

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER MAY 2012

COURSE CODE : NUR 332
COURSE TITLE : RESEARCH METHODS
TOTAL MARKS : SEVENTY-FIVE (75)
DURATION : TWO (2) HOURS
No. of STUDENTS : FORTY-EIGHT (48)

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. THE PAPER HAS SIX QUESTIONS.
2. INSTRUCTIONS ARE GIVEN AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH QUESTION.
3. ANSWER ALL SIX QUESTIONS.
4. HANDWRITING MUST BE LEGIBLE.
5. FIGURES IN BRACKETS INDICATE MARKS ALLOCATED PER QUESTION OR A PART OF THE QUESTION.

DO NOT OPEN THE EXAMINATION PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION IS GIVEN BY THE INVIGILATOR

QUESTION 1

Instructions

Fill in each blank space with the correct missing word which may be found among the words that are listed in Table 1. Some of the words will remain unused. In your answer booklet write as follows: *Example*: 1.1 = demographic, 2 = descriptive, and so forth. .

Table 1 The Missing Words

demographic, nominal, control, summary, hypothesis, closed-ended, pre-test, randomization, depth, pilot study, open-ended, ordinal, breadth, descriptive, instrument, experimental,

- 1.1 When conducting an experimental study, the group that is not manipulated by the researcher is referred to as the _____ group. (1)
- 1.2 The three major features of a true experiment are control, _____ and manipulation. (1)
- 1.3 Data that are collected at _____ level of measurement may not be subjected to any statistical tests. (1)
- 1.4 The _____ of literature review refers to the quality and sources that the researcher examines. (1)
- 1.5 Validity refers to the ability of the research _____ to measure the variable that it is intended to measure. (1)
- 1.6 A questionnaire, utilizes _____ questions. (1)
- 1.7 An abstract gives the _____ of a completed research project. (1)
- 1.8 Age is an example of a _____ variable. (1)
- 1.9 A _____ is an intelligent guess. (1)
- 1.10 A _____ is a small scale study of the main study. (1)

[10 points]

QUESTION 2

INSTRUCTIONS

Read the situation that is documented below. Each multiple choice question carries one point. All questions that follow are related to the given situation. In your answer booklet write: 2.1 = d, 2.2 = a, and so forth.

Situation

During the course of his third year of the basic nursing programme, while practising at the Lobamba Clinic, Ntokozo, observed many things. Among others and much to his surprise, he noted that the majority of women who had given birth for the first time and brought their babies to enroll in the child welfare programme, had serious knowledge deficit with regards to immunization during childhood.

Therefore, when Ntokozo got to the fourth year of his study programme, he developed a proposal entitled: **FIRST TIME MOTHERS' KNOWLEDGE ABOUT CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATION: THE CASE OF LUYENGO CLINIC**

The research approach was quantitative. The purpose of the study was to describe first time mothers' knowledge about childhood immunization. A sample of convenience with twenty participants was used. A structured interview was used to collect the data to answer the main research question. The study was implemented at the Luyengo Clinic.

2.1. The quantitative research approach investigates phenomena of interest to the researcher from the perspective of

- a. the participants.
- b. objectivity.
- c. the researcher.
- d. the population of the study.

2.2. The source of Ntokozo's research problem was

- a. comprehensive literature review.
- b. intuition.
- c. inductive reasoning.
- d. attentive interacting with the clinical environment.

2.3 Descriptive studies are categorized under research designs that are

- a. quasi-experimental.
- b. non-experimental.
- c. qualitative.
- d. experimental.

2.4 Generally, the size of a sample in a quantitatively designed study is relatively

- a. medium.
- b. small.
- c. deep.
- d. large.

2.5 The findings from Ntokozo's intended study

- a. may be generalized to only part of the population of the study.
- b. may be generalized to the entire population of the study.
- c. may not be generalized to the entire population of the study.
- d. need to be verified for accuracy before disseminating them.

2.6 The reason for the answer you have given in answer 2.5 is that

- a. only half of the population was used to recruit the sample.
- b. all subjects of the population will have had an equal chance of being in the study.
- c. not all subjects of the population will have had an equal chance of being in the study.
- d. the data analysis technique will be questionable.

2.7 The phenomenon of interest or broad topic area to the researcher in this study, is

- a. childhood immunization. .
- b. knowledge about childhood immunization.
- c. knowledge deficit about childhood immunization..
- d. first time mothers and their babies.

2.8 The population of this study is/are

- a. the babies.
- b. the first time mothers.
- c. both first time mothers and their babies.
- d. the first time mothers and clinic nurses.

2.9 The researcher used a sample of convenience because the

- a. participants were difficult to find.
- b. participants had the information the researcher was looking for.
- c. participants were going to be available on the day of data collection.
- d. researcher was looking for many participants. .

2.10 The purpose of Ntokozi's study may be categorized under

- a. level one of research.
- b. level two of research.
- c. level three of research.
- d. level four of research.

2.11 The reason for carrying out studies at the level you have indicated in answer 2.10 is usually because the researcher

- a. has a lot of prior knowledge on the phenomenon of interest.
- b. has a lot of expertise on the phenomenon of interest
- c. has very little prior knowledge on the variable of interest.
- d. has very little knowledge about the relationships of the study variables.

2.12 The following are some of the advantages of data collection through a structured Interview EXCEPT

- a. less time consuming to collect the data.
- b. privacy.
- c. standardization.
- d. easy data analysis.

2.13 Some of the findings from the analyzed data will be displayed in the forms of

- a. pie charts.
- b. summaries.
- c. tables.
- d. all the above.

2.14 Permission to carry out this study will be sought from the

- a. Ethics Committee within the Ministry of Health.
- b. Ethics Committee within the Luyengo Clinic.
- c. Ethics Committee within the Faculty of Health Sciences.
- d. The National Public Health Matron.

2.15 Which of the following factors may interfere with the quality of the data in this study?

- a. The weather.
- b. The researcher's dress code..
- c. The data collection instrument.
- d. All the above.

[15 points]

QUESTION 3

Compare and contrast quantitative and qualitative research approaches on the following areas as depicted in the left hand column.

INSTRUCTION

Example: In your answer booklet you may draw a similar table with three columns and then write complete each section with the correct answer(s)

	Concept	Quantitative research approach	Qualitative research approach
3.1	Type of data that are collected	(1)	(1)
3.2	Data collection instruments	(1)	(1)
3.3	Sample size	(1)	(1))
3.4	Sampling procedure	(1)	(1)
3.5	The extent to which the findings may be generalized	(1)	(1)

[10 points]

QUESTION 4
INSTRUCTION

In this section you are required to study the information in Table 2 carefully.

Table 2 Demographic Picture of the Study Sample

Variable	n	(%)
<i>1. Participants</i>	50	100
<i>2. Gender</i>		
2.1 Male	22	44
2.2 Female	34	66
<i>3. Age</i>		
3.1 Age range	21 – 60	
3.2 Mean age	25	
<i>4. Highest educational attainment</i>		
4.1 No formal education	5	10
4.2 Grade: 1 – 2	7	14
4.3 Grade: 3 – 5	33	66
4.4 Grade: 6 – 7	5	10

4.1 Describe any five facts/observations about the information in Table 2.(2x5=10)

[10 points]

QUESTION 5

INSTRUCTION:

You are to identify certain aspects of the following four study titles. The titles are documented below in *italics*:

5.1 *High school pupils' perceptions about model teachers at the Mbabane Central High School .*

5.1.1 Identify the

5.1.1.1 phenomenon of interest to the researcher. (2)

5.1.1.2 variable that will be measured. (1)

5.1.1.3 population in this study. (1)

5.1.1.4 setting for the study. (1) [5 points]

5.2 *Know and practice about exclusive breastfeeding among primigravidae*

5.2.1 Identify the

5.2.1.1 phenomenon of interest to the researcher. (2)

5.2.1.2 variable(s) that will be measured. (1)

5.2.1.3 population in this study. (1)

5.2.1.4 setting for the study. (1) [5 points]

5.3 *Attitudes of nursing students toward clinical practice in community-based clinics.*

5.3.1 Identify the

5.3.1.1 phenomenon of interest to the researcher. (2)

5.3.1.2 variable that will be measured. (1)

5.3.1.3 population in this study. (1)

5.3.1.4 setting for the study. (1) [5 points]

5.4 *Experiences of older adults raising HIV/AIDS-orphaned grandchildren*

5.4.1 Identify the

5.4.1.1 phenomenon of interest to the researcher. (2)

5.4.1.2 variable that will be measured. (1)

5.4.1.3 population in this study. (1)

5.4.1.4 setting for the study. (1) [5 points]

[20 points]

QUESTION 6

Informed consent is imperative in research with human participants.

6.1 Describe how you would implement the following five principles when carrying out a study.

(2x5=10)

6.1.1 beneficence (2)

6.1.2 justice (2)

6.1.3 anonymity (2)

6.1.4 right to autonomy (2)

6.1.5 right to privacy (2)

[10 points]