

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF

ECON 452: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

STREAMS:

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: MONDAY 20/09/2021

8.30 A.M – 10.30 A.M

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer question one and any other two questions

QUESTION ONE

- (a) Explain the difference between the following concepts;
- (i) Population and sample [2 marks]
 - (ii) Quantitative research and qualitative research. [2 marks]
- (b) Questionnaires are important and their design is critical because research surveys depend on the comprehensiveness of the topics covered in the questionnaires.
- (i) Describe the types of the topics covered in the questionnaires. [2 marks]
 - (ii) Discuss four major sources of measurement error in research process. [4 marks]
- (c) Explain the factors that would influence your choice between different data collection methods. [4 marks]
- (d) While giving examples, explain the four measurement scales of data. [4 marks]
- (e) Why is informed consent important in research? [2 marks]
- (f) After data is collected, it must be processed. Explain what data processing entails. [3 marks]
- (g) (i) What is a research problem. [1 mark]
- (ii) Explain the conditions must be fulfilled for research problem to exist. [3 marks]
- (h) Economist believe that internal and external debts largely affect economic growth in Kenya. As an economic student you want to examine this belief. Decompose this belief

into a researchable topic and set out two research objectives, and two hypotheses that would be appropriate in your study. [5 marks]

QUESTION TWO

- (a) Researchers in their pursuit of knowledge should be careful not to engage in unethical practices. Explain the ethical principles which guide researchers in their work. [10 marks]
- (b) Briefly describe the following methods of primary data collection.
 - (i) Observation method [2 marks]
 - (j) Personal interviews [2 marks]
 - (k) Focus group discussions [2 marks]
- (c) What are the major considerations in selecting a topic for the purpose of conducting research. [4 marks]

QUESTION THREE

- (a) As a researcher, one must conduct thorough literature review. In details, clearly discuss the main types of literature reviews citing their usefulness in research. [10 marks]
- (b) Using suitable examples, explain the criteria used in the classification of research designs. [10 marks]

QUESTION FOUR

- (a) Differentiate between probability and non probability sampling techniques giving an example of a method in each case. [6 marks]
 - (b) For any engagement to be termed as research, it must meet some criteria. With clear examples, discuss the main features of good research. [8 marks]
 - (c) Validity of research instrument is more important than reliability. Discuss. [6 marks]
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