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**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND
PLANNING**

**FINAL EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 2015
B.A., BEd., B.Sc and BASS**

TITLE PAPER: RESEARCH METHODS IN GEOGRAPHY

COURSE CODE: GEP 323

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS.**
- 2. QUESTION 1 IN SECTION A IS COMPULSORY.**
- 3. CHOOSE AND ANSWER ONLY TWO (2) QUESTIONS IN SECTION B.**
- 4. ANSWER THE QUESTIONS IN ANY ORDER BUT LABEL THEM CLEARLY.**

**MARK ALLOCATION: QUESTION 1 CARRIES 40 MARKS
EACH QUESTION IN SECTION B CARRIES
30 MARKS.**

SECTION A: COMPULSORY QUESTION

QUESTION 1

Suppose you are planning to develop a research proposal on the socio-economic impacts of domestic violence on young children in Kwaluseni:

- a) Outline the basic elements you will have in your research proposal. (20 marks)
 - b) Describe how you will collect the type of data you will require. (10 marks)
 - c) Identify and explain ethical issues that might arise from this research. (10 marks)
- (40 Marks)**

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION

QUESTION 2

- a) Explain the difference between qualitative and quantitative social research approaches. (15 marks)
 - b) Explain the types of research classified according to the purposes below:
 - i) Exploratory research (5 marks)
 - ii) Descriptive research (5 marks)
 - iii) Analytical research (5 marks)
- (30 Marks)**

QUESTION 3

- a) Compare and contrast the use of interviews and observations in geographical data collection. (15 marks)
 - b) Outline the advantages and disadvantages of each of these methods. (15 marks)
- (30 Marks)**

QUESTION 4

- a) State the meaning of research design. (2 marks)
 - b) Explain the significance of a research design to a research study. (8 marks)
 - c) Write notes to explain the following four types of research design:
 - i) Experimental design (5 marks)
 - ii) The comparative design (5 marks)
 - iii) Biography design (5 marks)
 - iv) Case study design (5 marks)
- (30 Marks)**

QUESTION 5

- a) What is the difference between the terms validity and reliability? (10 marks)
 - b) Identify and discuss any four different forms of validity. (20 marks)
- (30 Marks)**