

**Dissertation Workshop: Exercise 1 Solutions**  
**Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health OpenCourseWare**

1. There are eight major steps in proposal development. What is their logical order?
  - A. Work Plan - **6**
  - B. Resources/Budget - **7**
  - C. Review of Literature - **2**
  - D. Summary - **8**
  - E. Statement of Problem - **1**
  - F. Dissemination of Results - **5**
  - G. Research Methodology - **4**
  - H. Formulation of Objectives - **3**

2. Fill in the blank

Research designed to gain new understanding of fundamental processes is **BASIC** research.  
Research designed to find solutions to immediate problems of a practical nature is **APPLIED** research.

3. Match the following general issues with the corresponding problem statement.

**Problem Statement Choices:** Political, Economic, Socio-behavioral, Technological, Management, Ethical

**General Issues**

Pilot test of depo-provera in rural Liberia.

Forced sterilizations after two births: an American imperative.

Attitudes and practices of Malawi men using condoms.

The additional cost of a third child in Antananarivo, Madagascar.

How population policy has changed in the last twenty years.

Linking STD prevention programs with family planning programs in Uganda

**Technological**

**Ethical**

**Socio-behavioral**

**Economic**

**Political**

**Management**

4. Which of the following might you include in a literature review?
  - A. Popline Citations - **Yes**
  - B. Index Medicus - **Yes**
  - C. Physical Letters - **Yes**
  - D. London Times - **Yes**
  - E. Psychological Abstracts - **Yes**
  - F. Koran - **Yes**
  - G. Shakespere - **Yes**
  - H. Bible - **Yes**
  - I. Websters Dictionary - **Yes**
  - J. Letters to your mother - **No**
  - K. Expert Opinions - **Yes**
  - L. Recent unpublished research - **Yes**
5. Which of the following are open questions [**Q**] and which are hypothesis [**H**]?
  - A. Educating women will reduce fertility. **H**
  - B. There is little difference in the pregnancy rates of condoms and diaphragms. **H**
  - C. To establish the impact of population growth on rainforest deforestation in Cameroon. **Q**
  - D. To identify the determinants of family expenditures in Nairobi, Kenya. **Q**
6. Check each objective as strong and specific [**strong**] or unclear and poor [**poor**].
  - A. The purpose of this study is to determine the incidence of gonorrhea in Rakai District Uganda in the 24 month period, 1999 to 2000. **Strong**\_\_\_

- B. To appreciate why poorer women use family planning. **Poor**
- C. The factors influencing contraceptive use among low income women. **Strong**
- D. To study reproductive health costs in an urban township. **Poor**
- E. To see if HIV has an effect on fertility. **Poor**
- F. Does population effect pollution. **Poor**
- G. Impact of urban population density on solid waste removal in Yaonde, Cameroon. **Strong**
- H. Is abortion wrong? **Poor**
- I. Attitudes and practices regarding induced abortion among Christian and Moslem Women in Ondo State, Nigeria. **Strong**

7. Match the following proposal characteristics with the corresponding definition.

**Definition choices:** Relevance, Duplication, Feasibility, Political acceptance, Applicability, Cost effective, Timeliness, Ethics

**Proposal Characteristic**

- Can this research be done, is the sample size too large, will it take too long
- Will participants be fully informed of the nature of the research
- Are these the most important questions regarding this problem
- Is this research offensive to the sensibilities of the people
- Will the money invested in the research be worthwhile
- How severe is the problem
- Will the results help to solve a problem
- Someone else has done the same study

- Feasibility**
- Ethics**
- Timeliness**
- Political acceptance**
- Cost-effective**
- Relevance**
- Applicability**
- Duplication**

- 8. You should avoid hypothesis and use open questions when:
  - A. Not enough information is available to make a hypothesis - **Correct**
  - B. Too much information is available to make a hypothesis. - **Incorrect**