

PRACTICAL RESEARCH 1

Second Semester

Third Quarter-Module 10

Conducting Research



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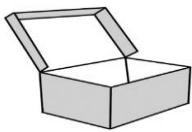
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What I Need to Know

Did you know that parachutes function only when opened? In the same manner your minds work when unlocked. Research study is like you are planning to travel to a place you have not been to and the question is where and how do you start? Where should you start a research? How do you choose a topic? What far will it go and who will benefit from it. In research, you are inclining to think in various stages that sorts out from the simplest to the most intricate thoughts. You are beginning to perform what you want to research intending to know a new subject into higher levels of thinking as you go through the several conditions. The quality of thinking and devotion you give to your actions of choosing your research, identifying question, knowing the coverage and the significance of your research study strongly determined the success of your research work.

You can say that you have understood the lesson in this module if you can already:

1. describe the reasons for conducting the research;
2. state research questions;
3. indicate scope and delimitation of research;
4. cite the benefits and beneficiaries of research; and
5. present written statement of the problem



What I Know

Identify how a research project is described on the following statements. Encircle the letter of the correct answer.

1. A business student plans a research project of an online business. Due to its limited information (the title) on the nature of the business, which one of this best applies to the idea?
 - a. It is too broad.
 - b. It is a highly technical subject.
 - c. It has an acceptable method.
 - d. It has an acceptable purpose.
2. What is the main advantage of producing a written research project?
 - a. Helps with liability.
 - b. Helps the society.
 - c. Informs all interested parties.
 - d. Helps keep people employed.



3. Good research proposals will always:
 - a. focus on the written style.
 - b. provides respondent names and addresses.
 - c. considers all possible research previously been done on the topic.
 - d. focus on addressing the research objectives.
4. What is the reason for consulting handbooks, yearbooks, encyclopedias, or reviews in the initial stages of identifying a research topic?
 - a. They are readily available.
 - b. They provide an overview of the issues related to a topic.
 - c. They are primary sources.
 - d. They avoid reporting statistical data to interpret the results more readily.
5. Which of the following are excellent sources for research topics?
 - a. Theory
 - b. Personal experience
 - c. Replication of prior research
 - d. All of the above

Lesson 1	Justification/Reason for Conducting Research
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What's In

In the previous lesson, you learned to how to choose research topics and write a title. Following those rules and what to avoid had guide you to create a good topic for your research. You have the sources of research topics which you can use to find a researchable topic. Even your work experiences can be a clue to a research topic which relates to daily life situations.

Activity – Recalling

Answer the question in 3-5 sentences only. Write your answers on the space provided.

1. What are the rules in choosing a research topic?
2. What are those topics to avoid in preventing you to have a clear focus on your research paper?
3. Where can you find sources of research topics to create ideas of selecting a good subject matter?





What's New

I. An Overview of the Research Problem and Research Question

Chapter I of the research paper is called **The Problem and Its Background (sometimes also called The Introduction)**. It is composed of the following sections:

- 1) Background of the Study,
- 2) Statement of the Problem,
- 3) Scope and Delimitation, and
- 4) Significance of the Study.

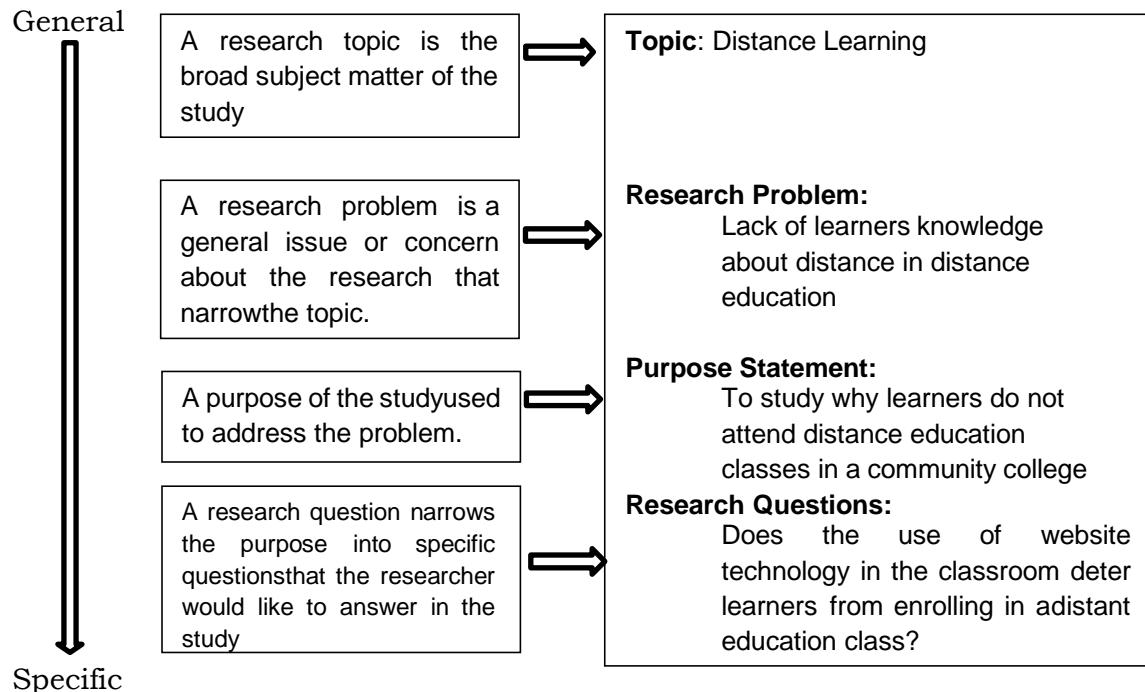
Others have sections such as Objectives of the Study, Hypotheses but these will not be considered in this lesson.

What is a research problem?

- The Research Problem (According to Calderon & Gonzales, 1993)

A **problem** is “any significant, perplexing, and challenging situation, real or artificial, the solution of which requires reflexive thinking”. In research, it is known as the research topic or research title.

An illustration showing the description between a research topic, research problem, purpose statement and research question.



Background of the Study

Purpose of background of the study

- a. The general definition of the topic/problem area
- b. Historical basis for the existence of the problem
- c. Efforts made towards addressing similar challenges
- d. How the efforts failed to be realized hence the need for your study

Contents of the background of the study:

- a. Presentation of the problem. Describe the existence of an unsatisfactory condition or a problem that needs a solution.
- b. Historical background of the problem - Give the historical background of the problem, if applicable.
- c. Geographical conditions of the study locale - If applicable, describe the geographical location of the study.
- d. Rationale of the study - Give the reason(s) why the study should be conducted.

Example

In 2004, the researcher migrated to the Philippines to accompany her spouse who was at the time studying at the Adventist Institute for International Advanced Studies (AIIAS) in Silang, Cavite. They discovered the study opportunities and were motivated by the quality of education and low school fees being offered. They visited several colleges and universities to collect pamphlets and sent them back to Vanuatu for educational awareness. The Ni-Vanuatus became aware and decided to send students to study in the Philippines. The first two schools to receive Vanuatu students were AMA Computer College in Dasmariñas, Cavite and Air Link Aviation College in Paranaque City. The researcher came to know Cavite State University (CvSU) in 2009 and transferred from AMA.
(Ngwele, March 2011)

The Do's and Don'ts of Writing a Research Background Study

 Do's!	 Don'ts!
✓ Explain the importance of your research topic	✗ Write a background that is too long or short
✓ Talk about the main developments and missing links and gaps in your research area	✗ Be ambiguous in your writing, disorganized and discuss unrelated subjects.



✓ Focus on the relevant aspects of your study explaining how it will lead to the progress of scientific knowledge.	○ Forget the reader may not be familiar with the details of your work.
✓ Engage your findings in a chronological finding	○ Elaborate on your background literature
✓ Articulate your ideas in a clear and concise manner	○ Forget to provide a historical perspective
✓ Engage the readers by building a story around the central theme of your research	○ Forget to check your target journal's instruction for presenting the study background

Statement of the Problem

(Purpose Statement and Research Questions)

A series of questions used in researching the topic. It is composed of:

1. The general statement of the problem (the purpose statement) and
2. The specific sub-problems or sub-questions (or research questions).

Guidelines in Writing the Statement of the Problem

1. The general statement of the problem and the research questions should be formulated first before conducting the research.
2. Research questions should be stated in the interrogative and each should be clear to avoid confusion.
3. Each research question should be researchable separately from the other questions and must be based upon known facts and phenomena which is accessible to the researcher.
4. Answers to each research question can be interpreted apart from the answers to the other specific questions and must contribute to the development of the whole research study.
5. The summary of the answers to all the specific questions will give a complete development of the entire study.
6. The number of research questions should be enough to cover the development of the whole research study.

Example:

This research aims to develop an evaluation model of a web-based tool used in test administration for Grade 11 and 12 students. (Leanillo, 2016). Specifically, it aims to answer the following questions:

1. What are the commonly used web-based tools used in test administration?
2. How are these web-based test tools evaluated?
3. How could evaluation model be designed for web-based test administration?



Scope and Delimitation of the Study

It is the coverage of the research to be explored which includes the facts and theories about the subject.

Example:

A research study on the impact of social networking on the attitude of senior high school learners.

It is not possible to cover all aspects of the selected subject. The scope will have to be restricted to a specific section of the target population over a specified duration. In the above-cited study, a group of 40 learners in senior high school at one particular school would be an ideal coverage to study their attitude for five months.

Delimitation of a Study

It limits the scope and outlines the boundaries of the study.

These limitations include the following:

1. Sample size.
 - a. The research design and method will determine whether it is small or large sample size.
 - b. The sample size will determine the quality of data and the relationships that will be identified among the variables.
2. Lack of available and/or reliable data.

This will limit the scope of analysis and the ability of the researcher to determine meaningful trends and relationships among the data.
3. Lack of prior studies.

This will limit the effectiveness of the literature review and initial understanding of the research.
4. Chosen data collection method.

The quality of data collected must be clear to avoid erroneous answers from the respondents.
5. Nature of the information collected.

Researcher should not rely on pre-existing data.
6. Access.

The amount and quality of available data will depend on the ability of the researcher to access people, organizations, libraries, and documents.
7. Time period.

It is advisable to select a research problem and design
8. Bias.

The researcher should be aware of his or her personal biases.



9. Language

This may have an effect on data collection, especially if the researcher is involved with respondents that speak a variety of languages.

When writing the paper, the researcher should ensure that any delimitation factor is noted down at the introduction, discussion, and conclusion sections. He or she should clarify why the study included and excluded some delimitation.

Significance of the Study

- ❖ The significance of the study discusses the purpose that the research will serve to society, the country, the government, the institution or agency concerned, the curriculum planners and developers, and the research community.
- ❖ Describes the contribution of the study to the existing body of knowledge.

It could be the following:

- a. A form of new knowledge in the field,
 - b. A validation of the major findings of other studies,
 - c. A verification of the validity of findings in a different population,
 - d. Analysis of trends over time, and validation of other findings using different methodologies.
- ❖ The researcher must identify specifically the beneficiaries who will directly gain from the results of the study mentioning them in the paper according to the significance of the result. The specific benefits must also be enumerated and explained if necessary.

Example:

The Effects of Computer-assisted Instruction in the Performance of Students in Asian History and Civilization (Cuenca, 2008)

The findings of the study may provide deeper insights on how teaching can be made easier and more meaningful by the use of computer-aided instruction. The study determined the significant effects of slide presentation in instruction, a form of computer instruction on the performance of the students in the subjects Asian History and Civilization.

To the students, the results may serve as an inspiration for them to continuously improve their skills in using computers because they will realize the comfort that computer skills offer in complying with the requirements of major subjects in the coming years.

To the administrators, the results may serve as a guide in the program-planning and implementation of the IT department so that they can be of great help to the teachers of the university.

To the teachers, the results may serve as an eye opener for those who are not comfortable on the use of computers in their class lesson presentations. The findings of this study may encourage more of them to apply computer-aided instruction in teaching



Presenting Written Statement of the Problem

The following sections compose the presentation of the written statement of the problem.

1. Introduction

States briefly the background of the study and identifies the rationale of the research problem.

It begins with a general statement of the problem, outlines the specific problem or issue within the existing literature.

2. Statement of the Problem

States clearly the purposes or interest of the study, poses specific questions about research problem.

3. Scope and Delimitation

Sets the boundaries and parameters of the study, narrows the scope of the inquiry.

4. Significance of the Study

Shows the benefits of the study to address issues and problems, in improving economic and health conditions or even finding solutions to problems encountered in daily life.

Activity – Building your skills

Answer the questions in 3-5 sentences only. Write your answer on the space provided.

1. What is Chapter 1 of a research paper and its sections that comprise?
2. What is the difference between a research problem and research topic?
3. What are the guidelines in writing statement of the problem?
4. Why do we need to limit the scope of the study?



What is It

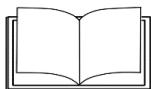
Activity – Discussion

You just learned the concepts on research problems. You were asked to save the titles you had proposed as your research topic. You will use these on succeeding activities to create or write your research problem.

- a. Essays or reflections you have written from past classes and other activities you have taken or a lecture you have attended



- b. Life experiences
- c. Issues or problems observed in your surroundings
- 1. Among the titles you saved previously, which of those you think should be addressed? Kindly elaborate further on this matter.
- 2. With the above research topics you saved, identify at least three research problems for each and explain why you chose them.



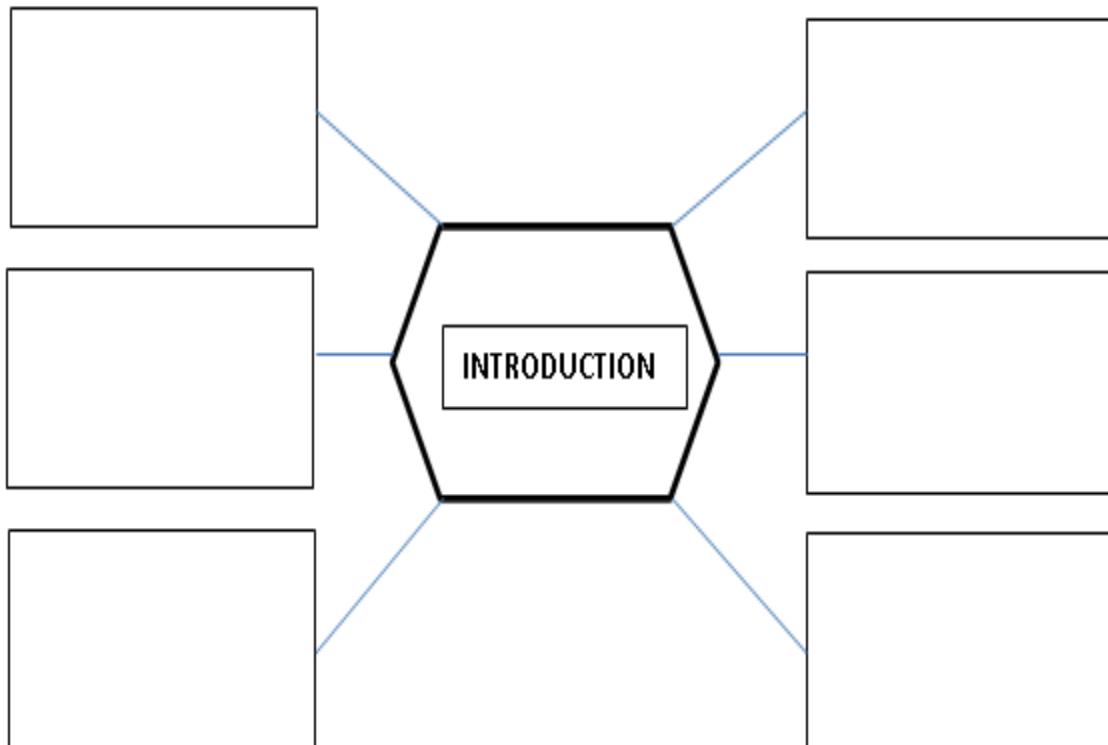
What's More

Follow instructions below in doing this activity.

Activity 1 – Citing Ideas

Situation: Imagine yourself as a businessman on the picture shaking hands to prospective client.

1. How will you introduce yourself? Write your answer in NOT less than three (3) sentences.
2. In general, what is the purpose of introduction? Identify the basics of proper introduction by using graphic organizer below.



Activity 2 - Application

Synthesize your ideas and create a caption on the picture below.



1. What is your interpretation of the picture? What does the target board mean relative to research?
2. Relate the picture in conducting research?



What I Have Learned

From the chosen research study as your proposal, formulate the following.

- A. Introduction of your study by filling out the space provided.
 - 1) Proposed Study
 - 2) What is the rationale or the background study of your chosen problem? Please write your answer using extra paper should you need more space.
 - 3) Describe the setting of where your study is to be conducted.
 - 4) Enumerate the terms or concepts that need to be defined or described to you and to the reader.
 - 5) Determine the significance of your chosen problem and what is the general objective of the study.



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What I Can Do

Apply what you have learned in this module by doing this activity. From your proposed research study present your written Statement of the Problem which comprises the following sections:

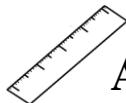
Write your concise learning about the following:

1. Background of the study (Introduction)

2. Statement of the problem

3. Scope and Delimitation of the study_____

4. Significance of the study_____



Assessment

Read the following statements. Answer **TRUE** if the statement describes a research, **FALSE** if you think it is not. Write your answers on the blank.

- _____ 1. The rationale of the study gives the reasons why the study should be conducted.
- _____ 2. The starting point in any research project is to formulate a question.
- _____ 3. The researcher's own personal interests and observations may be evaluable source of questions.
- _____ 4. Theories of other researchers are not a particularly good source of research questions.
- _____ 5. Successful research often raises new questions, even while it answers old questions.
- _____ 6. A research question transforms into your conclusion.
- _____ 7. You should never consider matching your interest to a funder interest.
- _____ 8. A problem statement identifies the nature of the problem being addressed, and its context and significance.
- _____ 9. The "purpose" of a study is the same thing as the "objective".
- _____ 10. The "specific aims" of a study are the same thing as the "objectives" of a study.
- _____ 11. Research question come from any of several sources namely, personal interest and experiences.



- 12. The research question should be either too broad or too narrow.
- 13. The objectives of the research is sometimes referred to as delimitations of the study.
- 14. Scope and Delimitation or research indicates the boundaries, exceptions, reservation and qualification in your study.
- 15. Objectives of the research indicate what will the research will do, for instance, discover, explain or see.



Additional Activities

After presenting and conducting of your research study, edit or rewrite your work using the corrections, suggestions and recommendations made by your teacher. Save your work for the next lesson. Use a separate sheet of paper for your answers.



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POST TEST

Read the following statements. Answer **TRUE** if the statement describes a research, **FALSE** if you think it is not. Write your answers on the blank spaces provided.

1. Research question come from any of several sources namely, personal interest and experiences.
2. The research question should be either too broad or too narrow.
3. The objective of the research is sometimes referred to as delimitations of the study.
4. Scope and Delimitation or research indicates the boundaries, exceptions, reservation and qualification in your study.
5. Objectives of the research indicate what will the research will do, for instance, discover, explain or seek.
6. The rationale of the study gives the reasons why the study should be conducted.
7. The starting point in any research project is to formulate a question.
8. The researcher's own personal interests and observations may be available source of questions.
9. Theories of other researchers are not a particularly good source of research questions.
10. Successful research often raises new questions, even while it answers old questions.
11. A research question transforms into your conclusion.
12. You should never consider matching your interest to a funder interest.
13. A problem statement identifies the nature of the problem being addressed, and its context and significance.
14. The "purpose" of a study is the same thing as the "objective" of a study.
15. The "specific aims" of a study are the same thing as the "objectives" of a study.





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PRACTICAL RESEARCH 1

Answer Key

What I Know

- | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|
| 1. B | 3. C | 5. B | 7. A |
| 2. A | 4. B | 6. D | 8. B |

What's In

(answers may vary)

What's New – Building your skills

(answers may vary)

What Is It - Discussion

(answers may vary)

What's More

Activity 1 – Citing Ideas

(answers may vary)

What I have learned

(answers may vary)

Activity 2 – Application

(answers may vary)

What I Can Do

(answers may vary)

Assessment

- | | | |
|------|-------|-------|
| 1. T | 6. F | 11. T |
| 2. F | 7. F | 12. F |
| 3. T | 8. T | 13. F |
| 4. F | 9. F | 14. T |
| 5. T | 10. T | 15. T |

Additional Activities

(answers may vary)



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