

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 - L. Recent unpublished research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 gonorrhoea 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 effect 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.