



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2022/2023 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

SECOND YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF ARTS (COUNSELLING PSYCHOLOGY)

BACHELOR OF ARTS (GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT)

BACHELOR OF ARTS (PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION)

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (ACTUARIAL SCIENCE)

ACU 202/SST 303: METHODS AND TECHNIQUES OF SOCIAL RESEARCH

DATE: 21/4/2023

TIME: 2:00 – 4:00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer QUESTION ONE and any other TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Define the term research according to Mouly (1963,p.4), (2 marks)
- b) Outline three settings where research can take place (3 marks)
- c) Indicate the two main approaches/frameworks utilized in research (2 marks)
- d) Analyze the five phases undertaken while conducting a quantitative research. (10 marks)
- e) State the five major parts of a research proposal (5 marks)
- f) Joy is an assistant researcher with KEFRI and while reviewing literature for a study, she visited the University library to peruse various resources. How would you categorize her source of literature (2 marks)
 - i. Primary source
 - ii. Secondary source
- g) Illustrate the components Joy would include in her research methodology section (6 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Define the following terms (4 marks)
 - i. Sample
 - ii. Population
- b) As a researcher in your area of interest, state four factors that would guide your selection of a sample size (4 marks)
- c) Explain five reasons why is it important for a researcher to select a sample for their study? (10 marks)
- d) Illustrate systematic sampling (2 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

A documentary report by KBC TV described a study in which children were observed carrying school backpacks.

The documentary stated: Thirteen children ages 8 and 9 walked about 1,310 feet without a backpack, and wearing packs weighing 9 and 13 pounds, while researchers filmed them with a high-speed camera. . . . The kids did not change their strides, the images showed. Instead, the youngsters bent forward more as they tried to counter the loads on their backs, and the heavier loads made them bend more, the study found. As they grew more tired, their heads went down.

Think about the following questions:

- i. Would you classify this as participant or nonparticipant observation? (2 marks)
- ii. Could the answer to the previous question have influenced the children's behavior? If so, in what way? (2 marks)
- iii. Why do you believe the researcher used a high-speed camera instead of simply having human observers record observations? (10 marks)
- iv. Describe three ethical considerations the researchers should have put in place before conducting this study (6 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

a) Select the correct answer to the following questions:

- i. Final stage in the Research Process is..... (2 marks)
A. Problem formulation B. Data collection C. Data Analysis D. Report Writing
- ii. The first page of the research report is..... (2 marks)
A. Appendix B. Bibliography C. Index D. Title Page
- iii. Which of the following is not one of the seven major parts to the research report? ... (2 marks)
A. Results B. Abstract C. Method D. Footnotes
- iv. What type of chart is useful for comparing values over categories? (2 marks)
A. Pie Chart B. Column Chart C. Line Chart D. Dot Graph
- v. What type of chart is useful for showing trends or changes over time?(2 marks)
A. Pie Chart B. Column Chart C. Line Chart D. Dot Graph

b) Describe the report writing process in both qualitative and quantitative research while considering their similarities, and how they might differ. (10 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) Analyze the process of data analysis in qualitative research. (12 marks)
- b) Examine the following quantitative research question: (8 marks)

“Do high school students who participate in science congress program perform better in science subjects as demonstrated in Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education than those who do not participate in Science congress program?”

From the above research question:

- i. What is the independent variable?
- ii. What is the dependent variable?