

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)

11.

(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)