Category System:

A Category System is a structured plan used to organize and record observed behaviours and events in research. It combines qualitative observations with quantitative data for a systematic and comprehensive analysis.

Methods of Categorization:

1. **Exhaustive System:** All behaviours are categorized into a predefined set of categories.
2. **Non-exhaustive System:** Only certain behaviours are categorized, leaving others unclassified.

Characteristics:

- Used to organize and record behaviours for systematic data collection.
- Merges qualitative observations with quantitative data.
- Can be exhaustive (all behaviours) or non-exhaustive (specific behaviours).
- Involves decisions about what behaviours to observe and how to classify them.

- After development, a checklist is created for observers to record behaviours.

Advantages:

- Provides a clear structure, improving the reliability and validity of the data.
- Helps integrate qualitative and quantitative data for better understanding.
- Flexible in how categories are defined (exhaustive or non-exhaustive).
- Makes data easier to organize and analyse.

Disadvantages:

- Developing a category system can be difficult and time-consuming for beginners.
- An exhaustive system may result in too many categories, while a non-exhaustive system might overlook important behaviours.
- Categorization can introduce bias, as behaviour definitions may reflect the researcher's perspective.
- Creating and implementing a system requires significant effort and training.