



TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF MOMBASA

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SOCIAL SCIENCES

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FOR:

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES BSDS Y3S1

BAC 4304: RESEARCH METHODS

SERIES: DECEMBER 2016

TIME: 2 HOURS

DATE: 9 Dec 2016

Instructions to Candidates

You should have the following for this examination

-Answer Booklet, examination pass and student ID

This paper consists of **FIVE** questions. Attempt question ONE (Compulsory) and any other TWO questions.

Do not write on the question paper.

Question One

a. A researcher set out to investigate the effects of absenteeism on exam performance. He carried out the study at Bahari secondary school with 750 boys and 550 girls. He selected 18 Form 1, 23 Form 2, 26 Form 3 and 13 Form 4 boys plus 19 Form 1, 12 Form 2, 15 form 3 and 14 Form 4 girls whom he recorded their attendance and final exam performance.

Identify the following components in the above study:

- i. Dependent and independent variable (2mks)
 - ii. Population and population size (4mks)
 - iii. Formulate two research questions that the study may seek to answer (4mks)
- b. Explain three characteristics of a good research problem (6mks)
- c. Explain any three levels of measurement (6mks)
- d. Explain any two advantages and two disadvantages of sampling (8mks)

Question Two

a. Describe the concept, purpose, merits and limitations of the following:

- i. Naturalistic observation (8mks)
 - ii. Surveys (8mks)
- b. By use of examples, distinguish between validity and reliability (4mks)

Question Three

- a. Explain four measures that a researcher can take to ensure high response rate when using questionnaires to collect data. (8mks)
- b. Compare and contrast quantitative and qualitative research (12mks)

Question Four

- a. Describe any four issues of ethical concern in qualitative research and state how you would address them. (8mks)
- b. Explain four essential components of the methodology chapter (chapter 3) of a research proposal (12mks)

Question Five

- a. Explain the two main sources of information used in literature review. Give appropriate examples (8mks)
- b. You are interested in carrying out a study on ‘The effect of alcohol consumption on violent behavior during college students’ union elections.’
 - i. Identify the dependent and the independent variables of the study. (2 mks)
 - ii. Suggest and describe a data collection method suitable for the above study. (5 mks)
 - iii. Enumerate the merits and demerits of the suggested method. (5 mks)