LEARNING ACTIVITY SHEET
SPECIAL PROGRAM IN ICT 10
INFORMATION SYSTEM AND RESEARCH 10
First Quarter, Week 5

Name of Learner: _____

Grade Level /Section: _____Date: _____

Primary and Secondary Sources

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

We, people have a lot of questions in our mind. Our curiosity never ends, especially if we can't find answers to our questions or we find presented facts inadequate. We find ways for our mind to be satisfied and this is how research begin. When starting a research, we need to consider the sources of our research.

In this module we will discuss what are the primary sources and secondary sources to consider in doing research and identify those sources.

Primary sources are the data that is collected by the researchers him/herself or the personal involvement of oneself in gathering information. Examples are: diaries, original documents (birth certificates, transcripts), biographies, autobiographies, manuscripts, interviews, speeches, histories, case law, legislation, regulations, government documents, statistical data, journal article, creative artwork, literature, newspaper advertisement and editorial/opinion pieces. While **Secondary sources** are the involvement of the analysis, synthesis, interpretation or evaluation of primary sources or the data that already exists, examples are: previous research, letters, textbooks, dictionaries and encyclopedia, newspaper and so on.

Primary and secondary categories are not fixed and may depend on how the study or research may go. Example, newspaper can be both primary and secondary sources. When used to explore and affect the people at a certain time it will take as primary sources, while this will be considered as secondary if the newspaper is used to respond after the event.

Primary Research

In choosing primary research we need to consider these three things: 1. reliability, 2. validity and 3. practicality of the sources.

1. Reliability- we can say that it is reliable if the data are always use or repeatedly use and already tested by different researchers on their research where the results are always the same in a different time of use.
2. Validity- this is the fact of the data or the truth of data that was collected, where you can state that the description or explanations are all true. Data can be <u>reliable</u> without being <u>valid</u>.

   4 types of Validity according to Bryman Social Research Methods (2001)
   - Measurement Validity or Construct Validity
   - Internal Validity
   - External Validity
   - Ecological Validity

3. Practicality- being wise in developing research is a must, here's the three things to consider:
   - Cost and budget
   - Time scale and
   - Size of sample required

Secondary Research

Upon using secondary sources is a big advantage because it is already existing and available, so here are lists of benefits when you use the secondary source on your research:

- Save time and money
- May provide information and access to historical data
- May be used to prove or disprove an argument or theory
- May be used to offer general background information
- Can be used to set the scene of the research and its findings
- May be useful for putting the research into context

Researchers must be carefully considering the reliability and validity of the secondary sources.

Official Statistics

When using collected data of official statistics researchers must be more reliable and valid upon referring to this data.

Example of data:
- Birthrates
- Death Rates
- Marriage Patterns
- Fertility patters
- Divorce Patterns

- Crime Rates
- Suicide Rates
- Economic information
- Employment and unemployment details
- Strikes
- Productivity

Historical Sources

The data in history or in the past events is a great advantage to our researchers because it has the quality and quantity of data that you needed especially if you're looking for a reference from the past that might have related to the current event of your research. If your using historical sources the thing that you need to questions on the reliability and validity are: the number of interpretations and if the data are subjective.

Life Documents are the documents that was documented of one people's life, a detailed experience of a person on his life, which are truly qualitative and that can be considered as historical. It is also a subjective interpretation where research result's is upon the understanding of the person according to what he read, how it was influenced to him and sometimes upon the intended audience. Example of life documents are: Diaries, letters, photos, memos, biographies, graffiti, suicide notes, film and videos, paint pictures and the likes.

Evaluating Primary Sources

Evaluating our primary sources is very important because data to use are from the past so having a keen eye is a must. Here the RUSA's Guide that we need to take once we encountered or we're going to use the primary sources:

- Who is the author?
- What biases or assumptions may influence the author?
- Who was intended audience?
- What is the origin of the source?
- What was the significance of the source at the time it was created?
- Has the source has been edited, translated, or altered in some way from the original?
- What questions could be answered about the time period by using this source?
- What, if any, are the limitations of the sources?
- Does your understanding of the source fit with other scholars' interpretations, or does it challenge their argument?

Evaluating Secondary Sources

In Matter of Record: Documentary Sources in Social Research (1990), Scott offers some four useful guidelines for evaluating secondary sources.

1. **Authenticity:** consideration of how genuine the document or source is with regards to its soundness and authorship.

2. **Credibility:** consideration must be given to the amount of distortion to the document or source, which will affect its sincerity and accuracy. i.e. has the author given a true account of the situation, or has it been distorted in some way to make the situation look better?

3. **Representativeness:** Scott states that '...sampling documents must be handled carefully and as systematically as the sampling of respondents in a survey' and a researcher must give careful consideration to how typical or untypical the documents being sourced are in order that they can recognize limits to the conclusions they can draw from them. Scott identifies survival and availability as two of the factors which may limit the representation of documents.

4. **Meaning:** concerned with how well the researcher will be able to understand the document.

LEARNING COMPETENCY

Define and evaluate the primary and secondary sources.

ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY 1
Directions: Identify whether the list of data is primary source or secondary source. Write the correct answer on the corresponding space.

1. A biography of Shakespeare	
2. Photograph	
3. Textbooks	
4. Journal or Diary	
5. An autobiography of Barrack Obama	
6. Magazine Article	
7. Artifacts like clothes or furniture	
8. Speech	
9. Government Document	
10. Letters	

ACTIVITY 2

Directions: MODIFIED TRUE OR FALSE: Write **True,** if the underline word/s are true and if it is a false, **CHANGE** the underline word/s to make the statement true.

1. Secondary sources consist of data that has already been produced and can be <u>contemporary or historical, qualitative or quantitative.</u>

2. When choosing and developing primary research, <u>reliability, validity and practicality</u> are the lists that should be consider.

3. <u>Reliability </u>of data refers to the truth that it tells about the subject or phenomenon being studied

4. The <u>practicalities </u>of the research need to be carefully considered when developing the research design.

5. Researchers must always carefully consider the <u>reliability and validity</u> of secondary sources

6. The reliability and validity of <u>official statistics</u> must be considered by researchers when referring to them.

7. The use of <u>historical documents</u> can help researchers with both qualitative and quantitative information.

8. <u>Cost and budget</u> are one of the benefits of using secondary sources.

9. Measurement Validity, Internal Validity, External Validity and <u>Biological Validity</u> are the 4 types of Validity.

10. The size of sample required is one of the things to consider in <u>reliability</u> of research when developing research design.

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REFLECTION

Did you enjoy our lesson for this week? What topic did you enjoy the most? Site some example/s.

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REFERENCES:

https://www.le.ac.uk/oerresources/lill/fdmvco/module9/

https://libguides.usc.edu/primarysources/evaluate

https://www.library.unsw.edu.au/study/information-resources/primary-and-secondary-sources#:~:text=Primary%20sources%20provide%20a%20first,they%20can%20share%20new%20inform ation.&text=Secondary%20sources%20involve%20analysis%2C%20synthesis,or%20evaluation%20of% 20primary%20sources.

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KEY TO CORRECTIONS

Activity 2

1. True
2. True
3. False - Validity
4. True
5. True
6. True
7. True
8. False- Save time and money
9. False- Ecological Validity
10. False- Practicality

Activity 1

1.	Secondary Sources
2.	Primary Sources
3.	Secondary Sources
4.	Primary Sources
5.	Primary Sources
6.	Secondary Sources
7.	Primary Sources
8.	Primary Sources
9.	Primary Sources
10.	Primary Sources