



Botswana Open
University

BOTSWANA OPEN UNIVERSITY

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION – PRI & IECD

RESEARCH METHODS IN EDUCATION

RME212

EXAMINATION

MARKS: 100

DURATION: 3HOURS

Instructions to students:

1. The examination consist of **Five Sections**: A, B, C, D, and E
2. Begin each answer to a new question on a new page
3. Answer all the questions according to instructions given in each section
4. Write answers in the answer booklet provided
5. Write in grammatical English

SECTION A - MULTIPLE- CHOICE

(10MARKS)

Instruction: Answer ALL questions in this section.

There are 10 questions in this section please answer them all. Each item has four possible responses numbered A, B, C and D. Read each item carefully and write the best possible answer in the answer booklet.

1. Which of the following tests relationship between independent and dependent variable?
 - A. Research objective
 - B. Research question
 - C. Research topic
 - D. Research hypothesis

2. Which of the following addresses what is already known and helps identify gaps?
 - A. Introduction
 - B. Literature review
 - C. Methodology
 - D. Data analysis

3. Which of the following provides consistent results in a quantitative research instrument?
 - A. Reliability
 - B. Validity
 - C. Replicable
 - D. Repeatability

4. Which of the following is well referenced using APA style?
- A. Osuafoe, & Okonkwo. Influence of family background on academic achievement of secondary school Biology students in Anambra state. (2013) *International multidisciplinary Journal*, 7(3) 156-167. DOI: 10.4314/afrrrev.v7i3.12
 - B. Osuafoe, A., and Okonkwo, I. (2013). *International multidisciplinary Journal*, Influence of family background on academic achievement of secondary school Biology students in Anambra state. 7(3) 156-167. DOI: 10.4314/afrrrev.v7i3.12
 - C. Osuafoe, A & Okonkwo, I (2013). Influence of family background on academic achievement of secondary school Biology students in Anambra state. *International multidisciplinary Journal*, 7(3) 156-167. DOI: 10.4314/afrrrev.v7i3.12
 - D. Osuafoe, A., & Okonkwo, I. (2013). Influence of family background on academic achievement of secondary school Biology students in Anambra State. *International Multidisciplinary Journal*, 7(3), 156-167. DOI: 10.4314/afrrrev.v7i3.12
5. In ethnography, research data is usually collected through
-
- A. close ended questionnaire
 - B. participant observation
 - C. inferential survey
 - D. document review
6. Which of the following is **not** graphic presentation of a continuous variable
- A. Histogram
 - B. Frequency polygon
 - C. Bar chart
 - D. Line graph

7. Which of the following is an example of non-parametric statistical test

- A. One way ANOVA
- B. Mann Whitney test
- C. Paired t test
- D. Linear Regression

8. In ANOVA post hoc test is done to _____

- A. test the relationship between one dependent variable and one independent variable.
- B. confirm where the differences occurred between groups.
- C. confirm prediction occurring within groups.
- D. test the relationship between continuous variables.

9. Interpretation of the picture below is an example of _____



- A. qualitative analysis
- B. quantitative analysis
- C. predictive analysis
- D. exploratory analysis

10. APA stands for

- A. American Psychological Assessment
- B. American Psychological Association
- C. American Publishing Assessment
- D. American Producers Association

SECTION B – MATCHING (10 MARKS)

Instruction:

- i. Match the following statements with the correct responses.
- ii. Write the number with corresponding roman figure on the booklet provided.

Statement	Options
1. There is a significant influence of parental education in drug abuse. <i>IX</i>	I. Qualitative research
2. Instrument with ordinal variables. <i>III</i>	II. Independent sample t test
3. To determine the perception of teachers on PMS. <i>XI</i>	III. Research ethics
4. Uses statistical analysis.	IV. Research Question
5. Plagiarism should be avoided in research. <i>VII</i>	V. ANOVA
6. Statistical analysis with a categorical variable with two levels and a continuous variable	VI. Focus group
7. Uses inductive reasoning. <i>I</i>	VII. Research purpose
8. The study aims to investigate the influence of technology on academic performance <i>VIII?</i>	VIII. Likert scale
9. There is no significant influence of teaching methods on academic performance	IX. Alternative hypothesis
10. Small group of people probed during data collection in a research study. <i>VI</i>	X. Quantitative research
	XI. Research objective

SECTION C – STRUCTURED QUESTIONS

(20 MARKS)

Instruction: Answer ALL questions in this section

1. Define positivist Epistemology **(1 Mark)**
2. Differentiate between qualitative and quantitative research. **(2 Marks)**
3. In a prediction research study, which statistical test is best to use. **(1 Mark)**
4. Describe any **two** quantitative research methods. **(4 Marks)**

Answer the question 5 based on this research topic. “The impact of IT skills on performance of distance learners at BOU.

5. a). Identify the dependent variable **(1 Mark)**
b). Identify the independent variable **(1 Mark)**
6. State **one** assumption of using independent sample t-test **(1 Mark)**

7. An article from The Washington Post by Vargas (2017) highlighted the exploitative testing of the birth control pill. Vargas posited that in an experimental study, the birth control pill was tested in 1955 on women in Puerto Rico who were not told that they were involved in a clinical trial or that the pill was experimental and had potentially dangerous side effects. Elaborate on one unethical research practices in this study. **(2 Marks)**

Use the following the independent t test output tables to answer question 8 to 11.

Group Statistics

	gender of respondent	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
size of family	Male	139	3.12	.944	.080
	Female	129	3.46	.729	.064

Independent Samples Test

	Levene's Test for Equality of Variances		t-test for Equality of Means							
	F	Sig.	t	Df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Std. Error Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference		
								Lower	Upper	
size of family	4.784	.030	-3.235	266	.001	-.335	.104	-.539	-.131	
			-3.266	257.6	.001	-.335	.103	-.537	-.133	

- 8. State the sample of the output shown. **(1 Mark)**
- 9. State the standard deviation of males **(1 Mark)**
- 10. Report the t test output **(4Marks)**
- 11. Interpret the t test output **(1Mark)**

SECTION D: CASE STUDY

(20 Marks)

Instructions: Answer ALL questions in this section

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Research Paper

THE IMPACT OF SOCIAL MEDIA ON STUDENTS' ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE- A CASE OF MALAYSIA TERTIARY INSTITUTION

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Abstract

Social media are web-based services that gives individual the opportunity to create either a public or semi-public profile within a bounded system, add a list of others to with they share a connection and view and transvers their list of connections and those made by others within the system. Therefore, this study was carried out with the aim of examining the impact of use of social media on students' academic performance in Malaysian Tertiary Institution. In order to measure social media platforms a questionnaire was developed based on past literatures. The independent variables includes: time appropriateness, time duration, Nature of Usage, Health Addiction, Friend-People connection and security/privacy problems while the dependent variable was student academic performance. This research adopted descriptive and explanatory research design. It also employed the use of cross sectional survey method using survey questionnaires that contains 42 items with a Likert Scale (Disagree-1 and 5 for Agree). The sample of 102 students from Erican College was selected using convenient sampling method. The data collected was analysed using description means and regression via SPSS 21. The Pearson's correlation coefficients of four independent are correlated with student's academic performance while two are not. However, using the regression analysis four variables is significant which include: Time appropriateness, people-friend connection, nature of Usage and health addiction while Time duration and security/privacy problems are not significant. Thus considering the abnormal use of Social media platforms by students, it is expedient that Universities and colleges in Malaysia educate their students to positively use these platforms for educational purposes which will eventually result in a positive impact on their academic performance.

1. What is the dependent variable in the study? **(1 Mark)**
2. Identify the instrument used **(1 Mark)**
3. State a research method used in this study. **(1 Mark)**
4. State the sample of the study **(1 Mark)**
5. State the purpose of this study? **(1 Mark)**
6. Develop two relevant research questions based on the abstract **(2 Marks)**
7. Give two advantages of the instrument used **(2 Marks)**
8. Describe the type of sampling used. **(2 Marks)**
9. Write down two measures of central tendencies used in Descriptive design
(2 Marks)
10. Derive any recommendation suitable for this study **(1 Mark)**
11. Identify two stakeholders who will benefit from the study **(2 Marks)**
12. What is the purpose of the two statistical tests? **(2 Marks)**
13. Using APA referencing style 6th edition, reference the research paper.
(2 Marks)

SECTION E: ESSAY QUESTIONS

(40 Marks)

Instructions: Question 1 is compulsory to all candidates.

QUESTION 1- COMPULSORY

(20 MARKS)

Using your own research idea address the following found in a research proposal:

- a. Choose a quantitative research topic of your own (2 marks)
- b. Break down the identified topic into the following: (2 marks)
 - i. Independent variable
 - ii. Dependent variable
 - iii. Population
 - iv. Place
- c. Statement of the problem (3 marks)
- d. Purpose of study (2 marks)
- e. Two research questions (2 marks)
- f. Two research objectives (2marks)
- g. Significance of the study (1marks)

Answer only 1 question. Choose either question 2 or 3.

Question 2

(20 Marks)

Discuss the importance of literature review and how it is carried out in a research study.

Question 3

(20 MARKS)

Compare and contrast research processes involved by positivist and constructivist.