



CICT PART III SECTION 6
RESEARCH METHODS

FRIDAY: 30 November 2018.

Time Allowed: 3 hours.

Answer ALL questions. Marks allocated to each question are shown at the end of the question.

QUESTION ONE

- (a) With reference to the research study, distinguish between “main objective” and “specific objective”. (2 marks)
- (b) Case study is considered as one of the popular types of research design used by social scientists.
With reference to the above statement:
- (i) Explain the case study method of research design. (2 marks)
- (ii) Analyse five advantages of the case study method. (5 marks)
- (c) Examine six primary objectives of undertaking scientific research. (6 marks)
- (d) Evaluate five challenges that might be encountered by a researcher when undertaking literature review. (5 marks)
- (Total: 20 marks)**

QUESTION TWO

- (a) Explain four roles of hypotheses in a research. (4 marks)
- (b) It is possible to arrive at an incorrect conclusion about a hypothesis for a variety of reasons.
With reference to the above statement, summarise six circumstances under which incorrect conclusions about the validity of a hypothesis might be drawn. (6 marks)
- (c) The use of observation as a method of data collection might suffer from a number of challenges.
In the context of the above statement, enumerate five potential challenges of using observation as a method of data collection. (5 marks)
- (d) Discuss five uses of computers in the research process. (5 marks)
- (Total: 20 marks)**

QUESTION THREE

- (a) Explain six qualities of a good research design. (6 marks)
- (b) With reference to validity of data in quantitative research, describe three main types of validity. (3 marks)
- (c) Summarise five circumstances under which the use of structured questionnaires is most appropriate in survey research. (5 marks)
- (d) Identify six factors that might affect the reliability of a research instrument. (6 marks)
- (Total: 20 marks)**

QUESTION FOUR

- (a) Suggest six factors that might be considered by a researcher in determining a researchable problem. (6 marks)
- (b) Discuss four functions of a theoretical framework in research. (4 marks)
- (c) Analyse six strategies that could be adopted by a researcher to ensure that research findings are implemented. (6 marks)
- (d) Identify the steps that could be followed in hypothesis testing. (4 marks)
- (Total: 20 marks)**

QUESTION FIVE

- (a) Researchers neither have time nor the resources to analyse the entire population and hence they apply sampling techniques.

With reference to the above statement, discuss the steps that could be followed when conducting sampling during research. (6 marks)

- (b) Suggest four reasons why a researcher should report his findings to stakeholders. (4 marks)

- (c) Outline the layout of an academic research report. (10 marks)

(Total: 20 marks)

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