



## MERU UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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### University Examinations 2010/2011

#### SECOND YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR DIPLOMA IN AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION AND EXTENSION

#### DEV 0200: RESEARCH METHODS

DATE: DECEMBER 2010

TIME: 1½ HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: *Answer Question one which is Compulsory and any other two questions*

#### QUESTION ONE – (30 MARKS)

- (a) (i) Define the term ‘research’. (2 Marks)  
(ii) Mention 3 sources of non-scientific knowledge. (3 Marks)  
(iii) What is a bubble sheet in data analysis? (2 Marks)
- (b) Define the following sampling procedures.
- (i) Random sampling
  - (ii) Stratified sampling
  - (iii) Quota sampling
  - (iv) Snow ball sampling (8 Marks)
- (c) (i) State 2 types of hypothesis. (2 Marks)  
(ii) Distinguish between primary source of data and secondary sources. (4 Marks)  
(iii) Mention 3 main features of a proposal. (3 Marks)  
(iv) Explain 3 types of interviews. (6 Marks)

#### QUESTION TWO – (15 MARKS)

- (a) Explain the importance of writing a proposal. (7 Marks)  
(b) Describe the analysis procedures for qualitative data. (8 Marks)

#### QUESTION THREE – (15 MARKS)

- (a) List 4 examples of descriptive statistics used in data analysis. (4 Marks)  
(b) Explain 5 characteristics of a good questionnaire. (5 Marks)  
(c) Explain 3 advantages and 3 disadvantages of an open-ended questionnaire. (6 Marks)

**QUESTION FOUR – (15 MARKS)**

- (a) Define the following terms as used in research methods:
- (i) Population
  - (ii) The sample
  - (iii) Data
  - (iv) Problem statement (8 Marks)
- (b) What is the purpose of probing questions during an interview? (2 Marks)
- (c) Explain 5 steps involved in historical research. (5 Marks)

**QUESTION FIVE – (15 MARKS)**

- (a) Explain 5 purposes of research in educational programmes. (10 Marks)
- (b) State 5 sources of literature review. (5 Marks)