



MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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University Examinations 2018/2019

FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR MASTER OF SCIENCE IN
EDUCATION

EMC 5150: EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH METHODS

DATE: AUGUST 2019

TIME: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and any other THREE questions.

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

Read the excerpt and answer questions that follow:

Given that you have been appointed as a head/principal to be in-charge of an Extra-county secondary school in Machakos County. Your experience of the last five years as a deputy head teacher on rate of teacher personnel turnover in your former school is an asset in teacher management.

Thus, young graduate teachers are using secondary schools as stepping stones to joining greener pastures and therefore leaving behind schools to hire fresh graduates. This has big implications on schools financial matters. You are interested in researching on why this has been happening hence the need to determine a lasting solution to this problem so as to save the school on finances and stabilize instructional delivery.

- (i) Formulate an appropriate topic for research that would address the current situations in your school. (3 marks)
- (ii) State three hypotheses and three objectives that would effectively guide this study. (6 marks)
- (iii) With clear justification, explain an appropriate research design that could be used for the study. (3 marks)
- (iv) Basing your argument on the current scenario, explain sampling procedures that are appropriate in selecting a sample size for the study. (6 marks)
- (v) State and explain any two research instruments that could be used to collect data for this study. (6 marks)

QUESTION TWO (12 MARKS)

- a) Presently, bogus researchers have infiltrated the education world of research by misguiding and providing incorrect data. Explain ways in which research is misused today by novices. (4 marks)
- b) Critically discuss the qualities of a good hypotheses. (8 marks)

QUESTION THREE (12 MARKS)

In an experimental research three types of democratic leadership styles were each employed in for different secondary schools in a given city for a 4 months school term continuously. The Ministry of Education research wing studied on students responses on suitability of there techniques and obtained the following data:

Table !:

Secondary school	Democratic techniques		leadership
	A	B	C
1	8	3	4
2	7	5	5
3	3	7	4
4	6	5	3

Set up an analysis of variance (ANOVA) for this data and state whether the leadership styles differences are significant.

QUESTION FOUR (12 MARKS)

- a) A focus group discussion is one of the research instruments designed to study interaction of group perceptions about a given topic. Critically discuss this method of data collection in educational research. (8 marks)
- b) By giving relevant examples in education, explain ethical issues that a researcher is supposed to observe in the event of carrying out field inquiries. (5 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (12 MARKS)

- a) A theory is perceived to provide a researcher with a useful platform on which to launch a quest for data collection and discoveries. Justify the use of a theory or theories in guiding a study in social science research. (5 marks)
- b) During administration of research instruments, a researcher has to develop guidelines to assist in ensuring successful implementation. By giving relevant examples, critically discuss ways of effectively carrying out interview schedules. (7 marks)