



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

A. M. E. C. E. A

MAIN EXAMINATION

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AUGUST – DECEMBER 2018 TRIMESTER

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

REGULAR PROGRAMME

CLIS 117: RESEARCH METHODS

Date: DECEMBER 2018

Duration: 2 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and ANY OTHER TWO Questions

- Q1. a) Distinguish between basic research and applied research. **[4 marks]**
- b) Describe the characteristics of the scientific method. **[12 marks]**
- c) Research begins when a researcher identifies a research idea, question or problem and follows methodologically, step by step, to study and investigate the problem.
- i) What is meant by research ideas? **[6 marks]**
- ii) Briefly discuss any two sources of research ideas. **[6 marks]**
- d) What is research topic? **[2 marks]**
- Q2. a) Clearly distinguish between the following concepts as used in research
- i) Purposive sampling and stratified sampling **(4 marks)**
- ii) Questionnaire and interview schedule **(4 marks)**
- iii) Research question and research hypothesis **(4 marks)**
- b) Explain the importance of literature review in research **(8 marks)**
- Q3. a) Discuss the merits of the interview method over use of questionnaire method for research data collection **(10marks)**
- b) Discuss the difference between qualitative and quantitative research design **(10marks)**

- Q4. a) Identify and discuss ethical considerations a researcher needs to adopt when conducting research **(15marks)**
- b) Explain the terms internal validity and external validity **(4marks)**
- c) Describe two sources of data **(1mark)**
- Q5. a) It is required to obtain the views of the pupils of a school about the school magazine. It is decided to do this by a small panel of pupils. Describe briefly how you would select such a panel using
- i) simple random sampling **(4marks)**
 - ii) stratified random sampling **(4marks)**
- b) State with a reason, which of the two sampling methods you consider to be more appropriate in this context **(3marks)**
- c) Explain briefly what you understand by sampling frame **(3marks)**
- d) Distinguish between in-depth interview and focus group interview **(6marks)**

END