

*UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
MAIN EXAMINATION MAY 2013

COURSE CODE : NUR 332
COURSE TITLE : RESEARCH METHODS
TOTAL MARKS : SEVENTY-FIVE (75)
DURATION : TWO (2) HOURS
No. of STUDENTS : FORTY-TWO (42)

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. THE PAPER HAS FOUR QUESTIONS.
2. ANSWER ALL FOUR QUESTIONS.
3. INSTRUCTIONS ARE GIVEN AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH QUESTION.
4. HANDWRITING MUST BE LEGIBLE.
5. FIGURES IN BRACKETS INDICATE MARKS ALLOCATED PER QUESTION OR A PART OF THE QUESTION.

DO NOT OPEN THE EXAMINATION PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION IS GIVEN BY THE INVIGILATOR

Question 1

INSTRUCTION

Read the given situation below and answer questions 1.1 through 1.10 as they relate to it. Write down the most appropriate answer in upper case in your answer book.

Example: 1.1 = A, 1.2 = B, and so forth

Situation

It is noted that there is an increase in same sex intimate relations in most societies and yet such relationships continue to be viewed negatively by society. Swaziland is not exempt from this phenomenon. A fourth year nursing student doing her degree in community mental health nursing decided to investigate this phenomenon. The title of the proposal reads: **SAME SEX RELATIONSHIPS: EXPERIENCES OF DISCLOSING TO FAMILY BY SWAZI ADULTS**

- 1.1 The approach to this study will be
- quantitative.
 - experimental.
 - qualitative.
 - quasi-experimental.
- 1.2 Select the phenomenon of interest to the researcher in this study.
- Family reactions.
 - Same sex relationships.
 - Experiences.
 - Disclosure.
- 1.3 The design of the study is going to be
- basic research.
 - descriptive.
 - applied research.
 - experimental.
- 1.4 The variable of interest to the researcher is
- family reactions.
 - same sex relationships.
 - experiences.
 - Disclosure.
- 1.5 The data may be collected through
- self-administered questionnaires.
 - structured interviews.
 - semi-structured interviews.
 - unstructured interviews.
- The answer is
- iii.
 - ii and iii.

- c. i
- d. iii and iv.

1.6 The setting for data collection will be

- a. an office at a local clinic
- b. the participants' homes.
- c. a room at the Gay and Lesbian Association offices.
- d. a place that each participant chooses.

1.7 Informed consent will be sought and obtained from the

- i. President of the Gay and Lesbian Association (GALESWA).
- ii. participants.
- iii. Regional Health Management Team (RHMT).
- iv. Ministry of Health.

Answer is

- a. ii and i.
- b. ii and iv.
- c. ii
- d. i.

1.8 The size of the study sample will be relatively

- a. objective.
- b. small.
- c. subjective.
- d. large.

1.9 The type of data that are going to be collected will include

- a. narratives.
- b. non verbal observations.
- c. observations about participants general appearance.
- d. all the above.

10. The findings from the analyzed data

- a. may be generalized to the entire population.
- b. are generalizable only to the sample of the study.
- c. may be generalized to the entire Swazi population.
- d. may not be generalized at all.

[10 points]

Question 2

INSTRUCTION

Study the information in Table 1 carefully and then answer the questions that follow.

Table 1 Demographic information on the participants

	n	%
<i>Gender:</i>		
1. male	2	10
2. female	18	90
<i>Age (years):</i>		
1. 60 – 69	3	15
2. 70 – 79	4	20
3. 80 – 89	8	40
4. 90 – 99	3	15
5. 100 and above	2	10
<i>Marital status:</i>		
1. single	2	10
2. married	6	30
3. widowed	12	60
<i>Highest attained educational level:</i>		
1. No formal education	13	65
2. Lower primary Grades: 1 – 2	4	20
3. Middle primary Grades: 3 – 5	2	10
4. Upper primary Grades: 6 – 7	1	5
<i>Regular source of income:</i>		
1. Elderly grant	20	100
2. selling vegetables	6	30
3. selling locally brewed alcohol	2	10
4. Tilling land	5	25
<i>Religious affiliation:</i>		
1. Christian	18	90
2. Non Christian	2	10

Questions/Statements

From Table 1:

- 2.1 How many participants made up the sample? (1)
- 2.2 Identify any four demographic variables. (4)
- 2.3 List any five ways in which data may be presented in the final research project to enhance understanding of the sample characteristics. (5)
- 2.4 Describe any five ethical issues and/or standards the researcher considered. (10)
- 2.5 Make a summary of the sample from the displayed demographic information. (6)

[25 points]

Question 3

INSTRUCTION

Write the correct answer in your answer booklet. *Example:* 3.1 = prior, 3.2 = independent and so forth. The missing words are provided in Table 2. Note that not all provided words will not be used. Six words will remain unused.

Table 2 The missing words

nominal, describe, control, empirical, experimental, environment, logical, soft, innovative, independent, minor, qualitatively, hard, randomization, precedes, educated, ordinal, dependent, conceptual, control, prior
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- 3.1. When conducting an experimental study, the group that is treated is referred to as the _____ group. (1)
- 3.2. One of the three characteristics of a true experiment is known as _____. (1)
- 3.3 In quantitatively designed research, literature review _____ data collection. (1)
- 3.4 Generally, when conducting an experimental study, it is the _____ variable that is of interest to the researcher. (1)
- 3.5 The ____ phase of the research process focuses on the study methodology. (1)
- 3.6 Deductive reasoning is _____ thinking that proceeds from a general principle to specific. (1)
- 3.7 The Nuremberg Declaration overlooked _____ research subjects. (1)
- 3.8 A hypothesis is an _____ guess. (1)
- 3.9 Exploratory studies seek to _____ phenomena about which very little is known. (1)
- 3.10 Data that are collected at _____ level may not be subjected to any statistical tests. (1)
- 3.11 The quality of collected data may be influenced by the _____. (1)
- 3.12 Quantitative research is also referred to as _____ science. (1)
- 3.13 Pretesting is performed _____ to collecting data for the main study. (1)
- 3.14 A purposive sample is used in _____ designed studies. (1)
- 3.15 Intuition is an _____ way of thinking. (1)

[15 points]

Question 4

INSTRUCTION

Answer as directed by each question.

Research is described as a scientific process.

- 4.1 Write down any three attributes each of the following terms
 - 4.1.1 scientific (3)
 - 4.1.2 process (3)
- 4.2 Describe any three sources from which research problems may be identified. (6)
- 4.3 Write down any five questions that may help the researcher to determine whether or not an identified problem or topic area is researchable. (5)
- 4.4 Describe any four unethical activities or behaviour that a researcher ought to avoid when interacting with collected data. (8)

[25 points]