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by F F

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University of Phoenix Material

Research Process and Methods

1 Part 1

List and explain the steps in the research process (50 to 100 words each).

Steps in the Research Process	Explain the steps in the research process.
1. Select the research area	For an individual to start a research process, one has to identify or select the place or area they want to research according to the research issue or problem. An individual chooses the research area because of the personal and professional interest that one wants to achieve. It would make the research easy for an individual to have identified the right place and the research problem. Also, the research area should contain the issues or issue one wants to find data on.
2. Formulating research questions or a hypothesis	In this step, the problem is clarified by the researcher. The researcher tends to develop questions that will help him or her in conducting the research. These questions are aimed at identifying what one wants to research, the connection between the variables, both independent and dependent ones. Also, the researcher pens down how they want to go about the research problem by formulating a clear hypothesis. A hypothesis can help the research become practical when one develops questions that are definite (Dudovskiy, 2019).
3. Writing a Literature review	This step is considered to be the longest of all the stages of the research process. Here, a researcher is supposed to use a broad range of secondary information to research the problem. The secondary materials include books, magazines, newspapers, online articles, and journals, among others. This

	secondary information or data helps the researcher to know more about the research problems and what other researchers have on it. It also gives the researcher more information on what to expect when researching the identified problem.
4. Selection of the methods of collecting data	In this step, the researcher should choose the research methods that they are going to use to collect primary data for the research. When selecting the methods of collecting data, the researcher should weigh the methods' advantages and disadvantages. One should include the limitation and the advantages of the methods they have chosen to use in the collection of data. Such methods can consist of observation, use of questionnaires, tape recording, video recording, and group participation, among others.
5. Collection of the primary data	For a researcher to collect primary data, they should be prepared on what to expect when they are on the field. Many researchers give up at this stage because they face many difficulties when they are on the field. Such difficulties may include harsh weather, inadequate funds, and less or no participants, among others. However, this stage is not compulsory for all research, but it should be done by the ones who are required of them.
6. Finding or Conclusions	The results or conclusion of the study should make sure that the research has achieved its aims and objectives. The conclusion is supposed to highlight the level of achievement of the goals of the research, and if the questions and the hypothesis formed have been followed. Also, the research conclusion needs to highlight the limitations and the recommendations that can be used for other research in the future.

Part 2

1 Explain the difference between a research question and a hypothesis.

A research question refers to questions a researcher wishes to address during the research process. When a researcher writes down the research questions, they should ensure that the questions are explored more by providing justifications that analyze and explain how the grounds were achieved. On the other hand, a hypothesis is considered as a statement that is more of a suggestion of how things might behave or work. Hence, when a researcher formulates their hypothesis, their intention should be to disapprove or prove it during the research (Dudovskiy, 2019).

3 Part 3

List and provide a brief description of three types of qualitative and quantitative research designs (50 to 100 words each).

Qualitative Research	Quantitative Research
1. Phenomenological research- this research refers to research about the views of events and situations. Hence, researchers have to thoroughly find information in a way that they will understand the phenomena. Researchers also are supposed to analyze the events on their perspective but should be in accordance with the perspectives of the event. Furthermore, researchers should gather information from other people like participants that provide different views about the event.	1. Descriptive research- this type of research describes the variable that is identified. It deals with the variable's present status. They are set to offer information about an event or a phenomenon in a systematic manner. In this design, the hypothesis is developed after the data is collected. The data is then analyzed and synthesized to get the hypothesis. For information to be collected, the measurements and units should be selected carefully (Creswell & Creswell, 2017).
2. Grounded theory- this type of qualitative research refers to theories that come from the information that is gathered during the research process. The researcher who uses this method has not determined	2. Experimental research- this design refers to the scientific method of establishing causes or factors and the relationship between various variables. These variables are the ones that make the research to take

that theory that they will use in the research process. However, the researcher identifies the approach according to the findings of the collected data. Also, new approaches are identified, leading to new information on the outcomes compared to using the phenomenological type of research.	place. Here, one variable is manipulated to identify the impacts on the variables which are dependent on the manipulated one. Thus, control is given to one variable to see how other variables will be influenced.
3. Ethnography- this type of qualitative research method refers to the study and description of the human communities. It studies culture and people in different societies. The researcher who uses this design live with and think like the individuals who are being studied. Also, the researcher should involve themselves in full-time research, and it usually takes a long period before the study is completed. Researchers are supposed to stay with and learn everything there is to know about the culture or people they have chosen to study (Creswell & Creswell, 2017).	3. Correlational research- this design set to determine the connection of variables when statistical data is used. This design recognizes patterns and trends in the data. Correlational research does not analyze the data to show evidence of the models or the trends which have been observed. The design does not rely on the causes or effects of the data; instead, it seeks to show data connections and variable distribution in the study.

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Explain the difference between qualitative and quantitative research methodologies.

Qualitative research method refers to the physical, empirical, empathic, direct, and exploratory research. This research method helps individuals to understand motivations, reasons, trends, and opinions that are beyond quantitative data. Qualitative research methods include focus groups, which is commonly used by researchers. On the other hand, the quantitative research method refers to the use of data that can be turned to statistics. Commonly used data for this research is in the form of numbers. The research method includes questionnaires, and interviews which are online-based, among others. Once the data is collected, it is turned into graphs, statistics, or numbers (Blackstone, 2018).

References

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