



EMBU UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
(A Constituent College of the University of Nairobi)

2015/2016 ACADEMIC YEAR

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS
SCHOOL-BASED

FIRST YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREES OF MASTER OF EDUCATION
AND MASTER OF ARTS (LINGUISTICS)

TAP 502: RESEARCH METHODS IN EDUCATION/ CLL 505: RESEARCH METHODS

DATE: APRIL 12, 2016

TIME: 02:00-05:00

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer Question ONE and ANY Other TWO Questions

QUESTION ONE

- a) Define the following terms as used in qualitative research:
- i) Reliability (2 marks)
 - ii) Triangulation (2 marks)
- b) Distinguish between the following terms as used in qualitative research:
- i) Epistemology and ontology (4 marks)
 - ii) Random sampling and snowball/chain sampling (4 marks)
 - iii) Structured and semi-structured interview (4 marks)
 - iv) Theoretical framework and conceptual framework (4 marks)
 - v) Research methodology and research method (4 marks)
- c) Briefly describe any three typical characteristics of qualitative research (6 marks)
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QUESTION TWO

EITHER

Discuss any five strategies of ensuring rigor in qualitative research (20 marks)

OR

Describe the key ethical considerations that a researcher has to keep in mind when collecting, analyzing, interpreting and publishing research data related to human beings. (20 marks)

QUESTION THREE

Discuss any four methods of data collection in educational research (20 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

All qualitative research is value-laden. Argue in support of this claim and describe its implications for qualitative research practice. (20 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

Describe the following philosophical worldviews, showing clearly how they influence the research process:

- i) Social constructivism (8 marks)
- ii) Pragmatism (6 marks)
- iii) Postpositivism (6 marks)

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