

MCA

Introduction to Research

Definition, Scope, Objectives, and Types

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LECTURE 1



Agenda

- 1. Definition and Scope of Research
- 2. Objectives(Goal) and Significance(Importance) of Research
- 3. Types of Research
- 4. Real-life Examples and Case Studies
- 5. Quiz

Definition of Research

Definition: Systematic investigation to establish facts, principles, or generalizable knowledge.

Quote: "Research is creating new knowledge."

Neil Armstrong

Scope of Research

- Exploration of unknown areas.
- Validation of existing knowledge.
- Practical application of theories.
- **Example:** Discovering new treatments in medicine.

Objectives of Research

- To gain new insights
- To solve specific problems
- To establish generalizable facts
- **Example:** Reducing carbon emissions through innovative technologies.

Significance of Research

- 1. Advancement of knowledge
- 2. Informing policy and decision-making
- 3. Driving innovation and economic growth

Case Study: The Human Genome Project and its impact on medicine.

- The Human Genome Project (HGP) was a huge scientific project that started in 1990 and finished in 2003. Its main goal was to read and map all the genes in human DNA.
- Better understanding of diseases, Personalized medicine, New treatments,
 Preventive care(Beforehand)

Types of Research

- Basic Research: Aimed at expanding knowledge (e.g., understanding genetic codes(the instructions contained in a gene that tell a cell how to make a specific protein)).
- Applied Research: Solving practical problems (e.g., developing new drugs).
- Exploratory Research: Investigating new areas (e.g., studying effects of a new teaching method). Can i do it like this?
- Descriptive Research: Describing characteristics (e.g., census data analysis). What is happening
- Analytical Research: Understanding relationships (e.g., impact of lifestyle on health). Why and how it is happening

Real-life Examples

- Basic Research: A study looking at how alcohol consumption impacts the brain.
- Applied Research: Developing vaccines for COVID-19.
- Exploratory Research: Investigating the impact of social media on mental health.
- Descriptive Research: Analyzing population demographics in urban areas.
- Analytical Research: Assessing the relationship between diet and diabetes.

Case Study

- **Title:** Development of the Internet
- Description: From ARPANET(Advanced Research Projects Agency Network) to the modern internet, research led to the creation of the global communication network.
- **Impact:** Revolutionized communication, commerce, and information sharing.

Question 1: What is the primary objective of basic research?

- a) Solve specific practical problems
- b) Explore new areas
- c) Expand existing knowledge
- d) Describe characteristics

Question 2: Which type of research aims to describe characteristics of a population?

- a) Analytical Research
- b) Descriptive Research
- c) Exploratory Research
- d) Applied Research

Question 3: Give an example of applied research.

- a) Studying the Big Bang theory
- b) Developing new educational methods
- c) Analyzing census data
- d) Investigating genetic codes

Question 3: Give an example of applied research.

- a) Studying the Big Bang theory (basic research)
- b) Developing new educational methods (applied research)
- c) Analyzing census data (applied research + descriptive)
- d) Investigating genetic codes (both basic and applied research)

Summary

Recap of key points: Definition, scope, objectives, significance, and types of research.

Importance of understanding different research types and their applications.

