



# MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2020/2021 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

FIRST YEAR SPECIAL/ SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION FOR  
DIPLOMA IN PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

DPS 113 RESEARCH METHODS

DATE:

TIME:

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## INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer Question ONE and any other TWO Questions.

### QUESTION ONE (30 Marks)

- a) Briefly outline the following basic elements of research.
- Independent variables
  - Dependent variables
  - Concepts
  - Operational definitions (4 marks)
- b) Using a schematic presentation illustrate the research process. (10 marks)
- c) Distinguish between Qualitative Research and Quantitative Research. (4 marks)
- d) Outline any FOUR ethical issues relating to the Research Process. (8 marks)
- e) Describe any TWO classifications of research by method. (4 marks)

### SECTION B

#### QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain THREE disadvantages and THREE advantages of stating a research problem in Hypothesis form. (12 marks)
- b) Explain:

- i. Theoretical Framework (4 marks)
- ii. Conceptual Framework (4 marks)

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

- a) A statement of research problem is a complete definition of the problem. Clearly outline characteristics of a good problem statement. (10 marks)
- b) Explain briefly, the purpose of Literature Review to a researcher. (5 marks)
- c) Highlight the importance of Research Design. (5 marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) Explain Longitudinal Time Design. (10 marks)
- b) Explain Factorial Design. (10 marks)

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Describe the term SAMPLING. (5 marks)
- b) Discuss the procedural steps in Sampling Design. (15 marks)