Dissertation Workshop: Exercise 1
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
   B. Resources/Budget
   C. Review of Literature
   D. Summary
   E. Statement of Problem
   F. Dissemination of Results
   G. Research Methodology
   H. Formulation of Objectives

2. Fill in the blank
   Research designed to gain new understanding of fundamental processes is _______ research.
   Research designed to find solutions to immediate problems of a practical nature is _________ 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 ________

4. Which of the following might you include in a literature review?
   A. Popline Citations
   B. Index Medicus
   C. Physical Letters
   D. London Times
   E. Psychological Abstracts
   F. Koran
   G. Shakespere
   H. Bible
   I. Websters Dictionary
   J. Letters to your mother
   K. Expert Opinions
   L. Recent unpublished research

5. Which of the following are open questions [Q] and which are hypothesis [H]?
   A. Educating women will reduce fertility. ______
   B. There is little difference in the pregnancy rates of condoms and diaphragms. ______
   C. To establish the impact of population growth on rainforest deforestation in Cameroon. ______
   D. To identify the determinants of family expenditures in Nairobi, Kenya. ______

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

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

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