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UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2024/2025

FIRST YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN
EDUCATION
AND

FIRST YEAR, SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN
EDUCATION

EMP 8100: ADVANCED RESEARCH METHODS IN EDUCATION

DATE: JANUARY 2025

TIME: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer *Question ONE* and any other *THREE* Questions.

QUESTION ONE – (24 MARKS)

The rate of teaching staff turn-over in private schools in your home county has depicted an upward trend in the recent past. This scenario has raised concern among private education providers within and outside the county. What is not clear so far are the factors that could be linked to the rising staff attrition and whether this challenge is affecting all schools in the county. You have been contracted by the Kenya Private Schools Association (KPSA) to carry out a study with a view to addressing the said attrition challenge.

- a. Write the problem statement of your study. (4 Marks)
- b. Formulate two objectives that will guide the study. (4 Marks)
- c. Develop two null hypotheses of the study. (4 Marks)

- d. Discuss four reasons why you would carry out a detailed literature review prior to carrying out the study. (4 Marks)
- e. Giving two justifications in each case, state two instruments you would use to collect the data. (6 Marks)
- f. Explain two ways in which you would present the findings of your study. (2 Marks)

QUESTION TWO – (12 MARKS)

- a. Discuss three characteristics of educational research. (6 Marks)
- b. Explain the six steps you would follow when conducting a study entitled “Teachers perceptions of the in-service teacher education programs in Kenya.” (6 Marks)

QUESTION THREE – (12 MARKS)

- a. Distinguish between the terms internal and external reliability of a research instrument. (2 Marks)
- b. Explain five ways in which you would enhance the quality of data you intend to gather in a research undertaking. (10 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR – (12 MARKS)

- a. Explain the main distinction between theoretical and empirical literature. (4 Marks)
- b. Discuss four strategies you would apply with a view to carrying out an effective literature review prior to executing your doctorate research project. (8 Marks)

QUESTION FIVE – (12 MARKS)

- a. Distinguish between simple and stratified random sampling. (4 Marks)
- b. Imagine you are a research methods teacher in one of the Higher Education institutions in Kenya. Explain four methods you would encourage your masters students to apply with a view to reduce sampling bias when conducting their research. (8 Marks)