

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

FINAL EXAMINATION, DEC 2010

COURSE : HSC 403

TITLE OF PAPER : HEALTH SYSTEMS RESEARCH

DURATION : 2 HOURS

MARKS: 75

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR**
- 2. ANSWER ALL THREE (3) QUESTIONS**
- 3. ANSWER EACH QUESTION ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER**

QUESTION 1

- 1. A research purpose is best explained by the following concepts but one;**
 - a. identify
 - b. describe
 - c. categorize
 - d. predict

- 2. Which of the following study types is useful for rare conditions, require many years to develop and many people to observe**
 - a. Randomized clinical trials
 - b. Surveys
 - c. Cohort studies
 - d. Case controlled studies

- 3. The following are disadvantages of a cohort study, except**
 - a. Research participants may drop out of study
 - b. It may be costly
 - c. Results cannot be retrieved quickly
 - d. It requires few participants

- 4. Phenomenological research seeks to**
 - a. determine cause and effect
 - b. determine past events
 - c. capture experiences as they are lived
 - d. examine trends over time

- 5. Which of the following is the primary focus of a descriptive survey?**
 - a. to describe what is
 - b. to describe what was
 - c. to describe what is to be
 - d. All of the above

- 6. The following are threats to external validity in a descriptive survey research project, except:**
 - a. non response error
 - b. measurement error
 - b. selection error
 - d. sampling error

7. Which of the following is necessary before a research problem can be formulated?

- a. Data collection
- b. Questionnaire design
- c. Literature review
- d. All of the above

8. Measures which cannot be broken down are termed

- a. continuous data
- b. discrete data
- c. discontinuous data
- d. quantitative data

9. Which of the following statements best describe a null hypothesis?

- a. Futhi and Thembi are about the same height
- b. Futhi is likely to be shorter than Thembi
- c. Futhi and Thembi are not of the same height
- d. Thembi is shorter than Thembi

10. The following are the primary objectives of literature review, except:

- a. Provides information on trends overtime on the subject area
- b. Provides information on areas that were not covered
- c. Provides information about authors in the area of study
- d. Provides information about designs used in the area of study

11. In which of the following research designs can one variable be manipulated by a researcher

- a. quasi experimental
- b. experimental
- c. case study
- d. cohort study

12. Reliability refers to

- a. validity
- b. consistency
- c. accuracy
- d. none of the above

13. Purposive sampling is used when the

- a. Population is too small
- b. Population is too large
- c. Population is not easy to identify
- d. Researcher follows a certain theory

14. An attribute or characteristic in which individuals differ among themselves, is termed;

- a. a scale
- b. a sample
- c. a case
- d. a variable

15. Feasibility of research study refers;

- a. researcher's expertise
- b. significance of problem
- c. availability of resources
- d. priority problem

Match the following

16	Control the extraneous variance	A.	Organizing data into categories that cannot be rank ordered such as gender
17	Independent variable	B.	Tool designed to determine opinion or attitudes
18	Hawthorne effect	C.	Moves from specific premise to general
19	Nominal scale	D.	Grouped categories that are ordered or ranked in increasing or decreasing order: High, middle, low income
20	Likert scale	E.	Reduce possible effects of other variables outside the treatment
21	Quasi – experimental	F.	Moves general premise to specific
22	Inductive reasoning	G.	Useful when the researcher is relatively knowledgeable about expected answers or number of respondents large
23	Deductive reasoning	H.	A phenomena that is manipulated in a study
24	Ordinal variable	I.	Substitute for intervention study
25	Low flexibility	J.	Change recognized in subjects not because of the research treatment but because of being studied

TOTAL – 25 marks

QUESTION 2

Compare and Contrast the following concepts

1. Null hypothesis and a research hypothesis. [4 marks]
2. The purpose of a study and objectives of a study [4 marks]
3. Valid instrument and reliable instrument [4 marks]
4. Conceptual and operational definition [4 marks]
5. Significance and problem statement [4 marks]

6. **Give five (5) reasons why literature review is important in research** [5 marks]

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 3

A. In a study to determine access to male circumcision services among males in the Zewula region consisting of 6 towns, it is estimated that 150 homesteads are to be visited for interviews.

State why you would choose a multi stage sample? [2 marks]

Give an account of how you would sample your respondents. [13 marks]

B. Critically describe qualitative research design. Write ten (10) points

[5 marks]

C. Briefly explain five (5) de-merits of conducting an experimental study

[5 marks]

[25 MARKS]