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UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2024/2025

FIRST YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR DEGREE OF MASTER OF
EDUCATION IN MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

EMC 5150: EDUCATION RESEARCH METHODS

DATE: JANUARY 2025

TIME: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: *Question One is compulsory. Answer any other three questions.*

QUESTION ONE (24 MARKS)

Read the excerpt and answer questions that follow:

The inception of competency based curriculum in Kenyan education has attracted wide criticisms by both the sponsors, teachers and parents. The Ministry of Education State Department of Basic Education has enlisted you among the group of researchers to undertake action research to address the gaps in the implementation of CBC at junior secondary schools in your county. The Ministry is concerned about low absorption of instructions in class occasioned by poor staffing in these schools. The research team is required to provide the ministry with feasible solutions to this problem so as to stabilize the junior secondary school education. Therefore, answer the following questions:

- a) Generate an appropriate topic for research that would address the current situation affecting junior secondary school education in your County. (3 Marks)
- b) State three SMART objectives that would effectively guide this study. (6 Marks)
- c) What are the appropriate sampling procedures in selecting correct sample for the study? (6 Marks)
- d) With clear justification, explain an appropriate research design that could be used to guide this study. (3 Marks)

e) State and explain any two appropriate research instruments that could be used to collect data for this study. (6 Marks)

QUESTION TWO - (12 MARKS)

a) Account ways in which the term research is misused or upheld today by entities disseminating information under the guise of conducting research. (4 Marks)

b) What are the best practices to consider that would prepare a researcher in wholly producing their own original work? (8 Marks)

QUESTION THREE (12 MARKS)

a) Differentiate between SPSS and NVivo as applied in research. (4 Marks)

b) What are the necessary and sufficient conditions for using NVivo in a research undertaking? (8 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR (12 MARKS)

a) Why do you think a questionnaire would fail or not fail a researcher during field inquiry? (8 Marks)

b) Why do you consider ethical issues important and sufficient conditions to be supported by researchers during field inquiries? (5 Marks)

QUESTION FIVE - (12 MARKS)

a) By giving examples differentiate between confidence interval and confidence level as applied in social science research. (6 Marks)

b) What advice would you give a beginner in research on relevant and effective ways of administering interview schedules? (6 Marks)