



MODULE NAME:	MODULE CODE:
INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH	INRS7311

ASSESSMENT TYPE:	TEST (PAPER ONLY)
TOTAL MARK ALLOCATION:	60 MARKS
TOTAL HOURS:	1 HOUR (+5 minutes reading time)
STUDENT NAME:	
STUDENT NUMBER:	
INSTRUCTIONS: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please adhere to all instructions in the assessment booklet. 2. Independent work is required. 3. Five minutes per hour of the assessment to a maximum of 15 minutes is dedicated to reading time before the start of the assessment. You may make notes on your question paper, but not in your answer sheet. Calculators may not be used during reading time. 4. You may not leave the assessment venue during reading time, or during the first hour or during the last 15 minutes of the assessment. 5. Ensure that your name is on all pieces of paper or books that you will be submitting. Submit all the pages of this assessment's question paper as well as your answer script. 6. Answer all the questions on the answer sheets or in answer booklets provided. The phrase 'END OF PAPER' will appear after the final set question of this assessment. 7. Remember to work at a steady pace so that you are able to complete the assessment within the allocated time. Use the mark allocation as a guideline as to how much time to spend on each section. 	
Additional instructions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This is a closed book assessment. 2. Answer <u>all</u> questions. 	

Question 1**(Marks: 10)**

The idea of a paradigm is most often used in the natural sciences. In the social sciences, paradigms are more likely to be referred to as research traditions or worldviews (Du Plooy-Cilliers, Davis & Bezuidenhout, 2014, p.19).

Q.1.1	In your own words, briefly explain what your understanding of a paradigm is.	(2)

Q.1.2	Explain what is meant by a “paradigm shift”.	(5)

Q.1.3	Blaikie (2009) identified five (5) traditions that each view the identification and definition of concepts differently. Name any three (3) of these traditions.	(3)

Question 2**(Marks: 20)**

Q.2.1	Draw a table in which you compare positivism, interpretivism and critical realism in terms of their epistemological, ontological, metatheoretical and axiological positions.	(12)

Q.2.2	Differentiate, from a research perspective, between inductive and deductive reasoning.	(8)

Question 3**(Marks: 30)**

Read the following hypothetical research scenario and answer the questions below:

Dr Roberts is conducting an investigation of undergraduate students about the relationship between student perceptions of module content and motivation to study for that particular module. A questionnaire was completed by 100 university final year students. The results suggest that there is a relationship between a student’s attitude towards the module content and his/her motivation to study for it. Dr Roberts found that overall he could generalise his findings to conclude that the more interesting a student perceived the module content to be, the more motivated the student was to study it.

Q.3.1	Based on the information provided, what do you think the research problem Dr Roberts is investigating is?	(2)

Q.3.2	Dr Roberts' study is an exploratory study. Exploratory research usually involves research into the study of an unknown area where little, or no, previous research has been conducted. Name four (4) potential aims of an exploratory study.	(4)
Q.3.3	Distinguish between basic (pure) and applied research, and in your answer, state which type of research Dr Roberts' investigation would fall under.	(5)
Q.3.4	If Dr Roberts wanted to gain an in-depth understanding of what motivates students to study, which research tradition would he be working within?	(1)
Q.3.5	When a research problem is formulated it needs to meet certain formulation criteria. Name and describe any two (2) of the criteria that Dr Roberts should adhere to when formulating a research problem for his study.	(4)
Q.3.6	One of the concepts that Dr Roberts would have to conceptualise for his research is the term 'motivation'. Briefly explain the term 'conceptualisation' from a research perspective.	(3)
Q.3.7	Briefly explain what a literature review is and name two (2) different types of literature reviews that Dr Roberts could use to focus his research.	(4)
Q.3.8	Within the above-mentioned scenario, Dr Roberts formulated the following hypothesis: H_a = There is a positive correlation between a student's interest in the content of a module and his or her motivation to study the content of the module.	
Q.3.8.1	Define what a hypothesis is in your own words.	(1)
Q.3.8.2	What is the above hypothesis that Dr Roberts formulated called?	(1)
Q.3.8.3	Formulate the null hypothesis (H_0) for Dr Robert's hypothesis.	(1)
Q.3.8.4	Explain what is meant by a null hypothesis.	(1)
Q.3.8.5	Identify the dependent variable in this study.	(1)
Q.3.8.6	Identify the independent variable in this study.	(1)
Q.3.8.7	Identify one (1) intervening or mediating variable that you think could influence the results of the study.	(1)

END OF PAPER