

CTH 611

RESEARCH METHOD



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA

COURSE GUIDE

COURSE CODE	CTH 611
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Introduction

CTH 611: 'Research Methods' is a one semester and two units post-graduate (PG) level course. Presently, it is a requirement for those who wish to obtain a post graduate diploma in Christian theology. In this course you will be introduced to Research method as an academic discipline. The course is also suitable for anybody who is interested in the research Method studies.

This course, will consists of thirteen units, which involve the meaning of data collection, method of data collection; basic elements of scientific Research, problem identification , standard for selecting a research problem, source of Research materials for Literature Review constructing a questionnaire, population, writing a research proposal, the Research Report Writing, Stating your Hypothesis format of your Research Report, Appendixes preliminary pages of your Thesis, the end mater of your report and definition of some selected terms used in the Research Method.

There are no compulsory prerequisites for this course. The course guide tells you briefly what the course is about, what you are expected to know in each unit, what course materials you will be using and how you can work your way through these materials. It also emphasizes the need for Tutor-Marked Assignments. (TMAs) Detailed information on (TMAs) is found in the separate file, which will be sent to you later. There are periodic tutorial classes that are linked to the course.

What you will learn in this course

The overall aim of **CTH 611: Research method'** is to introduce you to types of research methods, resources of data collection, the writing of Research proposal and Research report.

Course Aims

The aim of this course is to guide you on how to collect information or data for the chosen topic of a research. Further more, it teaches how to write your proposal and Research report

Course Objectives

To achieve the aims set out above, there are set overall objectives. In addition, each unit also has specific objectives. The unit objectives are always included at the beginning of a unit. You should read them before you start working through

the unit. You may want to refer to them during your study of the unit to check on your progress. You should always look at the unit objectives after completing a unit. In this way you can be sure that you have done what was required of you by the unit.

Stated below are the wider objectives of this course as a whole. By meeting these objectives, you should have achieved the aims of the course as a whole.

On successful completion of the course, you should be able to:

- Define Research method
- State types of Research
- Discuss primary and secondary sources of gathering data.
- Analyse data
- Use questionnaire, observation and interview methods to collect data.
- Use Review of related literature in your write up.
- Present the research proposal
- Write your research report
- Acknowledge the scholars whose works you have used and those who helped to attain your education in life.

Working through this Course

To complete this course, you are required to read the study units, read recommended books and read other materials provided by the National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN). Each unit contains self-assessment exercises, and at points during the course you are required to submit assignments for assessment purposes. At the end of this course there is a final examination. Below you will find listed all the components of the course and what you have to do.

Course Materials

Major components of the course are:

1. Course Guide
2. Study Units
3. Textbooks
4. Assignments File
5. Presentation Schedule

In addition, you must obtain the materials. You may contact your tutor if you have problems in obtaining the text materials.

Study Units

There are thirteen study units in this course, as follows:

- Unit 1. Meaning of Research method
- Unit 2. What is observation Research Method?
- Unit 3. Survey Research
- Unit 4. Review of related Literature
- Unit 5. Population
- Unit 6. Secondary Sources
- Unit 7. Writing a Research proposal
- Unit 8. Stating your Hypothesis
- Unit 9. Your Research report
- Unit 10. Format of your Research report
- Unit 11. Preliminary pages of your report
- Unit 12. The end mater of your Report
- Unit 13. Definition of some selected terms used in the Research report

The first units introduce you to the meaning of Research report and types of Research sources while the second unit deals with the followings: What is observation Research, and Public sources of collecting Data. Unit three deals with survey Research such as census of a church, public opinion polls, basic elements of scientific Research, problem identification, standard for selecting a research problem, descriptive Research and finding out information for data collecting. Unit four examines review of related literature, constructing a questionnaire, advantages of questionnaire method and the use of interview schedule in collecting data.

Unit five deals with the issue of population and sample. Unit Six Examines secondary sources II, internal criticism and external criticisms. Unit seven deals with writing the research proposal. Unit

eight examines stating your hypothesis, relevance of hypothesis/Hypothesis and kinds of hypothesis. Unit nine deals with your Research Port and principles of writing a research report. Unit ten deals with format of your research report. Unit eleven examines the preliminary pages of your thesis, the approval page, and abstract. Unit thirteen deals with definition of some selected terms used in the research method.

Assignment File

In this file, you will find all the details of the work you must submit to your tutor for marking. The marks you obtain from these assignments will count towards the final mark you obtain for this course. Further information on assignments will be found in the Assignment File itself and later in this *Course Guide* in the section on assessment.

Presentation Schedule

The *Presentation Schedule* included in your course materials gives you the important dates for the completion of tutor marked assignments and attending tutorials. Remember, you are required to submit all your assignments by the due date. You should guard against lagging behind in your work.

Assessment

There are two aspects to the assessment of the course. First are the tutor marked assignments; second, there is a written examination. In tackling the assignments, you are expected to apply information and knowledge acquired during this course. The assignments must be submitted to your tutor for formal assessment in accordance with the deadlines stated in the Assignment File. The work you submit to your tutor for assessment will count for 30% of your total course mark. At the end of the course, you will need to sit for a final three-hour examination. This will also count for 70% of your total course mark.

Tutor Marked Assignments (TMAS)

There are twelve tutor marked assignments in this course. You need to submit all the assignments. The best three (i.e. the highest three of the fifteen marks) will be counted. The total marks for the best three (3) assignments will be 30% of your total course mark.

Assignment questions for the units in this course are contained in the Assignment File. You should be able to complete your assignments from the information and materials contained in your set textbooks, reading and study units. However, you are advised to use other

references to broaden your viewpoint and provide a deeper understanding of the subject.

When you have completed each assignment, send it together with form to your tutor. Make sure that each assignment reaches your tutor on or before the deadline given. If, however, you cannot complete your work on time, contact your tutor before the assignment is done to discuss the possibility of an extension.

Final Examination and Grading

The examination will consist of questions which reflect the type of self-testing, practice exercises and tutor-marked problems you have come across. All areas of the course will be assessed.

You are advised to revise the entire course after studying the last unit before you sit for the examination. You will find it useful to review your tutor-marked assignments and the comments of your tutor on them before the final examination.

Course Marking Scheme

This table shows how the actual course marking is broken down.

Assessment	Marks
Assignment 1-14	Three assignments, best three marks of all the assignments count at 30% of course marks
Final Examination	70% of overall course marks
Total	100% of course marks

Table 1: Course Marking Scheme

Course Overview

This table brings together the units, the number of weeks you should take to complete them, and the assignments that follow them.

Unit	Title of work	Week's Activity	Assessment (end of unit)
	Course Guide	1	
1.	Meaning Research method	1	Assignment 1
2.	What is observation Research method	2	Assignment 2
3.	Survey Research	3	Assignment 3
4.	Reviewer of Related Literature	4	Assignment 4
5.	Population	5	Assignment 5
6.	Secondary sources	6	Assignment 6
7.	Writing a research proposal	7	Assignment 7
8.	Stating your Hypothesis	8	Assignment 8
9.	Your Research Report	9	Assignment 9
10.	Format your Research Report	10	Assignment 10
11.	Preliminary pages of your Thesis	11	Assignment 11
12.	The end mater of your Report	12	Assignment 12
13.	Revision	13	
	Total	13 weeks	

Table 2: Course Overview

How to get the best from this course

In distance learning the study units replace the university lecturer. This is one of the great advantages of distance learning; you can read and work through specially designed study materials at your own pace, and at a time and place that suit you best. Think of it as reading the lecture instead of listening to a lecturer. In the same way that a lecturer might set you some reading to do, the study units tell you when to read your set books or other material. Just as a lecturer might give you an in-class exercise, your study units provide exercises for you to do at appropriate points.

Each of the study units follows a common format. The first item is an introduction to the subject matter of the unit and how a particular unit is integrated with the other units and the course as a whole. Next is a set of learning objectives. These objectives enable you know what you should be able to do by the time you have completed the unit. You should use these objectives to guide your study. When you have finished the units you must go back and check whether you have

achieved the objectives. If you make a habit of doing this you will significantly improve your chances of passing the course.

The main body of the unit guides you through the required reading from other sources. This will usually be either from your set books or from a *Reading* section.

Remember that your tutor's job is to assist you. When you need help, don't hesitate to call and ask your tutor to provide it.

1. Read this *Course Guide* thoroughly.
2. Organize a study schedule. Refer to the 'Course overview' for more details. Note the time you are expected to spend on each unit and how the assignments relate to the units. Whatever method you chose to use, you should decide on it and write in your own dates for working on each unit.
3. Once you have created your own study schedule, do everything you can to stick to it. The major reason that students fail is that they lag behind in their course work.
4. Turn to *Unit 1* and read the introduction and the objectives for the unit. Assemble the study materials. Information about what you need for a unit is given in the 'Overview' at the beginning of each unit. You will almost always need both the study unit you are working on and one of your set books on your desk at the same time.
5. Work through the unit. The content of the unit itself has been arranged to provide a sequence for you to follow. As you work through the unit you will be instructed to read sections from your set books or other articles. Use the unit to guide your reading.
6. Review the objectives for each study unit to confirm that you have achieved them. If you feel unsure about any of the objectives, review the study material or consult your tutor.
7. When you are confident that you have achieved a unit's objectives, you can then start on the next unit. Proceed unit by unit through the course and try to pace your study so that you keep yourself on schedule.
8. When you have submitted an assignment to your tutor for marking, do not wait for its return before starting on the next unit. Keep to your schedule. When the assignment is returned, pay

particular attention to your tutor's comments, both on the tutor-marked assignment form and also written on the assignment. Consult your tutor as soon as possible if you have any questions or problems.

9. After completing the last unit, review the course and prepare yourself for the final examination. Check that you have achieved the unit objectives (listed at the beginning of each unit) and the course objectives (listed in this *Course Guide*).

Tutors and Tutorials

There are 8 hours of tutorials provided in support of this course. You will be notified of the dates, times and location of these tutorials, together with the name and phone number of your tutor, as soon as you are allocated a tutorial group.

Your tutor will mark and comment on your assignments, keep a close watch on your progress and on any difficulties you might encounter and provide assistance to you during the course. You must mail your tutor-marked assignments to your tutor well before the due date (at least two working days are required). They will be marked by your tutor and returned to you as soon as possible.

Do not hesitate to contact your tutor by telephone, e-mail, or discussion board if you need help. The following might be circumstances in which you would find help necessary. Contact your tutor if:

- you do not understand any part of the study units or the assigned readings,
- you have difficulty with the self-tests or exercises,
- you have a question or problem with an assignment, with your tutor's comments on an assignment or with the grading of an assignment.

You should try your best to attend the tutorials. This is the only chance to have face to face contact with your tutor and to ask questions which are answered instantly. You can raise any problem encountered in the course of your study. To gain the maximum benefit from course tutorials, prepare a question list before attending them. You will learn a lot from participating in discussions actively.

Summary

CTH 611: intends to introduce you to biblical theology of the Research Methodology. Upon completing this course, you will be able to answer questions such as:

- What is Research method?
- What is the importance of Research Methodology?
- What are the ways by which you can gather information for your historical research?
- What is observation Research?
- What is descriptive research?
- Explain four criteria that would guide you in selecting your research problem.
- Explain the term “Questionnaire”
- Explain the term “simple Random sample”
- state the steps involved in Questionnaire items and three open-end questionnaire items
- What is Hypothesis?
- State the usefulness of research report
- State the acceptable format for your research report
- State how to write your end matter of your research report

Of course, the questions you will be able to answer are not limited to the above list. Research Methodology offers you more. I am excited to lead and guide you in this study of Research Methodology. I hope you will enjoy the course.

MAIN COURSE

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UNIT 1 MEANING OF RESEACH METHOD

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- 1.0. Introduction
- 2.0. Objectives
- 3.0. Main Content
 - 3.1 What is Research?
 - 3.2 Types of Research
 - 3.3 Historical Research
 - 3.4 Primary Source
 - 3.5 Descriptive Research
 - 3.6 Field Survey
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor – Marked Assignment (TMA)
- 7.0 References / Further Readings

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In your daily life, you always engage in trying to find explanations, answers or solutions to problems either personal or societal. When you find solution to any problem, you are glad because if similar problem occurs again you would know what to do. Finding out cause for an event or what happen, enables you to overcome problems and improve upon the situation of life. As you engage in finding out something, you are involved in research. Hence research helps you answer questions about several aspects of the society and it helps in understanding the society better; you need to learn it.

In this unit, you will know the meaning and various types of research in historical studies which form most aspects of the Christian Theology Studies.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

It is hoped that by the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Define Research.
- Identify Various Types of historical Research.
- Explain why you need to undertake research in your life.

3.0 MAIN CONTENT

3.1 What is Research?

Research is a scientific method of inquiry involving a formal process of verifying knowledge. The reason why you engage in research is to find solutions to your problems. Since there must be problems to be solved by you in your society, then efforts to find solution must be embarked upon by you. Your embarking on finding possible solutions to your problems is known as research.

Self – Assessment Exercise 3.1

Define Scientific Research.

3.2. TYPES OF RESEARCH

There are various types of research. We have: Historical, Descriptive, Survey, Action and Observation research that are very relevant to our area of studies. We shall only limit ourselves to these areas in our work.

In this unit, we shall study Historical and Descriptive research while others shall be considered in the next unit.

3.3 HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Historical Research is a study of the previous events that took place sometimes or years ago usually for the purpose of having a better and clearer understanding of the present and making a more reliable prediction of the future. In this type of research, you are expected to: Define the problem and formulate hypotheses; collect and critically analyze data; interpret and report findings.

Historical research involves critical and objective methods of inquiry with generalizations made from organized knowledge. There is formulation of the problem in it, the problem must be clearly defined, and tentative hypotheses should be formulated by you before gathering your data.

Your topic must not be too broad and vague, but of limited problem. For instance, the topic, “The growth of Anglican Church in “Akoko – Kabba District”, 1920 – 1996 is a good example for you to emulate in choosing your topic. After formulating the problem, you must look for sources of

gathering data. The sources of obtaining your data in this type of research are; Primary and Secondary data. Primary source is an event that happened and recorded by an actual eye witness or participant examination. The secondary data is the event which has been recorded by someone who obtained his data indirectly. That is, someone must have seen it and related it to the writer or someone else. His information is not coming from primary source at all because the information can be distorted. For this reason, secondary source is less reliable than a primary source. Let us examine the primary source in data collection before we proceed.

Self-Assessment Exercise Exercise 3.3

What do you understand by the Phrase “Historical Research”?

3.4 PRIMARY SOURCE

We can also define Primary Sources as documents obtained from the individual explaining the situation, object, or event of which writer of such documents were present and witnessed. For Instance, Bishop George Bako who was an Anglican Diocesan in Lokoja witnessed the creation of Lokoja Diocese out of Kwara Diocese in 1994. His written documents about the creation of Lokoja Diocese are classified as the Primary sources. If you are a photographer or a video – recorder or newscaster who was at Lokoja Diocese who covered all the events that took place, your information given to a searcher on the creation of Lokoja Diocese will be classified as Primary sources. This is because you are an eye-witness. Besides, you also played your role by covering the event with your video-camera. This enables you to tell the researcher all things that happened at Lokoja when you are performing your role as a newscaster during the event. The information which you have gathered either from Bishop Bako or the video – newscasters who were eye – witnesses is known as documents.

While the Lokoja historical books that were made available to you by the researcher to carry out your findings is known as remains. These documents are the following: Church Logbook, Minutes, Preacher’s Book, Attendance Book or Record, Bible, Study Register Synod reports, Annual Conference of Women Guide records, and Boys and Girls’ Brigade records. The documents which you can collect your data from also include Newspaper, Articles, News, Notices, Advertisements, Personal materials, letters, autobiographies, memoirs, internet and tape – recording. In historical research, all the data gathered must be subjected to external and internal criticisms.

Self-Assessment Exercise Exercise 3.4

State five ways through which data can be collected in historical research.

3.5 Descriptive Research

There are many types of descriptive research. But we shall examine only two main ones. These are: Case Study and Field Survey. In this type of Study, you are to make full detailed description and analyze every aspect of the events and development of your problem. Your case study is limited. In the case study, you are limited to a particular case study. You cannot extend your findings to other places, persons or communities. The research is limited to the case in question. In other words, you must focus your attention on the specific area or object, which you have chosen to carry out your research. For instance if you choose to carry out a research on the establishment and growth of the Church in your town, you are limited to your Church and your town or village only in your problem. However, you are free to consult other sources whereby you can collect data on the establishment and growth of your church. When your tutor decided to carry out a research on the establishment of Saint Peter's Church, Ogori, he went to Saint Peter's Church, Ososo in Edo State that was established by Ogori Christians to gather data on Ogori. He got some data from Ososo logbook and from the Archives at Ibadan in Oyo State for his problems.

Self – Assessment Exercise 3.5

What is case study?

3.6 Field Survey

You have two kinds of Field Survey. They are: Sample Survey and the entire Population Survey. Let us examine each one of them.

Sample Survey

Sample survey is the type of study that describes the characteristics of the whole population, which you have selected to study and analyse as a sample of the population for which you are carrying out your findings.

Your Characteristic Studies must be related to your findings. This will enable you arrive at possible solution. You must choose unbiased sample. To avoid being biased in your sampling method, you have to cover the

entire population of which you are drawing your sample by selecting at random from your studied subjects.

For instance, if you are carrying out a research on the decrease of your church members, you have to select your sample from adults or aged, and the youths who are members of your church for your study. In this case, you may decide to use observation, interview or questionnaire method or the three methods to collect your data for your findings. On the other hand, if your population of study is small, then you can involve all the church members in your study for the case. If you have chosen this method for your findings, then you are using the entire population method for your research.

Self – Assessment Exercise 3.6

Define Sample Survey.

4.0 CONCLUSION

You have learnt the meaning and various methods of research in this unit. We learnt that research is a scientific method of inquiry involving a formal process of verifying knowledge.

You also learned that historical research is a study of the past events for the purpose of having a better and clearer understanding of the present in order to use it to solve a similar problem in the future.

5.0 SUMMARY

Everyday you engage in trying to find explanations, answers or solutions to problems either personal or societal. As you engage in finding out something, in order to arrive at possible solutions to problems, you are engaged in research work.

6.0 TUTOR – MARKED ASSIGNMENT (TMA)

1. What is research?
2. Discuss three ways by which you can gather information for your historical research.
3. Distinguish between the entire population and sample methods.

4. State two types of descriptive research.

7.0 REFERENCES/FURTHER READINGS

Joseph O. Jegede, (1999) *A concise handbook of Research Methods*. Ibadan: Pope Rising Press.

Ndagi J. O. (1984) *The essential of research methodology for Nigerian Educators*. Ibadan: University Press Ltd.

Jacob Awoju Owolabi, "The growth of the Anglican Church in Akoko – Kabba District" of Nigeria 1920 – 1996, University of Ilorin (2005) Dissertation unpublished.

UNIT 2 WHAT IS OBERVATION RESEARCH METHOD?

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- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Content
 - 3.1 What is observation Research Method?
 - 3.2 Action Research
 - 3.3 Systematic Research
 - 3.4 Public Sources of collecting Data
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor- Marked Assignment (TMA)
- 7.0 Reference/Further Readings

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In Unit 1, you learned about the meaning of research. You learned that research is the process by which we find explanations or solutions to problems. You also learned historical and descriptive research methods. In this unit, we shall continue our discussion on observation and Action research.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

After studying this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify Observation Research
- Explain Action Research

3.0 MAIN CONTENT

3.1 What is Observation Research Method?

Observation Research Method is a measurement procedure, which you use to collect data for your project. In using the method you will deeply be involved in the event for which you are gathering information for your project. For instance, if you witness a religious riot that took place in your environment and you are asked to carry out a research on possible solution to such riots, then you will use this observation method. Although, you

could also use the questionnaire and interview methods hence other people who were also eye – witnesses could see some things which you could not observe during the riot. You can also use observation methods to deal with the problem of decreasing membership in your church, if you are a Pastor or a layman who has interest in membership growth. Further more, you can use observation methods to carry out your research to know how people in your local area respond to Christian Television Programme, which is being relayed every Sunday by Pastor Adeboye of the Redeemed Christian Church of Nigeria, Lagos. In this type of research method, you must know that your research is liable to observer's bias. You need to control this method in order not to spoil your research work, especially as probably you might have shortcomings against the Pastor. In using this method for your data collection, you need to be specific so that you can use operational definitions in your work.

Self – Assessment 3.1

Define Observation Research.

3.2 Action Research

In the action research, you need to take immediate action to solve problems that occur in your locality. For a priest, this can be carried out within your church. This is because you are in-charge of the church. For instance, you can attempt a case study of some youth members of your parish who are going away from your church for unknown reasons to you. You need to find out reasons for their leaving the church and provide solution for them. This is an example of action research.

3.3 Process of Action Research

The processes involved in action research include the following:

- Locate a research problem in the setting of which you are involved,
- Use various methods to solve the problem,
- You need to collect your data and analysed same in order to determine the effectiveness of the methods.

Self – Assessment 3.3

State the three processes of action research.

3.4. Systematic Research

This section is a continuation of unit 1, section 3.3. You will be introduced to the use of Systematic Research which differs from what you have previously learned about Historical Research in the above mentioned unit. In a Systematic Research method, you are involved in conducting a research by answering questions about past events, which will lead you to a better understanding of the present. Let us further examine some research problems that will guide you in understanding what historical research is all about.

- The introduction of Christianity in Akoko land from 1920 to 1960;
- Effect of Telecommunications in Ikare – Akoko from 1920 to 1950.
- The use of musical instruments in Ikare – Akoko Church from 1920 to 1988.

You need to use systematic method in carrying out your findings for the above suggested topics for any research project. In other for you to contribute to knowledge on the above named topics, you must use both primary and secondary sources to collect your data for such topics.

Self – Assessment 3.4

How do you conduct a Systematic Research?

3.5 Public sources of collecting Data

Public sources of gathering data are accessible to every research scholar in the field. When you want to use it for gathering your research data, you need to use the following:

The National Archives of Nigeria, located at Ibadan, Kaduna and Lagos. Archives are where various information of various field of studies are kept. These archives will serve as storehouses for you to gather your information for your research.

How to collect your information from these Archives

The first step you need to take is to write the Archives Managers requesting for the essential information through your tutor or study centre manager.

Collection of data in person

The next thing you need to do is to tell your tutor or study centre manager to write a letter to introduce you to the Director of any of the Archives, which you choose to go for data collection. When you get there, show the Director your National Open University Identity Card. He will admit you a seat to sit. He will ask you of the problem which you want to gather information for. Give him your topic. The Director will order his worker to search for the material for you. When you are given the materials, take out your pencil, and write out relevant information on your plain sheet of paper. In the archive, you can also request for newspaper, books, journals, thesis reports, tapes or magazines that are relevant to your problems. In these articles, you can gather additional relevant information for your project.

Self – Assessment 3.5

State two main steps which you must take before going for data collection at archives.

4.0 CONCLUSION.

National Archives of Nigeria are educational houses where information of various field of studies are kept. They are meant for you the researcher to gather data for your project.

5.0 SUMMARY

Public sources of gathering data for various fields of studies are archives that are located in various States in Nigeria, such as Oyo, Kaduna and Lagos.

6.0 TUTOR – MARKED ASSIGNMENT (TMAS)

1. What is Observation Research?
2. Write briefly on Action Research
3. State an example of a historical topic.

7.0 REFERENCES / FURTHER READINGS

Black J. A. and Champion, D. J. (1976) *Methods and Issues in social Research*. New York: John Wiley and Sons.

Jacob Awoju Owolabi; The growth of the Anglican Church “Akoko – Kabba District” of Nigeria 1920-1996, University of Ilorin 2005, Dissertation, Unpublished.

UNIT 3 SURVEY RESEARCH

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 - 3.2. Kinds of Survey Research
 - 3.3. Basic Elements of Scientific Research
 - 3.4. Standard for Selecting a research problems.
 - 3.5. Finding out information for Data Collection.
 - 3.6. Review of related literature.
 - 3.7. Guidelines for Review of Literature.
- 4.0 Conclusion.
- 5.0 Summary.
- 6.0 Tutor – Marked Assignments.
- 7.0 References / Further Readings.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In unit 1, you learnt about the meaning of research. You learnt that research is the systematic process by which you find explanations or solutions to a research.

You also learn two types of research that are used in your area of study. These are Historical and Descriptive Research.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

It is hoped that by the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Discuss what survey research consists of
- Mention the respondents
- Explain how you can administer your questionnaire
- State two kinds of survey research
- Identify the different forms in which educational problems may exist.

3.0 MAIN CONTENT

3.1 Survey Research

What does survey research consists?

Survey Research is made up of asking questions of a representative cross-section of the population of a single point time. The persons of whom the questionnaires are asked are called survey respondents. The questionnaires are sometimes mailed to respondents, asked by the researcher directly by handing questionnaire out for respondents to answer and return. However, the mailing of the questionnaire has advantages and disadvantages.

There are various survey researches. Each one is defined by the purpose of the size of population you use. Let us examine two of them.

Census of a Church

If you are asked to carry out a research on “The spread of the Anglican Church in Akoko – Kabba District of Nigeria 1920 – 1996”.

You need a survey in which every church in the population is interviewed.

Public Opinion Polls

In these types of survey, questionnaires are based on some topic of mass Opinion of church members towards:

- Creation of some Dioceses within Akoko-Kabba Districts from the studied area.
- Calving out more Districts from the studied area.
- Building of Anglican University in the district.

Self Assessment 3.1

Assess the role of survey respondents in the survey research method.

3.2 Basic Elements of Scientific Research

Problem Identification

The identification of an educational problem is the first step of a research exercise. The choice of a suitable problem is always difficult. It may be difficult due to the perception of a researcher of the type of problem he

wants to study. You may wish to conduct a research project that is ‘new, different and important’. This will lead you to the choice of a topic for which data sources and references are limited. Therefore, you need to know that research problems are not chosen in isolation or in vacuum but you are stimulated by the ideas and the research of other researchers.

3.3 Standard for Selecting a Research Problem

Interest

The research title you select should be of interest to you so that you will be sufficiently anxious to want to put in enough effort to solving the problem.

Your selected problem should also be of interest to other scholars so that they may know whether your study may contribute to knowledge of your field.

Uniqueness

You should ensure that your findings or research is originally yours and not duplication of other scholars work. Do not reproduce other scholars' work. If you do, then you do not contribute to knowledge.

You should attempt to contribute something to knowledge. That is, you should discover new thing to knowledge.

Capability

You should assess your ability and capacity to research problem. Choose a problem for which you have the ability and capacity to carry out your research. You should be competent of planning your research and use the right method to adopt for your study.

Availability of Data and Sources

In choosing a problem you should ensure that enough and appreciable data is available and that their sources are accessible to you. Have the correct data or materials to use for your study.

Availability of Financial Support

Some Theological research problems are very demanding in terms of financial resources. You should make sure that you have enough funds to conduct your study.

Time Factor

Select a problem which you have enough time to complete and submit to your supervisor on time. This will enable you to graduate on time.

Self-Assessment Exercise Exercise 3.3

Account for the main elements of scientific research.

3.4 Descriptive Research

Descriptive research is the type of inquiry that deals with the collection and analysis of data for the purpose of describing and interpreting existing conditions, and ongoing process, current practices and attitudes.

The main aim of descriptive research is not merely to describe existing state of affairs but more importantly to discover relevance and provide information that could answer questions. For instance:

- Why did Orthodox Church lose her members to the Pentecostal church in Nigeria?
- How can Orthodox Church regain her past glory?
- How can Orthodox Church encourage her members to be stable in the church?

Self-Assessment Exercise Exercise 3.4

What is Descriptive Research?

3.5 Finding out Information for Data Collection

Before you start on any research project, you need to find out more by reading books related to the research topic. You need to get such information from Libraries, Internet, Books and Archives. You can also get your information on your problem in Journals, Magazines and Newspapers.

You need to study, other scholars' work so that you can develop your own techniques to use in your research.

3.6 Review of Related Literature

Related literature review helps you to become more knowledgeable about the subject of inquiry. The review provides you with information leading to new knowledge in your area of study. It helps you form a clearer mental picture of the problem and gain insight into the problem being investigated. The literature review helps you evaluate the problem. It also helps you delimit the size and scope of your research problem. Literature review helps you make better intelligent hypotheses for your study.

Self – Assessment Exercise 3.6

State the importance of related literature in a research.

3.7 Guidelines for Review of Literature.

It must be selective but not necessarily exhaustive.
Making many number references and cite all in your research.
It helps you to delimit the size and scope of your research problem.
It is important and useful to organize the literature review under suitable headings.

3.8 Sources of Research Materials for Literature Review

Some sources of reference materials for literature review are: Books, Theses, Dissertations, Research Projects, Journals and Periodicals, Church Publication, Personal Materials, Letters, Baptism and Confirmation Certificates, Internet and Libraries. Make use of libraries to collate information for your data. You should use University and Theological colleges' libraries to collect data for research work.

Self – Assessment Exercise 3.8

List the means of obtaining your materials for your related literature review.

4.0 CONCLUSION

Survey Research consists: questionnaire of representative cross – section of the population of a single point in time. The identification of an educational problem is the first step of a project. Make sure you carry out new findings for your project. Do not copy scholars’ work for your research. You should contribute to knowledge in your research work. In selecting your research problem, you must consider the following: Interest, Uniqueness, Capability, Availability of Data, Sources and Time Factor.

5.0 SUMMARY

In this Unit, you have learnt to collect data, sources of information, guidelines for review literature and sources of reference materials for literature review.

6.0 TUTOR – MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. Explain four criteria that would guide you in selecting your research problem.
2. Mention five sources of reference materials for literature review.
3. Give reasons for reviewing related literature in research work.
4. List four advantages of review of literature.

7.0 REFERENCES / FURTHER READINGS

Bailey, K. D. (1982) *Methods of Social Research and Edition*. London: The Free Press.

Ndagi, J. O., (1984) *Essentials of Research Methodology for Nigerians Educators*, Ibadan: University Press Limited.

Jacob Awoju Owolabi, *The Growth of Anglican Church in “Akoko – Kabba District” of Nigeria, 1920 – 1996*, University of Ilorin, Dissertation unpublished, 2005.

UNIT 4 REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE II

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Content
 - 3.1 The Review of Literature II
 - 3.2 Examples of related Literature.
 - 3.3 Methods of Data Collection
 - 3.4 Constructing a questionnaire
 - 3.5 Advantages of questionnaire method.
 - 3.6 The use of Interview schedule in collecting data
- 4.0 Conclusion.
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor – Marked Assignments.
- 8.0 References /Further Readings.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In unit 3, you have a glance of review of related literature and sources of reference materials for your literature review. However, in this unit, you will learn details of review of related literature. You will also learn about methods of data collection for your project in this unit.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

At the end of this Unit, you should be able to:

- State the importance of review of related literature.
- Explain the limit of review of literature.
- Enumerate and explain points for review of literature.
- Discuss some sources of review of literature.
- State various methods of data collection.

3.0 MAIN CONTENT

3.1 The Review of related Literature

The review of Literature is the gradual process which you use in searching out, reading, digesting and critical evaluating previous works of scholars that are related to your finding or problem.

In your review of literature, you are to get a full knowledge of the area of your interest. In order for you to understand your study, you need to familiarize yourself with what other scholars had done in your proposed topic or study. It is after studying other scholars work that are related to your chosen problem that you will know the gap to be filled. Review of literature helps you get used to related materials on your study. These materials include the following: Articles, such as Journals, Previous studies, dissertation works of scholars, Newspaper comments, letters written and kept in the Archives, and Magazines.

Through review of literature, you will be able to combine separate ideas and styles of several materials that are suitable for you to adopt into your project. You will be familiar with the previous instruments used by other researchers to measure their reliability and validity. This will enable you to identify the type of instrument to use for your study.

In writing review of literature, you summarises the result of the previous studies in order for you to make use of them as data- base for your finding. After the review of related literature, you will be able to gain proper knowledge of how you will carry out your study.

Reviewing of the related literature will help you avoid duplicating other scholars' projects. It will help you contribute to knowledge.

Review of related literature also helps you make use of your time adequately. It helps you have insight into the previous projects that are related to your research that has been done by other scholars. It also helps you to know the limit of the scope of your study. This is because you will be familiar with what has been done and the gaps that are left by scholars

for you to fill. The filling of such gaps will help you contribute to knowledge.

3.2 Example of Related Literature Review

This example of literature review is taken from Jacob Awoju Owolabi who carried out research on the topic: “The Growth of the Anglican Church in “Akoko – Kabba District” of Nigeria 1920 – 1996” in the year 2005. Reviewing related literature on the growth of the Anglican Church, he wrote:

Detailed literature exists on the history of Christianity in West Africa. However, specific literature dealing with Akoko – Kabba people and the Growth of Anglican Church is scanty. A cursory review of the selected work would drive home this point.

A. Andeyatso Addo et al, (1985), in their work titled; The church Missionary Society and the Anglican Church, state that the abolition of slave trade Act of 1807 which was passed into law encouraged the Anglican Church Priest to sail to Nigeria and evangelized the people of the country. Their work is relevant to our study because many freed slaves that were indigenes of Akoko – Kabba District returned home and they evangelized their people as a result of the abolition of slave trade.

...Mr. Olorunlayemo, a liberated slave returned to Kabba and introduce the Anglican Church to his people in 1904. He then invited the Anglican Church in Lokoja to take over the Congregation in Kabba.

E. O. Babalola (1984) wrote on Christianity in Akoko land. He claimed that ex-slaves in Akoko-Kabba District planted Christianity in Akoko land. But in our field work, we were able to discover that colonial officials who were posted from Lokoja to Akoko Land, in 1900 also spread Christianity in the area.

In order for Owolabi to confirm the above statements made by scholars about Mr. Olowolaiyemo's role in the Spread of Anglican church in Kabba area, he selected five churches randomly and carried out a review of literature on them. Likewise, Owolabi also picked five churches from Akoko area and made a review of literature on the establishment and the growth of Anglican Church in the area respectively.

He also selected from the Akoko and Kabba at random some church members which he interviewed on the establishment and the growth of Anglican Church in Akoko-Kabba District. In this unit you would have noticed that the topic, sample used, and method of collecting data by Owolabi were stated. These facts will help you in carrying out similar or related problem.

Self – Assessment Exercise 3:4

What is related literature review?

3.3 Methods of Data Collection

You can also use one method or combination with others to gather your data for the project. However, we shall discuss the following methods for collecting your data. These are Observation, Questionnaire and Interview for historical research which most topics are centralized.

Observation

In using observation methods to collect data, you will be involved in the event which you are carrying out your findings on. For instance, as a church member you do participate in the church activities. It will be easy for you to conduct a research on the growth of your church. All you need to do is to record some aspects that deals with the growth of your church as you observes events in your church.

Questionnaire

You can also use questionnaire method to collect data for project. What is a questionnaire? A questionnaire is a list of questions you make for the respondent to fill by himself. You are advised to distribute and collate the questionnaire through direct contact to avoid missing or delay. You can also use internet service to mail and collect your data from respondents. Use two main types of questionnaire for collating your data.

Structured Form Questionnaire

The structured form of questionnaire is one major type of questionnaires. It consists of specific questions and restricted sets of possible responses. For instance:

1. Sunday service is convenient for every church member. (tick one) of the options: Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree, Strongly Disagree.
2. How often do you attend church service? (Circle One)
(a) daily (b) weekly (c) yearly.

Open Form Questionnaire

This gives your respondent the opportunity to write his own answers to the open – ended space provided for questions. For instance:

Why have you chosen this particular church?

.....

Why do you choose to be involved in church activities?

.....

Self – Assessment Exercise 3.3

Give an example of observation method you can use to collate data.

3.4 Constructing a Questionnaire

Use the following point to guide you in constructing a questionnaire:

- Do not include two or more questions in a single line.
- Do not ask ambiguous questions.
- You should use simple word in your questionnaire.
- Use specific words in asking your questions and have specific answer from your respondent.
- You should avoid asking leading questions.
- Do not ask threatening questions.

3.5 Advantages of Questionnaire Method

You use questionnaire to collect data from large population in the area of your study. Your respondents are free to express their view anonymously. Questionnaires are easy to administer to respondent because you can easily mail them through e-mail or post office or simply hand them over to your respondents.

3.6 Disadvantages of Questionnaire Method

You should be aware that questionnaires always suffer from a low respondent rate and insufficient answers. Respondent may even forget to fill and return them to you.

You should also know that some respondent do misplace them because they are not concerned about your questionnaire.

Self – Assessment Exercise 3.6

Construct a questionnaire

3.7 The Use of Interview Schedule in Collecting Data

In the interview method, you read out your questions to your respondents in a face – to – face contact. The use of this method helps you to obtain reliable and valid information from your respondent in order to confirm or reject your hypothesis. It also helps you collect additional information if necessary. You should be aware that administering questionnaire does waste time a lot; therefore, you need to have this in the back of your mind before embarking on it.

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, you have learnt the followings: The importance of review of related literature; how to embark on the review of related literature; the source of it; and the administration of questionnaire to the respondents.

5.0 SUMMARY

You have been thought how to review related literature and how to use it in your projects; you also learnt how to construct questionnaire for your respondents.

6.0 TUTOR – MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. Explain the term “questionnaire”
2. State four advantages and four disadvantages of the questionnaire methods.
3. Discuss how you can make use of library to collect data.
4. Besides the use of library for the collection of information, where else can you find information for research work?
5. Explain the meaning of a research problem.

7.0 REFERENCES / FURTHER READINGS

Bailey, K. D. (1982) *Methods of Social Research*, second edition, London: The Free Press, London.

Joseph Jegede, O. A. (1999) *Concise Handbook of Research Methods*, Ibadan: Pope Rising Press.

Jacob Awoju Owolabi, (2005) The growth of The Anglican Church in “Akoko – Kabba District” of Nigeria, 1920 – 1996, University of Ilorin Dissertation, Unpublished.

Ndagi, J. O. (1984) *Essentials of Research Methodology for Nigeria* Ibadan: Educators University Press Ltd.

UNIT 5 POPULATION

CONTENT

- 1.0. Introduction
- 2.0. Objectives
- 3.0. Main Content
 - 3.1 Population
 - 3.2 Sample.
 - 3.3 Define your population.
- 4.0. Conclusion.
- 5.0. Summary
- 6.0. Tutor – Marked Assignments
- 7.0. References / Further Readings.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In this unit, we are using the term “POPULATION” to refer to people, events, and objects which your study is focused on. We are introducing you to the meaning of a population and a sample.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

- Explain the term “Population”
- Define the term ‘sample’
- Enumerate the advantages of using sample in your study.
- State the steps that are involved in the selection of sample.

3.0 MAIN CONTENT

3.1 Population

In research, the term population refers to the entire group of people, objects and events whose characteristics are being studied by you. For instance, we have Population of “Akoko Kabba District” 1920 – 1996 (Owolabi 2005).

The people living within the geographic area of Akoko and Kabba would then form the population of Owolabi's study.

The population of your study may be large or small. It may be Priests, Lay readers, Youths, Church Members, Choristers, Bishops, Evangelist, Church Founders, Men and women of a particular area which you are carrying your research on.

You can study the whole population when it is small, you have enough time to carry out your findings, you have enough research assistants and material resources for your study when you need the record of the whole population.

You may decide to study your population at random when they are large; when you have a short time for your project and when you have no enough assistance and material resources for your study.

3.2 Sample

It is not possible for you to study the entire population, you need to use sample method. In this case, you only need a portion of the studied population. The selected population used by you is known as "Sampling Techniques"

3.3 Reasons for using sampling method in your research

- This method reduces your cost, when you use sampling method to collect your data, it will cost you less than collecting the whole population data.
- This method also helps you save your time to complete your study.
- Sampling method is easier for you and it is very economical to use.

It is important for you to ascertain that your sample is picked to represent your population.

3.4 Define your population

The first thing for you to do after planning for the selection of your population is to define it. That is, you have to identify the characteristics of the member of your population which they have in common. The population under your study determines what your population will comprise. If you are studying the effect of grouping Pastors according to

their capabilities in the “Winners Chapel” for an example, on their performances in preaching every Sunday in their various stations, you need to use this type. In order to obtain a random sample, you need to know the distribution of age, educational background and socio-economic status of the “Winners Chapel” Pastors on whom you are conducting your study.

You have to list the population of your study. This act serves as your second step in using sampling method.

The third thing you need is to obtain enough samples that will represent the characteristics of the Population, which you are studying.

In your finding, if the educational background of the Pastors that are under your study differs, then you have to use simple Random Sampling for this type of research to select your population. Now, what is simple Random Sampling in studying the Pastors? Simple Random sample is the selection of a sample from the population of the Winners Chapel Pastors so that each member of the various educational background Pastors has an equal and independent chances of being selected for your study.

Suppose you want to choose 60 churches at random, out of the six Geo-Political Zones of Nigeria, with Winners Chapel Churches of a church population of 600 within the Winners Chapel Church. Each church has one chance (of 1/600) of being chosen in the sample. When selecting Pastors, Pastor B does not affect the chance of selecting any other Pastor in the Winners Chapel Church of Nigeria. The Pastors of Winners Chapel are said to have independent chance of being selected to study.

You can use the following procedures to select the pastors in this simple random sampling for your study.

Take the following steps:

- Pick up the church list of all Pastors in the Winners Chapel of Nigeria.
- Write each pastor’s name on separate piece in all the Six Geo-Political Zones of Nigeria.
- Fold each piece of paper and put it in a small bag simultaneously.
- Shake the small bag to mix up the folder paper in which all Pastors’ names were written.
- Look up the sky while putting your hand into the bag to pick up one piece of paper in which you have written a name of a Pastor at a time until the required number have been selected by you.

Self – Assessment Exercise 3.1

Assess the preaching performances of your denomination Pastors in the Six Geo-Political Zones of Nigeria.

4.0 CONCLUSION

In educational research, the term population refers to the entire group of people, objects and events whose characteristics are being studied by a researcher.

5.0 SUMMARY

You have learnt how to collect your data from large population by using simple random sampling method.

6.0 TUTOR – MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. Explain the term “ Simple Random Sample”
2. Discuss the term “Population”
3. State 3 Steps that are involved in using sampling method for collecting data.

7.0 REFERENCES / FURTHER READINGS

Osuala, E. C. (1987) *Introduction to Research Methodology*. Onitsha: African Feb. Publishers Ltd

Jacob Awoju Owolabi, (2005) *The Growth of the Anglican Church in “Akoko-Kabba District” of Nigeria, 1920-1996*, University of Ilorin, Dissertation, Unpublished.

UNIT 6 SECONDARY SOURCES II

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Content
 - 3.1 Secondary Sources
 - 3.2 Disadvantages of Secondary Sources
 - 3.3 Internal Criticism
 - 3.4 External Criticism
 - 3.5 The Questionnaire Construction and use II
 - 3.6 Steps you should take in the construction of your questionnaire
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor – Marked Assignments
- 7.0 References / Further Readings

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In Unit 4, you have learnt how to use primary sources for collection of information for your project. However, in this unit, we shall introduce you to secondary sources. You will also use these sources to gather information for your problems.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- State the secondary sources of data,
- List the advantages and disadvantages of secondary sources
- Identify the principles for effective selection and use of gathering information.

3.0 MAIN CONTENT

3.1 Secondary Sources II

Secondary sources are documents collected from people who did not witness the events to be reconstructed in history. In other words, secondary sources are information collected through a third party, which you will use in collecting data for your study. You will get this through the followings: Letters that are written purposely on the study, information given by someone who was not an eye – witness in an event; the biography of someone written by a scholar and records from Church offices or libraries.

3.2 Disadvantages of Secondary Sources

Secondary sources may not be reliable because authors might have made mistakes in their works. Besides, in this kind of information, you should be aware that some writers do distort fact to suit their own interest. You should also know that human bias may also affect some authors' works. Before using the secondary sources for your research, you have to examine the accuracy and its authenticity or acceptability. Use internal and external criticism to cross check facts or points that were made in secondary source before you make use of them in your project.

Self – Assessment Exercise 3.2

State two advantages of secondary sources in the collection of data.

3.3 Internal Criticism

You have to determine the meaning and the value of the data collected. Besides, you have to examine the facts of the authors in order to determine its genuineness. Also you should not judge authors' ignorance of particular events because they may fail to mention their occurrence in their writings. You have to identify errors that authors made in their works so that you can avoid such errors in your project.

3.4 External Criticism

You have to establish the authenticity of authors to determine the following conditions: time, place, what area is true to the original and purpose for their writing before using them for your project. Also you need to know who were the authors, the characters, biases and ranks before using their works. You should also try to know their interests on the related matters.

Besides, you have to examine the background of their training and skills for writing their books.

3.5 Questionnaire Construction and Use II

In unit 3.4 you have been taught some points that guide you in constructing a questionnaire for your project. In this unit, you will be taught of steps that are involved in the construction of questionnaire.

What is a questionnaire?

A questionnaire is a form containing one or more questions on a problem that requires your respondent to indicate his opinion towards resolving the solution to a problem on which you are carrying out your research. The questions which are contained in your questionnaire are known as question items. There are fixed and open response types of questions in a questionnaire.

Fixed – Response Questionnaire

In the fixed response questionnaire, you have to provide some alternative responses from which your respondents is expected to select one that apply to his opinion, and feelings. Your respondent is not free to choose and arrange his own responses in this type. See below an example of a fixed response questionnaire:

SECTION A

Instruction: Tick: ✓ right in the appropriate box to indicate your response.

1. Church Services

How many times do you attend church service in a week?

Three Times Y

Two Times Y

One Time Y

2. Sex of Respondent

Male Y

Female Y

3. Age of Respondent

Below 18 years Y

19 – 30years Y

Above 30years Y

4. Qualifications

SSCE / NECO Y

NCE Y

B. ED / B.Sc. Y

M.A. / M. ED Y

Ph. D. Y

SECTION B: YES OR NO TYPE

1. Do you regularly attend Church Service in town?

Yes Y No Y

2. Every Sunday Y Once a month Y

3. Only on special occasions Y

4. Do you attend English Service?

Yes Y No Y

This kind of questionnaire to your respondent for the following reasons:

- It is easy to complete.
- It saves your respondent’s time because he/she has less time to complete the questionnaire.
- Coding and qualification will be easy for him/her to indicate.

OPEN – END QUESTIONNAIRE

In the open ended questionnaire, you do not provide alternatives for your respondent. The respondent is free to choose and arrange his responses the way or form he wants them. Examples are below:

SECTION A

- i. Type of Denomination.....
- ii. Type of School attended.....

- iii. Sex of Respondent.....
- iv. Age of Respondent.....
- v. Qualifications.....

3.6 Steps to Take in Constructing Questionnaire

- Always identify and state your purpose of the questionnaire. In other words, state the exact information which you need to get from your respondent.
- Decide on what type of questionnaire you want to construct.
- Write out your items using clear simple language.
- Avoid items that are irrelevant to your findings.
- Do not lead your respondent by suggesting to him some questions. Let him do it alone.
- You need to validate your questionnaire. Give it to an expert in your field to validate for you before giving it out to your respondent to answer.
- After you have modified your items with your expert, you need to carry out a pilot testing of the items.
- You can administer your questionnaire on the spot to your respondent.

4.0 CONCLUSION

You have learnt how to use Secondary sources to gather the information needed for your project. Besides, in this unit, you have also learnt how to construct questionnaire for your respondent to fill.

5.0 SUMMARY

In this unit, you have learnt two means of constructing questionnaire for your respondent. You also learn the use of secondary sources, Open questionnaire and the fixed – response questionnaire.

6.0 TUTOR – MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. Write three fixed response questionnaire items and three Open – end questionnaire items.
2. State the steps involved in questionnaire construction.
3. Discuss the features of a questionnaire.

7.0 REFERENCES / FURTHER READINGS

Olaitan, S. O. and Nwoke, G. (eds.) (1988) *Practical Research Methods in Education*. Onitsha: Summer Educational Publisher Ltd.

Jacob Awoju Owolabi, (2005) ‘The Growth of the Anglican Church in ‘Akoko – Kabba’ of Nigeria 1920 – 1996, University of Ilorin, Dissertation unpublished,

UNIT 7 WRITING A RESEARCH PROPOSAL

CONTENTS

- 1.0. Introduction
- 2.0. Objectives
- 3.0 Main Content
 - 3.1 Writing a research proposal
 - 3.2 Background to the study
 - 3.3 Statement of the problem
 - 3.4 Purpose or objective of the study
 - 3.5 Justification for the study
 - 3.6 Research Design
 - 3.7 Needed Data
 - 3.8 Data Analysis procedure
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor – Marked Assignments
- 7.0 Reference / Further readings

1.0 INSTRUCTION

In unit 5, we have introduced you to the use of secondary sources for your review of literature. In it, we also thought you how to construct and use questionnaire. Now we shall teach you how to write Proposal and Reports.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

At the end of this unit, you should be able to present both research proposal and research project.

- State the procedure for writing a research proposal
- Discuss the steps in writing a research report, and
- Write out 5 references of your proposal.

3.0 MAIN CONTENT

3.1 Writing a Research Proposal

You will find proposal of your project very essential because you need to state clearly what you want to study. Besides, it is through your proposal that you will let others know what you are carrying your findings on. The below subsections will guide you on your proposal;

You should state your topic or title clearly in your work. Include the related problem which you have discovered in your review of literature.

3.2 Background to the Study

In your introduction, you need to state the thing that motivated you to desire to carry out such findings or problem. In this step, you need to include some review of related literature in your chosen area of investigation. After the review of your related literature, show it to your supervisor. He will tell you whether you know what you are doing or not. If you are wrong, your supervisor will put you through. Then you will re-write your review of literature.

3.3 Statement of the Problem

After you might have sailed through the background of your study, you now state the problem as shortly as you can. Your statement of proposal must lead you to formulate suitable questionnaire for your project. This will help you decide on the appropriate design for your study and the data collection.

Self – Assessment Exercise 3.3

Write instruction of your proposal.

3.4 Purpose of the Study

In the purpose or objective of your study, you need to state the reason for the study. In addition to these, you need to state what you hope to accomplish in the study.

3.5 Justification for the study

The justification for your study is also called the importance or the significance of the study. In this section, you will state why you feel the study is important. You should also state the kind of people or institution

that will benefit from it. Know that it is here that you will convince scholars that your research project is worth undertaking or studying.

3.6 Research Design

In your research design, state the method which you intend to use for carrying out your findings. You have to tell how you wish to investigate the problem, the sample you will select, instrument, the control and the method of data collection and data analysis. Any method use by you must be relevant to your study.

3.7 Needed Data

You need to specify the particular data you want to gather. You have to state it in clear language or terms, the means by which you will collect the data. If your means of collecting data are through the following items: questionnaire, interview, observation, and documented records or limited to only one or two items. You must indicate in your writing. You must also tell how you collect your questionnaire. For instance, if you will engage a research assistant to collect the information indicate it. On the other hand, if you will personally collect the questionnaire, also state it.

3.8 Data Analysis Procedure

In this procedure, state clearly how you hope to analyse your data. You have to base it on your research questionnaire, which you have formulated. If you could provide answer to your research question, then you have solved the problem. This state determines your completion of the study.

3.9 The Research Report Writing

After you must have done your literature review, then you have to write your research report. Your research report includes the following:

- Introductory Pages
- Background to the Study
- Review of related literature
- Methodology
- Data Analysis
- Discussions and Conclusions / Recommendation or Epilogue

- References and Appendix

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, you have learnt about the writing of a research proposal. You have been told that the components of the research proposal are as follows: Background to the study, Statement of the problem, Purpose or objective of the study, Justification for the study, Research Design, Needed Data, Data Analysis procedure and References.

5.0 SUMMARY

These are the major points that you have learnt in this unit:

- Writing research proposals is very essential because it gives focus to the research work.
- The background of the study is what motivated you to carry out such findings or problem.
- Justification of the study is also called the importance or the significance of the study.
- The research design is the methods through which you intend to carry out the research.

6.0 TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

Choose a topic and try to write out a brief proposal on the topic.

7.0 REFERENCES / FURTHER READINGS

Black, J. A. and Champion, D. J. (1976) *Methods and Issues in Social Research*, New York: John Wiley and Sons Inc.

Joseph O. Jegede (1999) *A Concise Handbook of Research Methods*, Ibadan: Pope Rising Press.

Jacob Awoju Owolabi. The Growth of the Anglican Church in “Akoko – Kabba District” of Nigeria, 1920 – 1996, University of Ilorin, (2005) Dissertation unpublished.

UNIT 8 STATING YOUR HYPOTHESIS

CONTENT

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Content
 - 3.1. What is hypothesis?
 - 3.2. Relevance of Hypothesis
 - 3.3. Sources of Hypothesis / Hypotheses
 - 3.4. Kinds of Hypotheses
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor – Marked Assignments.
- 7.0 References / Further Readings.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

After you have defined the problem of your topic, guessed reasons will come to your mind. At that stage, you will think how to solve the selected problem. Possible solutions of the stated problem will begin to come to your mind.

For instance, one day, as you returned from your work place, or office, you intend to listen to 9p.m. News in your Television. You switched on your Television, but it did not function. You then asked yourself the question: What is wrong on the Television? You need an explanation to your question. What you are doing at this moment is that you are defining a problem. Many probable reasons for the Television not functioning will come to your mind. These may include Power Holding Company has cut off your power, loss knots inside the Television, or a damage done to its speaker. The reasons that come to your mind are known as hypotheses.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

By this end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Define hypothesis
- Discuss the relevance of hypothesis
- Discuss the types of hypothesis

3.0 MAIN CONTENT

3.1 What Is Hypothesis?

Bailey (1982) defined Hypothesis as a proposition that is stated in testable form and predicts a particular relationship between two or more variables. Another scholar named Ndagi (1984) also defines the term, ‘hypothesis as a testable, tentative, probable explanation of relationship between two or more variables that create a state of affairs.

Hypothesis is a guess answer to a problem. When you make a guess answer to a question, it means that you are not sure of your answer to your problem. In order for you to be sure if your guess answer is correct, then you have to test it. Your act of testing your guess answer is called hypothesis. If you test your hypothesis, and it is proved to be correct, then it becomes a fact, but if proved wrong, you have to state another hypothesis and also test it. The reason why you make a guess for a particular question or problem is that you do not have adequate evidence in hand to provide the correct answer to your problem.

A hypothesis provides the link between a finding and the location of the testable evidence that may give the solution to your finding. Hypothesis helps you focus your finding on a particular problem. It also helps you determine the direction in which you have arrived at your possible solution. Hypothesis helps you determine important fact you need to look for while collecting data. It also provides you an accurate instrument for explaining your problem. Your hypothesis will also bring or suggests other problems for other scholars to do their research.

3.2 Sources of Hypothesis / Hypotheses

- Idea that comes to your mind instantly from your experience is a source of your hypothesis.

- Another source of your hypothesis is the result of other scholar's research studies.
- Your idea or strong feelings, which you have, that is true, but you cannot explain why to a solution of a problem is another means of forming a hypothesis.
- You need to state your hypothesis in the way that it can help you to achieve your research objectives.

3.3 How to formulate your hypothesis or hypotheses

- Use simple sentence to formulate it.
- Make sure that your hypothesis is related to the problem.
- Your hypothesis must be reasonable.
- The hypothesis, which you must formulate, should not contradict well – stated principles. Your hypothesis must be verifiable or testable.

3.4 Kinds of Hypotheses

We have two kinds of hypotheses.

A Null Hypothesis

This type of hypothesis stated in a “no difference” form. For instance:

There will be no difference between the performances in Sunday preaching of degree holding Pastors and non- degree holding pastors in the Winner Chapel Church of Nigeria;

The type of Academic institution a Pastor attends will not have any relevant effect on his Pastoral Ministry after graduation.

You can also state the above hypotheses thus:

The performance in Sunday preaching by degree holders of Winners Chapel's Pastors will be higher than those Pastors who hold no Degree.

The kind of academic institution that a Pastor attends will be relevant to his Pastoral Ministry after graduation.

Let us excerpt the hypothesis of Owolabi (2005) to illustrate our point.

Hypothesis

This study set out to investigate the growth of the Anglican Church in “Akoko – Kabba District” 1920 – 1996.

This hypothesis it sets out with certain presuppositions. These are:

- (1) 1920 marked the beginning of the Akoko- Kabba District.
- (2) The Anglican Church has significantly influenced the lives of the people of Akoko-Kabba District.

The above illustrated hypothesis is a good example of a historical research type.

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, you have learnt how to state your hypothesis in your project writing. We have a null hypothesis and Alternative hypothesis that you can use in your writing or work.

5.0 SUMMARY

In this unit, we learnt how to state hypotheses in our project. We also learnt that a research problem is not testable but a hypothesis can be tested. Also, we learnt that a research problem and a hypothesis are provided to guide you focus on problems. It also enlightens you to know the direction where to locate possible solutions to your problem. Findings of other scholars are other means for you to find your hypothesis or hypotheses. You could use both the null and alternative hypotheses in research problems.

Self-Assessment Exercise 5.0

State two means for your hypothesis or hypotheses.

6.0 TUTOR- MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

- (1) Differentiate between a research problem and a research hypothesis.
- (2) Try to identify a research problem from one of the historical scholars' project or research, with this problem define your research problem and state 3 hypotheses.

7.0 REFERENCES / FURTHER READINGS

Bailey, K. D. (1982) *Methods of Social Research*, second edition, London: The Free Press.

Jacob Awoju Owolabi, (2005) *The Growth of the Anglican Church in “Akoko-Kabba District” of Nigeria, 1920-1996*, University of Ilorin, Dissertation Unpublished.

UNIT 9 YOUR RESEARCH REPORT

CONTENT

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Content
 - 3.1 Principles of writing a research report
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor Marked Assignments
- 7.0 Reference/Further Readings

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Beginning from unit 1 to 8, we have learnt how to gather our research materials. We also learnt various methods, which we use in sampling method when our population is vast. Also how we can use the entire population in case of their small population to carry out our research. Now that we have the idea of gathering our data, let us examine the techniques, which we shall use in writing our research report.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

After studying this unit, you should be able to:

- State in detail the relevance of a good research report;
- Identify some principles of writing your finding report, and
- List many stages in writing your research report.

3.0 MAIN CONTENT

3.1 Principles of writing a research report

You have three principles for writing a research report. These are accuracy, clarity and brevity. Let us examine each of the above named principles.

Accuracy

Your research report should be accurate. Writing precisely what your data support.

Clarity

Your research report should be clear and easy to understand by other research scholars. Write in clear spoken English or language manner and avoid ambiguous words and other words, which your readers cannot comprehend. Choose exact words to convey your information to readers.

Brevity

The research report must be very brief even though it must reflect all the essential features of a report. It could be in the form of what is called executive summary.

Self – Assessment Exercise 3.1

State the usefulness of a research report.

4.0 CONCLUSION

Your research report must be modest, moderate and objectives. Present your information clearly and convincing as much as possible to your readers.

5.0 SUMMARY

In this unit you learnt that:

Your research report is used to communicate information about research to scholars. You have learnt in it that there are three principles of writing a research report. These are - Accuracy, clarity and short report, which you can use to convey your readers.

6.0 TUTOR - MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. State the main principles of writing your research report.
2. Why writing a research report?

7.0 REFERENCES/FURTHER READINGS

Best, J.W. and Kahn, J.V. (1986) *Research in Education*, fifth edition, Prentice – Hall, New Jersey.

Ologbonsaiye, R.I. and Abifain, F.P., (1986) *A Guide to Research, Work for students* Ibadan: Gbadeks Publishers Limited.

UNIT 10 FORMAT OF YOUR RESEARCH REPORT

CONTENT

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Content
 - 3.1 Format of your research report
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor- Marked Assignments
- 7.0 References / Further Readings

1.0 INTRODUCTION

There are various format designed for presenting a thesis or dissertations in Universities. In this unit, we shall learn the widely accepted format in universities.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

It is hoped that at the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- State format for your project

3.0 MAIN CONTENT

3.1 Format of an acceptable project

The format below is widely used in many Universities:

- Title page
- Approval page

- Abstract
- Acknowledgements
- Table of Contents
- List of Figures (If any)

Chapter 1: Introduction

Statement of the problem

Hypotheses

Significance of the problem

Definition of terms

Chapter 2: Related review of literature

Chapter 3: Methods

Chapter 4: Analysis and Result of Data Collected

Chapter 5: Discussion and Conclusions

- Recommendations or Epilogue
- Reference
- Appendixes.

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, you have learnt how to state your hypothesis in your project writing. We have a null hypothesis and alternative hypothesis that you can use in your writing or work.

5.0 SUMMARY

There are various designed format of presenting dissertations or thesis in our Universities. However, the acceptable format in the school of Arts and social Science, National Open University of Nigeria Victoria Island Lagos is the one you just learnt in this unit.

6.0 TUTOR – MARKED ASSIGNMENT

1. State the acceptable format for your research report.

7.0 REFERENCES/FURTHER READINGS

Peil, M. et al. (1982) *Social science Research Methods; An African Handbook*, London: Hodder and Stoughton.

Slaring, R.E; (1984) *Research Methods in Education: A practical guide*: New Jersey: Prentice- Hall.

Jacob Awoju Owolabi (2005) *The Growth of the Anglican Church in “Akoko – Kabba District” of Nigeria 1920 – 1996*, University of Ilorin Dissertaion unpublished.

UNIT 11 PRELIMINARY PAGES OF YOUR THESIS

CONTENTS

- 1.0. Introduction
- 2.0. Objectives
- 3.0. Main Content
 - 3.1 Preliminary pages
 - 3.2 The approval page
 - 3.3 Abstract
 - 3.4 Table of contents
 - 3.5 The main Body
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor – Marked Assignments
- 7.0 References / Further Readings

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In this unit, you will learn to write preliminary pages of your thesis.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Write preliminary pages of a thesis

3.0 Main Content

3.1. Preliminary Pages

The preliminary pages are:

The title page

The title page is the page that contains the topic of the research, the Institution's address and the date the work is carried out. Your titled report should be briefed. It must state what your study is all about. The following is a good illustration of a title page:

<p>The growth of the Anglican Church in “Akoko- Kabba District” of Nigeria, 1920-1966.</p> <p>Jacob Awoju Owolabi</p> <p>A dissertation presented to the University of Ilorin, Ilorin in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Christian Studies, Department of Religions, University of Ilorin, Ilorin.</p> <p>March 2005</p>
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3.2 The approval page

This page provides for your signature (i.e. the researcher) and your supervisor as a certificate that your Research was conducted by you (the researcher) and under the supervision of your adviser.

3.3 Abstract

Your abstract must contain a brief summary of the research work with a minimum of about four paragraphs. It will cover the purpose, methods, and

result of the study. It should also include a conclusion that is, the conclusions you reached in your findings.

3.4 Acknowledgements

You have to acknowledge those who helped you to this point of your educational profession, this page is where you send the message and list their names.

3.5 Table of Contents

In the table of contents, you should include a list or table of the several sections and headings to be found in your Thesis or Dissertation such as List of Tables and list of figures. At this junction, list the tables, figures and maps used under these sections and indicate the page number of each item. The title, which you gave to the table and illustrations inside your work, must be the same as the ones under the list.

3.6 The Main Body

The main body of your research report contains four sections, namely; the introduction, methods, discussion and conclusion.

Self – Assessment Exercise 3.6

List the passages of your research report.

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, you have learnt how to write out your chapters for research report.

5.0 SUMMARY

Your introduction introduces your reader to the reasons for the study. What you sort to find and why your study is relevant.

6.0 TUTOR – MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. What is the importance of preliminary pages to you researcher?
2. Which section of your research will you discuss the gap you have discovered that exist in other scholars findings?

7.0 REFERENCES/FURTHER READINGS

Slaving, R .E. (1984) Research methods in Education: A practical Guide, New Jersey: Prentice – Hall.

Jacob Awoju, Owolabi (2005) The Growth of the Anglican Church in “Akoko – Kabba District” of Nigeria, 1920 – 1996, University of Ilorin, Dissertation unpublished.

UNIT 12 THE END MATERS

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Content
 - 3.1 End matter of your Report
 - 3.2 References to articles
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor – Marked Assignments (TMAs)
- 7.0 References/Further Readings

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In your related review of literature, you did refer to some scholars' books, journals, reports and other documents. Also in your main body, you use some documents for your write up. You need to state the source of your information. Such Sources are known as References.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Write your references Thesis or Dissertation
- Write the Appendix of a Thesis or Dissertation.

3.0 MAIN CONTENT

3.1 The End Matters

The end matter is the last section of your research report. It comprises the References and the Appendix. Your References

consist of all documents which you made use of in writing your report. These include Journal, reports, logbooks, synod reports, minute books, attendance registers, membership registers and unpublished works of scholars. In this Unit, you use References to acknowledge those whose works you quoted in your report. It is also use by you to indicate the sources of information used in your report.

Some scholars use footnotes for their references in their research report. You must write out the reference after the corresponding figure. On the other hand, scholars do mention the author and date of publication of the material reference and indicate the full details along with other reference as at the end of the report under “Reference”.

Reference to sources written by two scholars is written thus:

Awoju, J. A. and Samuel Assa, O.S., *Research in Insurance Brokers*, first edition, Meka Press Ltd., Ipaja, Lagos, 2006.

Reference to an article in a Journal.

Prof. David Tuesday Adamo ‘The so called “Ethiopian Eunuch” in Acts 8: 26-40! African Journal of Biblical Studies Volume XXII Number 1, April, 2006 pp5 – 22.

3.2 Appendix

In appendix, we mentioned full information. Or materials that are essential in understanding or comprehending the methods use in our studies. We put them at the end of our report. The following materials are under Appendix:

- Questionnaire
- Interview schedules
- Observation forms,
- Tape – recorder.

4.0 CONCLUSION

You have learnt how to write end matter of your report which includes: References and Appendix.

5.0 SUMMARY

You have learnt to acknowledge scholars in your research work.

6.0 TUTOR – MARKED ASSIGNMENT

State how to write your end matter of your research report.

7.0 REFERENCES/FURTHER READINGS

Best , J. W. and Kahn, J. U. (1986) *Research in Education*, fifth edition, Prentice Hall – New Jersey,.

Africa Journal of Biblical Studies Vol. XXII, Number I, April 2006.

Jacob Awoju Owolabi, (2005) The Growth of Anglican Church in “Akoko – Kabba District” of Nigeria 1920 – 1996, University of Ilorin, Dissertation Unpublished.

UNIT 13 DEFINITION OF SOME SELECTED TERMS USED IN THE RESEARCH METHOD

Research

Research is a scientific method of inquiry involving a formal process of verifying knowledge.

Hypotheses

Hypotheses are defined as intelligent guesses or speculations or suggestions made in an attempt to provide a positive answer, solution or explanation to a research problem. The singular is hypothesis.

Systematic

A work carried out in a methodical and organized manner.

Scientific

Scientific is an approach in which logical and deductive reasoning are primary.

Population

Population is a well-defined subjects or objects which your research is concerned.

Entire Population Survey

Entire Population is the use of all the subjects in the population for your study.

Sample

Sample is a part or section of your population reflecting the same characteristics that is used for research purpose.

Literature

Literature is the writing of a scholar which you studied in order to relate his work to your findings.

Review

Review means examine again.

Reference

Reference is a work which you have consulted for information.

Questionnaire

Questionnaire is a collection of questions that are designed to solicit information for the purpose of a research.

Respondent

Respondent is one who supplies answers to your questionnaire.

Journals

Journals are academic books containing the research report and articles of various individuals/ group published at intervals.

Archives

Archives are stores houses where important information are stored or kept.