



MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER

**SCHOOL OF PURE, APPLIED AND HEALTH
SCIENCES**

MASTERS OF SCIENCE IN PLANT PHYSIOLOGY

COURSE CODE: BOT 8114

COURSE TITLE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

DATE: 31/5/24

TIME: 0230-0430HRS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**SECTION A IS COMPULSORY (QUESTIONS 1 AND 2) CHOOSE ANY OTHER TWO
QUESTIONS IN SECTION B**

SECTION A

QUESTION ONE (25 MARKS)

- a) Briefly discuss FIVE salient features of a good statement of the problem. **(10 marks)**
- b) Outline FIVE features of a good research work plan. **(5 marks)**
- c) Explain FIVE important steps in formulating a research budget. **(10 marks)**

QUESTION TWO (25 MARKS)

- a) Discuss the Key elements to consider while choosing the appropriate research design **(10 marks)**
- b) Discuss FIVE characteristics of research objectives **(5 marks)**
- c) Discuss FIVE types of research **(10 marks)**

SECTION B

QUESTION THREE (25 MARKS)

- a) One of the challenges facing postgraduate students is the ability to fully account for analyzed results and hypothesis testing. The board of postgraduate studies has noted the cause of this problem as lack of data reliability and validity. Discuss the types and significance of data reliability and validity. **(15 marks)**
- b) Discuss the pointers to a good research question. **(10 marks)**

QUESTION FOUR (25 MARKS)

Discuss the importance of reviewing literature in the development of a research proposal and thesis writing.

QUESTION FIVE (25 MARKS)

- a) Enumerate TEN reasons why referencing is important in thesis and proposal writing **(15 marks)**
- b) Discuss tools used in literature collection and the methods used in referencing **(10 marks)**

QUESTION SIX (25 MARKS)

Discuss in detail the various methods of sampling used in research **(25 marks)**

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