b. independent variables.
 - c. dependent variables.
 - d. variables.
 - e. demographic variables.
- (1)

21. The quality of the data will be influenced among others by factors that are related to
- a. the researcher herself.
 - b. the environment where the data are going to be collected. .
 - c. the subject/participant of the study.
 - d. the very research instrument to be used to collect the data.
 - e. all the above-mentioned are applicable.
- (1)

22. The data that are going to be categorized are going to be collected using
- a. ordinal measurement scale.
 - b. ration measurement scale.
 - c. nominal measurement scale.
 - d. interval measurement scale.
 - e. all the above.
- (1)

23. The list of all references that are used in the entire research report will be found
- a. in chapter that lays the background information of the research problem.
 - b. discusses related empirical evidence the researcher will have read.
 - c. in chapter that described the study design and methodology.
 - d. presents the findings from the analyzed data.
 - e. at the end of the very last chapter.
- (1)

24. According to Brink (2006) quantitatively designed studies investigate phenomena of interest to the researchers from the perspective of the
- a. population of the study.
 - b. sample of the study.
 - c. researcher.
 - d. participants/subjects.
 - e. objectivity.
- (1)

25. prior to developing the proposal the novice nursing researcher had to ensure the following. That,
- a. the subjects of the study were going to be available.
 - b. the study was feasible.
 - c. the identified problem was going to be researchable.
 - d. she/he (novice researcher) had a supervisor to guide and assist the research process.
 - e. all the above are applicable.
- (1)

[25 points]

SECTION C

Mix and Match Questions

Instruction:

Match the statements in Column A with those in Column B.

Note that there will be three left over statements in column B that do not a match in column A.

Do **Not** write the entire statement in your answer booklet but just the answers.

Example: 1. = c, 2. = k and so forth.

No.	Column A	Column B
1.	__ Studies that are carried out at level three of research seek to establish	a. everyday issues in people's lives.
2.	__ The standard element in the empirical phase of the research process is known as	b. 'trial run' or a 'dummy run'.
3.	__ The Declaration of the Helsinki Code was aimed at respecting the human rights of	c. fair treatment to all unconditionally.
4.	__ Inductive thinking is	d. sudden description and without conscious reasoning.
5.	__ Phenomenological research is a research design that seeks to describe	e. a quick way to collect the data.
6.	__ The principle of justice refers to	f. it contains forced responses.
7.	__ A pilot study is also known as a	g. the relationship between two or more variables.
8.	__ Knowledge that is generated through intuition is	h. the cause-effect relationship. .
9.	__ One of the disadvantages of using a Questionnaire is that	i. research design.
10.	__ A study that is conducted at level two of research purpose seeks to investigate	j. logical reasoning whose direction is from a specific observation to general
		k. mothers and infants.
		l. minors and those who were challenged intellectually.
		m. data collection before.

[10 points]