

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
DEPARTMENT OF ADULT EDUCATION  
PART-TIME DIPLOMA IN ADULT EDUCATION YEAR II  
MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER – MAY 2018

- TITLE OF PAPER : RESEARCH DESIGN AND TECHNIQUES
- COURSE CODE : AED202
- TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS
- INSTRUCTIONS :
1. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS FROM SECTION A.
  2. ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B.
  3. ALL QUESTIONS IN SECTION B CARRY EQUAL MARKS.

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

**SECTION A: (Compulsory)**

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer all Questions.

**QUESTION 1**

Qualitative studies typically serve three purposes. Which purposes do they not serve?

- a) Description of situations, processes, relations, etc.
- b) Interpretation of information in order to gain new understanding
- c) Determining the final truth about a situation or phenomenon
- d) Evaluation of existing policies, practices, etc.. (2 marks)

**QUESTION 2**

In qualitative research the \_\_\_\_\_ is the most important instrument.

- a) questionnaire
- b) behaviour checklist
- c) researcher
- d) participants (2 marks)

**QUESTION 3**

The style manual of the American Psychological Association (APA) suggests that tense be used when writing the method section and \_\_\_\_\_ tense be used when presenting conclusions.

- a) Present; past
- b) Past; past
- c) Present; past
- d) Past; present (2 marks)

**QUESTION 4**

What is the content of the informed consent form? (7 marks)

**QUESTION 5**

When writing the research project report, information regarding the study design is normally included in the \_\_\_\_\_ section.

- a) Method
- b) Review of literature
- c) Introduction
- d) Results (2 marks)

**QUESTION 6**

The main purpose for a pilot study in educational research is to:

- a) Obtain funds for subsequent research
- b) Determine whether there is any interest in the topic before the researcher launches a major project.
- c) Test and improve the research plan
- d) Provide opportunities for graduate students to get research experience.

(2 marks)

**QUESTION 7**

The measures of central tendency that is/are appropriate for use with nominal data is/are:

- (a) The median only
- (b) The mode only
- (c) The median and the mean
- (d) The median and the mode

(2 marks)

**QUESTION 8**

Unobstructive measures are used in \_\_\_\_\_

- a) Correlational studies
- b) Observation studies
- c) Experimental studies
- d) General survey studies

(2 marks)

**QUESTION 9**

The abstract is included in the:

- a) End matter
- b) Front matter
- c) Appendices
- d) Body of the report

(2 marks)

**QUESTION 10**

In a normal distribution, what percentage of the scorers falls between one standard deviation below the mean and one standard deviation above the mean?

- a) 16%
- b) 50%
- c) 68%
- d) 90%

(2 marks)

**SECTION B:** Answer ANY THREE questions.

**QUESTION 11**

a) Use the grouped frequency distribution shown below to calculate the mean

CLASS Interval	f	x	fx
62 – 64	3		
59 - 61	4		
56 – 58	2		
53 – 55	3		
50 – 52	3		
47 – 49	4		
44 – 46	4		
41 – 43	2		
38 – 40	1		
35 – 37	3		
32 – 34	3		
29 – 31	3		

(2 marks)

b) List the four scales of measurement. (4 marks)

**QUESTION 12**

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using face-to-face interviews as data collection techniques. (25 marks)

**QUESTION 13**

a) Outline 5 guidelines for maximising the return of mail questionnaires. (10 marks)

b) Label the distribution curves below, showing the correct positions of the mode, median and mean. Also classify them in terms of symmetry and skewness.

i)

ii.

(15 MARKS)

**QUESTION 14**

Why is it important to adhere to research ethics in conducting research in Social Science and education. Support your answer with reference to the four ethical issues. (25 marks)