



MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

MASTER OF EDUCATION

COURSE CODE: EPS 8104

COURSE TITLE: RESEARCH METHODS I

DATE: 24/5/2024

TIME: 1100-1300HRS

Instructions to candidates

Answer question **ONE** and any other **TWO**

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY)

- a) Outline the significance of having a re searchable problem and elaborate on four key characteristics that make a problem re searchable. (10 marks)
- b) Explain the following concepts as used in research, providing relevant examples to illustrate their application.
- i. independent variable (4 marks)
 - ii. dependent variable (4 marks)
 - iii. intervening variables (2 marks)

QUESTION TWO

- a) Compare and contrast probability sampling techniques with non-probability sampling methods, providing illustrative examples for each. (10 marks)
- b) Define and elaborate on the concept of null hypothesis in research. Additionally, elucidate the meaning and significance of research hypothesis. (10 marks)

QUESTION THREE

- a) Explain the purpose and advantages of using a questionnaire as a research instrument. (5 marks)
- b) Compare and contrast the strengths and weaknesses of interview schedules as opposed to observation checklists in research. (10 marks)
- c) Discuss **FIVE** ways a researchers can ensure the reliability and validity of data collected through observation checklists? (5 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Explain the significance of incorporating a research design section in a research proposal. Provide at least five reasons to support your answer. (10 marks)
- b) Differentiate between a research proposal and a research report, highlighting key features that distinguish one from the other. (10 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Explain **FIVE** ethical considerations that researchers need to address in their studies? (10 marks)
- b) Discuss **FIVE** distinct purposes served by conducting a literature review in the context of research. (10 marks)

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