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Programme: M.A. English

II Semester Examination, April/May-2024

Paper: MAEN203DST, Paper Title: Research and Academic Skills

Time: 3 Hours

Total Marks: 70

Note: This question paper consists of three parts: Part – A, Part-B and Part-C. Number of words to answer each question is only indicative. Attempt all parts.

Part–A contains 10 compulsory questions of multiple choice/fill in the blank/very short answer type question. Answer all questions. Each question carries 1 mark. **(10x1=10-marks)**

Part-B contains 08 questions of which students are supposed to answer 05 questions. Answer each question in approximately 200 words. Each question carries 06 marks. **(5x6=30 marks)**

Part-C contains 05 questions of which students are supposed to answer 03 questions. Answer each question in approximately 500 words. Each question carries 10 marks. **(3x10=30 marks)**

Part -A

1. Answer all questions

i. Research is the systematic investigation of:

- A. Personal opinions and beliefs
- B. A specific topic or problem
- C. Current events and popular culture
- D. Fictional narratives and stories

ii. Which research method is best suited for an in-depth exploration of a specific program, organisation, or individual's experience within a larger context?

- A. Survey research
- B. Experimental research
- C. Case study research
- D. Ethnographic research

iii.. Which of the following research methods involves collecting data through questionnaires.

- A. Archival method
- B. Textual analysis
- C. Visual analysis
- D. Surveys

iv. A key feature of the ethnographic method is:

- A. Statistical analysis of data
- B. Observation of participants in their natural environment
- C. Testing a hypothesis through manipulation of variables
- D. Analysing historical documents and records

v. Quantitative research typically relies on:

- A. Narrative descriptions
- B. Numerical data and statistical analysis
- C. In-depth interviews and open-ended questions
- D. Detailed field notes and observation

vi. Miller, John. *Searching for Paradise*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2020.

Which citation style has been used in the above reference key?

- A. MLA
- B. APA
- C. MHRA
- D. Chicag

- vii. What is the primary focus of discourse analysis?
- A. Identifying the grammatical structure of sentences.
 - B. Analysing the author's biography and historical context.
 - C. Examining the use of language in social contexts and how it creates meaning.
 - D. Evaluating the literary devices and figurative language used in a text.
- viii. What is the primary function of a well-written problem statement?
- A. To showcase your knowledge of the topic.
 - B. To present your research findings and conclusions.
 - C. To identify a gap in existing knowledge and the significance of addressing it.
 - D. To outline the specific research methods you will use.
- ix. Which of the following typically comes first in a thesis structure?
- A. Results
 - B. Conclusion
 - C. Abstract
 - D. Literature Review
- x. (Miller, 2020, p.10) This in-text citation style is?
- A. APA
 - B. MLA

Part -B

2. Contrast quantitative (e.g. surveys, experiments) and qualitative (e.g. interviews, case studies) research methods.
3. Explain the effectiveness of interviews as a tool for literary research.
4. Distinguish between everyday enquiries and formal academic research.
5. List out the key components of a strong research proposal.
6. Discuss the significance of a literature review and outline the steps involved in conducting one.
7. Explain the difficulties associated with selecting a research topic.
8. Briefly explain different types of sampling methods used in research.
9. Define research and its purpose, explaining research objectives, research questions, and research gaps.

Part -C

10. Draft a sample research proposal, incorporating the essential components of a strong research proposal.
11. Identify the most suitable research methods for literary studies and explain with your justifications.
12. Define and differentiate the major research types, and discuss them with examples.
13. Explain the importance of consistent citation styles (e.g. MLA/APA) in academic writing and how they enhance credibility and clarity. Provide examples.
14. Choose a short literary text (poem, short story or novel). Analyse literary devices, language choices, and style, explaining their impact on meaning.