

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER

TITLE OF PAPER: RESEARCH METHODS

COURSE CODE: SOC 201

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- (1) Answer Any Four (4) Questions**
- (2) All Questions Carry Equal Marks**

- Q1. What are the different factors affecting internal validity in a research design? Explain the difference between history and maturation effects and between testing and instrumentation effects.
- Q2. Outline the various steps in the research process and examine the obstacles faced by a sociologist in conducting research.
- Q3. Suppose your sociology lecturer has asked you to carry out a study on homelessness in the area around Matsapha, which qualitative research technique would you find most useful in conducting the study? Explain how you would use the technique to complete the study.
- Q4. Discuss the importance of carrying out literature review in research.
- Q5. Define content analysis and describe the units of analysis used in content analysis.
- Q6. Following are the **rankings** which three judges gave to the work of ten artists.
- | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|---|----|---|---|----|---|----|---|---|---|
| Judge A: | 5 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 10 | 7 | 9 | 6 |
| Judge B: | 3 | 10 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Judge C: | 8 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 10 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 9 |
- (a) which two judges are most alike in their opinions about these artists?
- (b) which two judges differ the most in their opinions about these artists?
- Q7. Scores on a class test are normally distributed. For the age group 17 - 21 years the mean is 75 and the standard deviation is 10. For the age group 22 years and above the mean is 60 and the standard deviation is 15.
- (i) Simphiwe is 18 years old and scores 95 on the test. Express her score in a standard score and determine her percentile rank.
- (ii) Simphiwe's sister Nokuthula is 24 years old and has a percentile rank of 75. How high does she score in relation to her age group?
- (iii) Simphiwe's best friend Nomvula is 20 years old and scores 90. What percentage of her age category has scored more than Nomvula?
- (iv) Simphiwe's second best friend Zinhle is 19 years old. Her percentile rank in her age group is 40 on the test. What is Zinhle's score?
- Q8. Write short notes any four (4) of the following:
1. Triangulation
 2. Focus Group Interviews
 3. Mail Questionnaires
 4. Web Surveys
 5. Primary and secondary data
 6. Stages in Field Research

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Rank order Correlation

$$\rho = 1 - \frac{6ED^2}{N(N^2-1)}$$

Z scores

$$Z = \frac{x - \bar{x}}{s} \sigma \quad \frac{x - \mu}{s}$$

Table A. Proportions of Area under the Standard Normal Curve

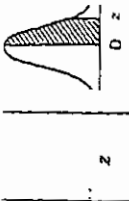
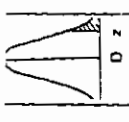
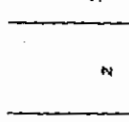
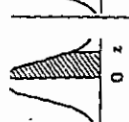
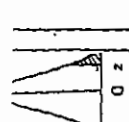
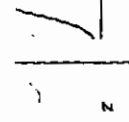

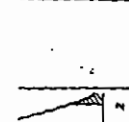
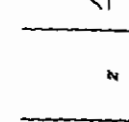
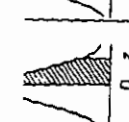
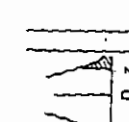


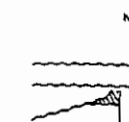

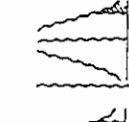
z					z					z					z					z
0.00	.0000	.5000	.2088	.2912	1.10	.4505	.0495	.4868	.0132	2.79	.4974	.0026	.0076	2.79	.4974	.0026	.0076	.0076	2.79	
0.01	.0040	.4960	.2123	.2877	1.11	.4515	.0485	.4871	.0129	2.80	.4974	.0026	.0076	2.80	.4974	.0026	.0076	.0076	2.80	
0.02	.0080	.4920	.2157	.2843	1.12	.4525	.0475	.4875	.0125	2.81	.4975	.0025	.0075	2.81	.4975	.0025	.0075	.0075	2.81	
0.03	.0120	.4880	.2190	.2810	1.13	.4535	.0465	.4878	.0122	2.82	.4976	.0024	.0074	2.82	.4976	.0024	.0074	.0074	2.82	
0.04	.0160	.4840	.2224	.2776	1.14	.4545	.0455	.4881	.0119	2.83	.4977	.0023	.0073	2.83	.4977	.0023	.0073	.0073	2.83	
0.05	.0199	.4801	.2257	.2743	1.15	.4554	.0446	.4884	.0116	2.84	.4977	.0023	.0073	2.84	.4977	.0023	.0073	.0073	2.84	
0.06	.0239	.4761	.2291	.2710	1.16	.4564	.0436	.4887	.0113	2.85	.4978	.0022	.0072	2.85	.4978	.0022	.0072	.0072	2.85	
0.07	.0279	.4721	.2324	.2676	1.17	.4573	.0427	.4890	.0110	2.86	.4979	.0021	.0071	2.86	.4979	.0021	.0071	.0071	2.86	
0.08	.0319	.4681	.2357	.2643	1.18	.4582	.0418	.4893	.0107	2.87	.4979	.0021	.0071	2.87	.4979	.0021	.0071	.0071	2.87	
0.09	.0359	.4641	.2389	.2611	1.19	.4591	.0409	.4896	.0104	2.88	.4980	.0020	.0070	2.88	.4980	.0020	.0070	.0070	2.88	
0.10	.0398	.4602	.2422	.2578	1.20	.4601	.0401	.4898	.0102	2.89	.4981	.0019	.0069	2.89	.4981	.0019	.0069	.0069	2.89	
0.11	.0438	.4562	.2454	.2546	1.21	.4610	.0392	.4901	.0099	2.90	.4981	.0019	.0069	2.90	.4981	.0019	.0069	.0069	2.90	
0.12	.0478	.4522	.2486	.2514	1.22	.4619	.0384	.4904	.0096	2.91	.4982	.0018	.0068	2.91	.4982	.0018	.0068	.0068	2.91	
0.13	.0517	.4483	.2517	.2483	1.23	.4628	.0375	.4906	.0094	2.92	.4982	.0018	.0068	2.92	.4982	.0018	.0068	.0068	2.92	
0.14	.0557	.4443	.2549	.2451	1.24	.4637	.0367	.4909	.0091	2.93	.4983	.0017	.0067	2.93	.4983	.0017	.0067	.0067	2.93	
0.15	.0596	.4404	.2580	.2420	1.25	.4646	.0359	.4911	.0089	2.94	.4984	.0016	.0066	2.94	.4984	.0016	.0066	.0066	2.94	
0.16	.0636	.4364	.2611	.2389	1.26	.4655	.0351	.4913	.0087	2.95	.4984	.0016	.0066	2.95	.4984	.0016	.0066	.0066	2.95	
0.17	.0675	.4325	.2642	.2358	1.27	.4664	.0344	.4916	.0084	2.96	.4985	.0015	.0065	2.96	.4985	.0015	.0065	.0065	2.96	
0.18	.0714	.4286	.2673	.2327	1.28	.4673	.0336	.4918	.0082	2.97	.4985	.0015	.0065	2.97	.4985	.0015	.0065	.0065	2.97	
0.19	.0753	.4247	.2704	.2296	1.29	.4682	.0329	.4920	.0080	2.98	.4986	.0014	.0064	2.98	.4986	.0014	.0064	.0064	2.98	
0.20	.0793	.4207	.2734	.2266	1.30	.4691	.0322	.4922	.0078	2.99	.4986	.0014	.0064	2.99	.4986	.0014	.0064	.0064	2.99	
0.21	.0832	.4168	.2764	.2236	1.31	.4700	.0314	.4925	.0075	3.00	.4987	.0013	.0063	3.00	.4987	.0013	.0063	.0063	3.00	
0.22	.0871	.4129	.2794	.2206	1.32	.4709	.0307	.4927	.0073	3.01	.4987	.0013	.0063	3.01	.4987	.0013	.0063	.0063	3.01	
0.23	.0910	.4090	.2823	.2177	1.33	.4718	.0300	.4929	.0071	3.02	.4988	.0012	.0062	3.02	.4988	.0012	.0062	.0062	3.02	
0.24	.0948	.4052	.2852	.2148	1.34	.4727	.0294	.4931	.0069	3.03	.4988	.0012	.0062	3.03	.4988	.0012	.0062	.0062	3.03	
0.25	.0987	.4013	.2881	.2119	1.35	.4736	.0287	.4932	.0068	3.04	.4988	.0011	.0061	3.04	.4988	.0011	.0061	.0061	3.04	
0.26	.1026	.3974	.2910	.2090	1.36	.4745	.0281	.4934	.0066	3.05	.4989	.0011	.0061	3.05	.4989	.0011	.0061	.0061	3.05	
0.27	.1064	.3936	.2939	.2061	1.37	.4754	.0274	.4936	.0064	3.06	.4989	.0010	.0060	3.06	.4989	.0010	.0060	.0060	3.06	
0.28	.1103	.3897	.2967	.2033	1.38	.4763	.0268	.4938	.0062	3.07	.4989	.0010	.0060	3.07	.4989	.0010	.0060	.0060	3.07	
0.29	.1141	.3859	.2995	.2005	1.39	.4772	.0262	.4940	.0060	3.08	.4990	.0009	.0059	3.08	.4990	.0009	.0059	.0059	3.08	
0.30	.1179	.3821	.3023	.1977	1.40	.4781	.0256	.4942	.0059	3.09	.4990	.0009	.0059	3.09	.4990	.0009	.0059	.0059	3.09	
0.31	.1217	.3783	.3051	.1949	1.41	.4790	.0250	.4944	.0057	3.10	.4990	.0009	.0059	3.10	.4990	.0009	.0059	.0059	3.10	
0.32	.1255	.3745	.3078	.1922	1.42	.4799	.0244	.4946	.0055	3.11	.4991	.0009	.0059	3.11	.4991	.0009	.0059	.0059	3.11	
0.33	.1293	.3707	.3106	.1894	1.43	.4808	.0238	.4948	.0054	3.12	.4991	.0009	.0059	3.12	.4991	.0009	.0059	.0059	3.12	
0.34	.1331	.3669	.3133	.1867	1.44	.4817	.0233	.4950	.0052	3.13	.4991	.0009	.0059	3.13	.4991	.0009	.0059	.0059	3.13	
0.35	.1368	.3632	.3159	.1841	1.45	.4826	.0228	.4952	.0051	3.14	.4992	.0008	.0058	3.14	.4992	.0008	.0058	.0058	3.14	
0.36	.1406	.3594	.3186	.1814	1.46	.4835	.0222	.4954	.0049	3.15	.4992	.0008	.0058	3.15	.4992	.0008	.0058	.0058	3.15	
0.37	.1443	.3557	.3212	.1788	1.47	.4844	.0217	.4956	.0048	3.16	.4992	.0008	.0058	3.16	.4992	.0008	.0058	.0058	3.16	
0.38	.1480	.3520	.3238	.1762	1.48	.4853	.0212	.4958	.0047	3.17	.4992	.0008	.0058	3.17	.4992	.0008	.0058	.0058	3.17	
0.39	.1517	.3483	.3264	.1736	1.49	.4862	.0207	.4960	.0045	3.18	.4993	.0007	.0057	3.18	.4993	.0007	.0057	.0057	3.18	
0.40	.1554	.3446	.3289	.1711	1.50	.4871	.0202	.4962	.0044	3.19	.4993	.0007	.0057	3.19	.4993	.0007	.0057	.0057	3.19	
0.41	.1591	.3409	.3315	.1685	1.51	.4880	.0197	.4964	.0043	3.20	.4993	.0007	.0057	3.20	.4993	.0007	.0057	.0057	3.20	
0.42	.1628	.3372	.3340	.1660	1.52	.4889	.0192	.4966	.0042	3.21	.4993	.0007	.0057	3.21	.4993	.0007	.0057	.0057	3.21	
0.43	.1664	.3336	.3365	.1635	1.53	.4898	.0188	.4968	.0041	3.22	.4994	.0006	.0056	3.22	.4994	.0006	.0056	.0056	3.22	
0.44	.1700	.3300	.3389	.1611	1.54	.4907	.0183	.4970	.0040	3.23	.4994	.0006	.0056	3.23	.4994	.0006	.0056	.0056	3.23	
0.45	.1736	.3264	.3413	.1587	1.55	.4916	.0179	.4972	.0039	3.24	.4994	.0006	.0056	3.24	.4994	.0006	.0056	.0056	3.24	
0.46	.1772	.3228	.3438	.1562	1.56	.4925	.0174	.4974	.0038	3.25	.4994	.0006	.0056	3.25	.4994	.0006	.0056	.0056	3.25	
0.47	.1808	.3192	.3461	.1539	1.57	.4934	.0170	.4976	.0037	3.26	.4995	.0005	.0055	3.26	.4995	.0005	.0055	.0055	3.26	
0.48	.1844	.3156	.3485	.1515	1.58	.4943	.0166	.4978	.0036	3.27	.4995	.0005	.0055	3.27	.4995	.0005	.0055	.0055	3.27	
0.49	.1879	.3121	.3508	.1492	1.59	.4952	.0162	.4980	.0035	3.28	.4996	.0005	.0054	3.28	.4996	.0005	.0054	.0054	3.28	
0.50	.1915	.3085	.3531	.1469	1.60	.4961	.0158	.4982	.0034	3.29	.4996	.0005	.0054	3.29	.4996	.0005	.0054	.0054	3.29	
0.51	.1950	.3050	.3554	.1446	1.61	.4970	.0154	.4984	.0033	3.30	.4997	.0004	.0053	3.30	.4997	.0004	.0053	.0053	3.30	
0.52	.1985	.3015	.3577	.1423	1.62	.4979	.0150	.4986	.0032	3.31	.4997	.0004	.0053	3.31	.4997	.0004	.0053	.0053	3.31	
0.53	.2019	.2981	.3599	.1401	1.63	.4988	.0146	.4988	.0031	3.32	.4998	.0004	.0052	3.32	.4998	.0004	.0052	.0052	3.32	
0.54	.2054	.2946	.3621	.1379	1.64	.4997	.0143	.4990	.0030	3.33	.4998	.0004	.0052	3.33	.4998	.0004	.0052	.0052	3.33	

Table A (continued)