

# KASNEB

## CICT PART III SECTION 6

### RESEARCH METHODS

FRIDAY: 27 November 2015.

Time Allowed: 3 hours.

Answer ALL questions. Marks allocated to each question are shown at the end of the question.

#### QUESTION ONE

- (a) Suggest four possible reasons for undertaking research. (4 marks)
- (b) Describe six features of a well selected research problem. (6 marks)
- (c) Researchers often face challenges in the research process. Novice researchers may find that after investing substantial amounts of time and effort into a research project, their research questions were not sufficiently answered.
- Examine five mistakes that researchers might make while conducting research. (10 marks)
- (Total: 20 marks)**

#### QUESTION TWO

- (a) Explain the relevance of the pilot testing stage in the research process. (4 marks)
- (b) Scientific research projects can be grouped into three types depending on the purpose of the research.
- In the context of this statement, analyse three types of scientific research. (6 marks)
- (c) Summarise six situations in which quantitative research is most appropriate to use. (6 marks)
- (d) Distinguish between “conceptual hypothesis” and “research hypothesis” (4 marks)
- (Total: 20 marks)**

#### QUESTION THREE

- (a) Explain four purposes of conducting literature review. (4 marks)
- (b) Discuss four key attributes of a quality research design. (8 marks)
- (c) Survey research is generally notorious for its low response rate.
- Explain four strategies that a researcher could employ to improve the response rate. (8 marks)
- (Total: 20 marks)**

#### QUESTION FOUR

- (a) Explain two features of a qualitative research. (2 marks)
- (b) Draft a layout of the content of a research report. (8 marks)
- (c) Discuss the steps you would follow in analysing quantitative data. (10 marks)
- (Total: 20 marks)**

#### QUESTION FIVE

- (a) Explain the importance of ethics in research. (2 marks)
- (b) Summarise six advantages of participant observation as a method of data collection. (6 marks)
- (c) Justify the need for interpretation of research findings. (8 marks)
- (d) Responses obtained in survey research are very sensitive to the types of questions asked. Poorly framed questions or ambiguous questions result in meaningless responses with very little value.
- With reference to the above statement, identify four rules for creating good survey questions. (4 marks)
- (Total: 20 marks)**

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