Research methodology exam preparations

* Remember while writing to make your handwriting very legible.
* While it is advised to air your points on the first page, you can as well turn over to the second if you have not exhausted your points. Do not be economic with space.
* Keep your work simple and straight to the point.
* Normally, for this exam, it’s 6 questions to answer 3. I will advise you don’t skip questions on footnoting and bibliography, especially the practical aspect.

**AOC**

1. Write short notes on the different approaches in research
2. Distinguish between background, statement of problem, significance etc.
3. Footnotes, bibliography, citation, the meaning and differences
4. Reporting and different types of reporting
5. Sources and different types
6. Differences between bibliography and footnotes (practical)

**Things to come with**

1. Any journal of your choice eg. BTS journal (learn how to cite a journal)
2. Any edited work eg. Torch Magazine(work written by many people with one editor), learn how to cite a book chapter in an edited work
3. Any classical book that is published in a modern form eg. Vatican II document, Plato’s dialogue
4. Any book with two authors eg. Why nations Fail

**Preparations**

1. **Approaches in research (chap.3 , page 24, section 3.3)**
2. Expository approach: the aim of this approach is to offer a clear and focused explanation of a topic or other author’s work. It test the familiarity with the topic, ability to organize and convey information. It does not require an original argument from the person doing the research but an organized view of the topic and ability to convey it. Eg. “Politics in Nigeria: an exposition”
3. Appraisal approach: this kind of approach makes an unbiased and critical assessment of the value of a work. Eg. “an evaluation of Marx’s theory of alienation.” here, the student critiques Marx’s theory bringing out the strength and weaknesses
4. Applied research approach : this approach uses theoretical framework or concepts to solve or address practical or real life problems. It is good to note that this is different from application of research which tests a research result on a particular environment to evaluate its reliability. Eg. In “the concept of Jean-Paul Sartre’s concept of Existentialism in Nigerian Leadership” the student aims to use Sartre’s theory to solve a perceived problem in Nigerian leadership.
5. Augmentative approach: here, the student forms a personal opinion on any subject matter through research. It presents an extended, evidence based argument and requires a strong thesis statement. It aims at convincing the the readers about the thesis stated with evidences such as quotations from authorities in that area of research.
6. Narrative approach: this approach for Caulfield tells a compelling story, usually about a personal experience. It can also be an imaginative story. It is a creative form of writing that tests one’s ability to build up a narrative in an engaging and well-structured way
7. Descriptive approach: this provides a detailed sensory description of something (person, place or object). It tests the ability to use language creatively, make good choice of words to convey a memorable picture of what one is describing.
8. Textual analysis approach: this approach tests the ability to read carefully, critically and constructively. It makes close analysis of texts to show how it achieves certain effects
9. **Distinguishing between the sub-topics in the introduction; (chap 9, pg. 73)**
10. Meaning of Introduction

The introduction is the first chapter of a report that provides a technical overview of the study, clarifying the theoretical framework, intentions, problem, and methodology. It is not intended to summarize the entire report but rather to provide a foundation for the research.

1. Subtopics under Introduction
2. Background of the Study: Provides information on the experiences or situations that led to the research topic, serving as an introduction to the problem the research aims to solve.
3. Statement of the Problem: Summarizes the specific problem the research seeks to address. It does this by; describing the topic, major themes, and issues that require explanation or solution.
4. Purpose of the Study: Outlines the objectives and aims of the research, explaining what the researcher intends to achieve through the study.
5. Scope of the Study: Defines the geographical or ideological focus of the research, setting limits by concentrating on a specific area, philosopher, or aspect of philosophy.
6. Significance of the Study: Explains the importance and relevance of the research to society, the target audience, or scholarship, highlighting who will benefit from the research outcomes and how.
7. Methodology: Describes the scientific method and approach used to achieve the research objectives, including the type of research, data gathering methods, and data analysis techniques.
8. Definition of Terms: Provides clarification on major terms and concepts used in the research, offering definitions from scholars or dictionaries, which must be properly cited.
9. **Footnotes, bibliography, citation, the meaning and differences (chap. 11, pg. 100)**
10. Citation: this is a manner of introducing quotations verbatim in the body of the essay with appropriate link to the source. In turabian style, the link appears as serial superscripts in Arabic numerals, which reflects at the foot of the page as soon as it is dropped on the top of the citation in the body of the work. The cited quotation indented in the left and flushed to the right margin.
11. Footnote: This is a manner of introducing the source of materials quoted in the body of the essay at the foot of the page, as they arise in the essay. In Turabian, footnote is automated by computer numbering also known as superscript. Here, the number corresponding to the superscript in the body of the essay is listed by computer at the foot of the current page, where the researcher should enter the following in the order: name of author beginning with first name(s) and ending with surname, all written in full (or abbreviated, if it appears as such on the cover of the book being cited), title of book quoted, in italics and in headline style capitalization, (city of publication: publisher, year), page number.
12. Bibliography: this is a list of the books and other material sources used in the research is made for the information of the reader. The sources can be hard copies, soft copies, and internet materials as long as they quality as genuine sources for academic research. It is arranged thus; Name of author (surname- comma - other names) as written in the book cover, book title in italics and in headline style capitalization, City:publication, Year.
13. **Reporting and different types of reporting (chap. 8, pg. 62)**
14. What is research reporting

Research reporting, also known as research writing, involves documenting research findings in a systematic and acceptable method. It presents the problem, method, and outcome of the research. Researching and reporting are distinct processes, with reporting occurring after the research investigation is complete. A research report provides a detailed documentation of every aspect of the research project. It contains a portrayal of the different stages of the inspection and the conclusion arrived at. The report includes methods of data gathering and analysis, as well as source referencing. The goal of reporting is to communicate the outcome of the study to the target audience. Consistency in tense usage is key when writing a research report, which can be written in either the past or present tense. Overall, a research report aims to allow readers to view the data and recognize the strength of the conclusion.

B types of research reporting:

1. Short essays or short report: these reports do not measure up as books. There are various forms of it and its aimed at communicating the outcome of the study. They are just like other reports targeted to some audience who can view the data and recognize the strength and weaknesses of the conclusion. There are various types;

* Journals article
* Technical research report
* Professional meeting reports
* Seminar
* Symposia

1. Long essays: they are single research reports that are in the size of a book. They are articles enlarged into chapters. They present an extended evidence based argument and require a strong thesis statement. Eg;

* Thesis, dissertation, memoir
* Monograph or books

1. **Sources and different types of sources (chap 7. pg. 52)**

Sources and its Types

1. Meaning of source

A source refers to anyone, thing, or place where information is collected for research. There are two major types of sources: primary and secondary sources.

1. Types of source

Primary sources are those that provide first-hand, original information on the subject matter. These sources can be described as sources of original information on the subject matter. Examples of primary sources include original works, diaries, letters, and manuscripts, as well as interviews and recordings by the scholar under investigation. Additionally, objects, pictures, and recordings related to the subject matter can also serve as primary sources. Information from primary sources is called primary data.

Secondary sources are those that analyze primary sources or provide second-hand information on the subject matter. These sources are secondary because they are not the original version of the subject matter. Instead, they offer a second or third person's view on the original version. Examples of secondary sources include books, journal articles, magazines, and other written materials. Oral information from individuals not directly involved with the subject matter can also be considered secondary data.

It is worth noting that secondary sources are important for keeping up with current research, finding alternative points of view, and learning from other research works. While primary sources are essential for any meaningful research, secondary sources provide valuable insights and perspectives that can inform and refine one's own research.

1. **Differences between bibliography and footnotes (practical)**

* Normally, here, the name of the book should be in italics but for the difficulty it may pose because it will not be typed but hand-written, it is advised you underline it.
* This may not appear as it should in your device. However, do not forget to indent the first line in footnoting and indent the second line upfront for bibliography.

1. Journals; citing an article in a journal

* Footnoting

1Chinedu Emmanuel Anagwo, “Promoting Human Security through Liturgical Education in the West Africa Sub-region,” Bigard Theological Studies 44, no. 2 (2024): 68.

* Bibliography

Anagwo, Emmanuel Chinedu. “Promoting Human Security through Liturgical Education in the West Africa Sub-region,” Bigard Theological Studies 44, no. 2 (2024): 68-75.

1. Citing edited work

* Footnoting

2Afamefuna Joseph Ugwu, “Review of the Encyclical: Caritas in Veritate,” in The Torch, ed. Emmanuel Chizoba Uguru (Enugu: Beyond Words, 2024), 23.

* Bibliography

Ugwu, Afamefuna Joseph. “Review of the Encyclical: Caritas in Veritate,” in The Torch. Edited by Emmanuel Chizoba Uguru, 23-24. Enugu: Beyond Words, 2024.

1. Citing classical work published as modern book

* Footnoting

3Vatican II, Presbyterorum Ordinis, n. 2, in Vatican Council II: The Conciliar and Post Conciliar Documents, ed. Austin Flannery (Bandra, St Paul’s, 2001), 759.

* Bibliography

Vatican II, Presbyterorum Ordinis, n. 2. In Vatican Council II: The Conciliar and Post Conciliar Documents, edited by Austin Flannery Bandra, St Paul’s, 2001.

1. Citing a book with two authors

* Footnoting

4Samuel Enoch Stumpf and James Fieser, Philosophy History and Problems, (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1918), 106.

* Bibliography

Stumpf, Samuel Enoch. and James Fieser, Philosophy History and Problems. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1918.