

UGC NET Research Aptitude 30 Questions

Q1. Which of the following forms the foundation for Survey Research?

- (a) Constructivism
- (b) Humanistic
- (c) Interpretivism
- (d) Positivism

Q2. Which of the following approaches is frequently employed in anthropological studies?

- (a) Case study method
- (b) Ethnographic method
- (c) Both (a) & (b)
- (d) None of the above

Q3. Given below are two statements:

Statement I: Parametric statistics are more powerful than non-parametric statistics.

Statement II: Parametric statistics are assumption free statistics

- (a) Both statement I and statement II are false
- (b) Both Statement I and statement II are true
- (c) Statement I is false but statement II is true
- (d) Statement I is true but statement II is false

Q4. If a researcher needs to assess whether there is a significant difference between the means of two groups to test a hypothesis, which statistical method would they employ?

- (a) Chi-square test
- (b) Correlation coefficient
- (c) Sign-test
- (d) Student's t-test

Q5. Which of the below mentioned approaches falls under the quantitative approach?

- A. Simulation approach
 - B. projective technique
 - C. Inferential approach
 - D. Depth interview
 - E. Experimental approach
- (a) A, B and C only
 - (b) A, C and E only
 - (c) B, C and D only
 - (d) B, C and E only

Q6. A condition or characteristic that can take on different values or categories is called

- (a) A constant
- (b) A variable
- (c) A cause-and-effect relationship
- (d) A descriptive relationship

Q7. Here, some people have greater chance of being elected than other members of the populations. It is

- (a) Probability sampling
- (b) Non-probability sampling
- (c) Quota sampling
- (d) None of the above

Q8. In a research study to learn the impact of the Internet surfing on exam performance, it was found that as the number of hours spent on the Internet surfing increases, the exam performance deteriorates. This study is an example of

- (a) Experimental method
- (b) Correlational research
- (c) Case study
- (d) None of the above

Q9. Data of research take the forms of words or pictures with the researchers as the key instrument in which of the following studies?

- (a) Participants observation-based studies
- (b) Ex post facto studies
- (c) Experimental studies
- (d) Descriptive survey studies

Q10. The essential characteristic of a researchable question is.

- (a) Question seems interesting to answer.
- (b) Possibility of data collection that can be collected in an attempt to answer a question.
- (c) Possibility of commercialization.
- (d) A significant positive change in society.

Q11. When planning to study populations like very young children or individuals who have difficulty articulating themselves, which research method would be most suitable?

- (a) Case history
- (b) Experiment
- (c) Observation
- (d) Survey

Q12. Consider the two statements below:

Statement I: The context of discovery often relies on intuitive, non-rational methods, whereas the context of justification is rooted in logical reasoning.

Statement II: The formulation of hypotheses doesn't always adhere to strict logical principles.

- (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct
- (b) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect
- (c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

Q13. What should be the primary aim when reviewing existing literature for research?

- A. Understanding the current knowledge in the field
- B. Identifying relevant theories and concepts
- C. Securing financial support for the research
- D. Uncovering key debates and controversies
- E. Detecting discrepancies in previous research findings

Choose the correct answer from the options given below

- (a) A, B, C and D only
- (b) A, B, C and E only
- (c) A, B, D and E only
- (d) B, C, D and E only

Q14. Which research method best ensures the protection against the influence of extraneous variables during the hypothesis testing process in the following options?

- (a) Correlational method
- (b) Experimental method
- (c) Case study method
- (d) Descriptive survey

Q15. Which of the following belongs to the category of true experimental design?

- (A) One group pre-test post-test design
- (B) Two group randomised subject posts test only design
- (C) Two groups static designs
- (D) Randomised group pre-test post-test design
- (E) One group time series design

Choose the correct answer from the options given below

- (a) A and B only
- (b) B and C only
- (c) B and D only
- (d) D and E only

Q16. What sources contribute to theory generation in the inductive approach?

- (a) Simple observation
- (b) Conducted research
- (c) Field notes
- (d) Previous theory

Q17. What is the term for the structured observation of an individual over a predetermined time?

- (a) Focus sampling
- (b) Observed sampling
- (c) Random sampling
- (d) Purposive sampling

Q18. In ethnographic research, the researcher immerses themselves in a _____ for an extended period.

- (a) Philosophical discourse
- (b) Political campaign
- (c) Financial transaction
- (d) Social setting

Q19. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: The double-blind procedure effectively addresses experimenter bias in research.

Statement II: Non-verbal cues from participants can also mitigate experimenter bias.

Select the correct option:

- (a) Both statement I and statement II are true.
- (b) Both statement I and statement II are false.
- (c) Statement I is true, but statement II is false.
- (d) Statement I is false, but statement II is true.

Q20. When in a process of reasoning observation is followed by theory, hypotheses at interpretation, that approach to research is known as_____.

- (a) Formulative
- (b) Standardised
- (c) Inductive
- (d) Detective

Q21. Given below are two statements:

Statement I: researchers in history are myth makers.

Statement II: Various movements in social history - new history have provided new narratives for history researchers.

In the light of the above statements, choose the most appropriate answer from the options given below.

- (a) Both statement I and statement II are correct
- (b) Both statement I and statement II are incorrect
- (c) Statement is I correct but statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement is I incorrect but statement II is correct

Q22. According to the Vimmer and Dominick, the sequential steps in content analysis are:

- A. Defining the population
 - B. Selection of appropriate sample
 - C. Identifying the unit of analysis and construction of categories
 - D. Code analysis and draw inferences from the collected data
 - E. Formulation of the research question or hypothesis by the researcher
- (a) A, B, C, D, E
(b) B, C, D, E, A
(c) C, D, E, A, B
(d) E, A, B, C, D

Q23. The characteristics of longitudinal studies are

- A. Limited results
 - B. Do not need having investment
 - C. Provide alternative choices
 - D. Allow insight into the time order of variable
 - E. Focus on individual or institutional development
- (a) A, B and C only
(b) A, D and E only
(c) B, C and D only
(d) C, D and E only

Q24. Analytic induction is a method of

- A. Systematic interpretation of events
 - B. Generating hypothesis
 - C. Testing hypothesis
 - D. Freestyle interpretation
 - E. Testing null hypothesis only
- (a) A, B and E only
(b) A, B and C only
(c) B, C and D only
(d) C, D and E only

Q25. Sometimes, subjects who know that they are in the control group may work hard to excel against the experimental group. Such a phenomenon is known as

- (a) Compensatory rivalry
- (b) Controlled competition
- (c) Inspirational influence
- (d) Motivational contest

Q26. What is the term for a study in which a group of participants is observed and measured over a period of time?

- (a) Longitudinal research
- (b) Archival research
- (c) Cross-sectional research
- (d) Correlation research

Q27. What sampling method is employed when a researcher wants to ensure that each member of the population has an equal chance of being selected in the sample?

- (a) Quota sampling
- (b) Convenience sampling
- (c) Purposive sampling
- (d) Random sampling

Q28. In bibliographies and footnotes, researchers sometimes use the abbreviation 'tr,' which stands for:

- (a) Transit
- (b) Transported
- (c) Translated
- (d) Transcript

Q29. In reports/manuscripts, researchers sometimes use the abbreviation 'fn,' which stands for:

- (a) Figure number
- (b) Following number(s)
- (c) Final note
- (d) Footnote

Q30. The requirement in research that stipulates researchers must not disclose to participants the nature of their participation in the research or any associated risks is known as:

- (a) Anonymity
- (b) Confidentiality
- (c) Informed consent
- (d) Coercion

S1. Ans.(d)

Sol. Positivism forms the foundation for survey research. It is a research paradigm that emphasizes empirical observation and scientific methods to gather and analyze data objectively. Positivist researchers believe that the social world can be studied in a similar manner to the natural sciences, with a focus on measurable and observable phenomena. This approach is widely used in survey research to collect and analyze data through structured questionnaires and statistical analysis, aiming for objective and generalizable findings.

S2. Ans.(b)

Sol. In anthropological studies, the ethnographic method is frequently employed. This method involves immersive, long-term fieldwork and participant observation to understand and document the culture and behaviour of a particular group or community.

S3. Ans.(d)

Sol. Statement I: "Parametric statistics are more powerful than non-parametric statistics" is generally true. Parametric statistics assume a specific distribution for the data (e.g., normal distribution) and make stronger assumptions about the population parameters. These assumptions can make parametric tests more powerful (i.e., more likely to detect real differences or associations) when those assumptions are met. Non-parametric statistics, on the other hand, make fewer assumptions but may be less powerful in some cases.

Statement II: "Parametric statistics are assumption-free statistics" is false. Parametric statistics do make assumptions about the population distribution, such as normality, homogeneity of variance, etc. Therefore, they are not assumption-free.

S4. Ans.(d)

Sol. When a researcher needs to assess whether there is a significant difference between the means of two groups to test a hypothesis, they typically use the student's t-test. This test is specifically designed to compare the means of two groups and determine if the difference between them is statistically significant. The t-test is commonly used in hypothesis testing when dealing with continuous data and comparing two independent groups.

S5. Ans.(b)

Sol. The quantitative approach in research typically involves the use of numerical data and statistical analysis. Based on this definition, let's analyze the options:

A. Simulation approach - This often involves the use of numerical models and data, making it a quantitative approach.

C. Inferential approach - Inferential statistics are a key component of quantitative research, so this is part of the quantitative approach.

E. Experimental approach - Experimental research often involves the manipulation of variables and the collection of numerical data for analysis, making it a quantitative approach.

B. Projective technique - Projective techniques are more qualitative in nature, involving open-ended responses and interpretations rather than numerical data. So, it doesn't fall

D. Depth interview - Depth interviews are qualitative research methods and don't involve numerical data, so they don't fall under the quantitative approach.

So, the correct answer is (b) A, C, and E only, as these approaches fall under the quantitative approach in research.

S6. Ans.(b)

Sol. A variable is something that can take on different values (quantitative or qualitative) for different subjects in a given research study. A constant, on the other hand, carries the exact-same value for all subjects in a study.

Cause and effect is the relationship between two things or events where one event caused another event, or several events, to happen. Descriptive research is a useful method of gathering information about rare phenomena that could not be reproduced in a laboratory or about subjects that are not well understood.

Descriptive research has the advantage of studying individuals in their natural environment, free from the influence of an experiment's artificial construct.

S7. Ans.(b)

Sol. Type of Sampling

Probability sampling: Probability sampling is a sampling technique where a researcher sets a selection of a few criteria and chooses members of a population randomly. All the members have an equal opportunity to be a part of the sample with this selection parameter.

Non-probability sampling: In non-probability sampling, the researcher chooses members for research at random. This sampling method is not a fixed or predefined selection process. This makes it difficult for all elements of a population to have equal opportunities to be included in a sample.

Quota sampling: In Quota sampling, the selection of members in this sampling technique happens based on a pre-set standard. In this case, as a sample is formed based on specific attributes, the created sample will have the same qualities found in the total population. It is a rapid method of collecting samples.

S8. Ans.(b)

Sol. Correlational research can be used to see if two variables are related and to make predictions based on this relationship. A correlational study serves only to describe or predict behavior, not to explain it.

The most common type of descriptive research is the case study, which provides an in-depth analysis of a specific person, group, or phenomenon. While their findings cannot be generalized to the overall population, case studies can provide important information for future research.

S9. Ans.(a)

Sol. Participants observation-based studies involve researchers actively observing and recording data in the form of words or pictures. In these studies, researchers are the key instrument as they directly interact with and observe the participants in their natural settings. This method allows for the collection of rich qualitative data through direct observation. Examples of such studies include ethnographic research and field studies.

S10. Ans.(b)

Sol. The essential characteristic of a researchable question is possibility of data collection that can be collected in an attempt to answer a question.

If a question seems interesting but data cannot be collected, it is not researchable. Commercialization and societal impact might be additional goals but are not essential for a question to be considered 'researchable.'

S11. Ans.(c)

Sol. When the target population consists of very young children or individuals who have difficulty articulating themselves, the most suitable research method is generally "Observation." This method allows researchers to gather data without requiring the subjects to articulate their thoughts or feelings, which might be challenging for these groups. In case histories or surveys, the individuals would need to articulate themselves well, which is not always possible for the populations in question. Experiments could also be inappropriate, especially for ethical reasons or practical considerations. Therefore, observation offers the most reliable and ethical means of gathering accurate information in such instances.

S12. Ans.(a)

Sol. Both Statement I and Statement II are correct. Statement I is correct because the context of discovery often involves intuitive, creative, or even serendipitous processes that are not strictly rational. This is where researchers come up with new ideas or hypotheses. On the other hand, the context of justification is where these ideas are rigorously tested and must stand up to logical scrutiny.

Statement II is also correct because the formulation of hypotheses can often come from a variety of sources, such as observations, previous research, or even educated guesses, and doesn't always adhere to strict logical principles.

S13. Ans.(c)

Sol. The primary aim of reviewing existing literature for research is multi-faceted. It includes understanding the current knowledge in the field (A) to establish a foundation for the research, identifying relevant theories and concepts (B) that may guide the study, uncovering key debates and controversies (D) to identify gaps or areas for further exploration, and detecting discrepancies in previous research findings (E) to establish the need for the new study.

Securing financial support for the research (C) is not a primary aim of the literature review; it is more of an administrative concern.

S14. Ans.(b)

Sol. In experimental research, the process of hypothesis testing optimally safeguards against the influence of extraneous variables through the use of controlled conditions and randomization. This helps isolate the independent variable's effect on the dependent variable, minimizing the impact of extraneous variables.

S15. Ans.(c)

Sol. The true experimental design is characterized by the use of randomization and control groups.

(A) One group pre-test post-test design - This is not a true experimental design as it lacks a control group.

(B) Two group randomised subject posts test only design - This is a true experimental design because it involves two groups (experimental and control) and randomization.

(C) Two groups static designs - This option is not clear, but it doesn't seem to describe a true experimental design.

(D) Randomised group pre-test post-test design - This is a true experimental design as it involves randomization and has both pre-test and post-test measurements.

(E) One group time series design - This is not a true experimental design as it lacks a control group.

So, the correct choices for true experimental designs are (B) and (D), making the answer:

(c) B and D only

S16. Ans.(b)

Sol. In the inductive approach, theories are often generated through the systematic collection and analysis of data obtained from conducted research. This research involves observing, gathering information, and analyzing data to identify patterns and generate new theories.

S17. Ans.(a)

Sol. The term for the structured observation of an individual over a predetermined time is (a) Focus sampling. Focus sampling involves closely observing specific individuals or groups over a set period to gain a deeper understanding of their behaviors, actions, and interactions.

S18. Ans.(d)

Sol. In ethnographic research, the researcher immerses themselves in a (d) Social setting for an extended period. Ethnography involves studying the culture, behaviors, and interactions of a specific group of people by embedding oneself within their social setting to gain a comprehensive understanding.

S19. Ans.(c)

Sol. The correct option is (c) Statement I is true, but statement II is false. The double-blind procedure, where both the participants and the experimenters are unaware of certain information to prevent bias, indeed helps address experimenter bias. However, non-verbal cues from participants can actually introduce or exacerbate experimenter bias rather than mitigate it.

S20. Ans.(c)

Sol. The approach to research where observation is followed by theory and hypotheses is known as (c) Inductive. Inductive reasoning involves deriving general principles or theories from specific observations and data.

S21. Ans.(a)

Sol. Statement I asserts that researchers in history are myth makers. This statement is correct because historians often interpret and narrate historical events based on available evidence, which can lead to the creation of various historical narratives.

Statement II suggests that various movements in social history, like the "new history," have provided new narratives for history researchers. This statement is also correct as movements in historical research have indeed introduced new perspectives and interpretations, leading to the development of alternative historical narratives.

Therefore, both statements are accurate, and option (a) is the correct choice.

S22. Ans.(d)

Sol. The correct sequence of sequential steps in content analysis, according to Vimmer and Dominick, is:

E. Formulation of the research question or hypothesis by the researcher

A. Defining the population

B. Selection of appropriate sample

C. Identifying the unit of analysis and construction of categories

D. Code analysis and draw inferences from the collected data

So, the correct answer is (d) E, A, B, C, D.

S23. Ans.(d)

Sol. The characteristics of longitudinal studies are-

C. Provide alternative choices

D. Allow insight into the time order of variable

E. Focus on individual or institutional development

S24. Ans.(b)

Sol. Analytic induction is a research method involving the systematic interpretation of events, hypothesis generation, and hypothesis testing. Researchers start with a set of observations and gradually build hypotheses based on these observations. They then test these hypotheses to refine their understanding. This method helps in developing a deeper understanding of complex phenomena by iteratively refining and testing hypotheses.

It does not involve freestyle interpretation (D) or testing null hypotheses only (E), making option (b) - A, B, and C only - the correct choice.

S25. Ans.(a)

Sol. Compensatory rivalry is a phenomenon where subjects who know they are in the control group of an experiment may exert extra effort to excel or perform better than the experimental group. This behaviour arises from the awareness of not receiving the experimental treatment and a desire to prove themselves. It can introduce bias in the study's results, as the control group's performance may be influenced by this motivational factor. Researchers often employ blinding techniques to mitigate the impact of compensatory rivalry and ensure more accurate experimental outcomes.

S26. Ans.(a)

Sol. Longitudinal research involves observing and measuring a group of participants over an extended period. It allows researchers to study changes and trends over time, providing valuable insights into developmental patterns or cause-and-effect relationships.

S27. Ans.(d)

Sol. Random sampling ensures that every member of the population has an equal chance of being selected for the sample. This method enhances the sample's representativeness, reducing biases and increasing the generalizability of the findings to the entire population of interest.

S28. Ans.(c)

Sol. In bibliographies and footnotes, 'tr' is an abbreviation for "translated," indicating that the cited material was originally in a different language and has been translated into the language used in the document.

S29. Ans.(d)

Sol. When writing reports or manuscripts, researchers use 'fn' as an abbreviation for "footnote." Footnotes provide additional explanations, references, or comments to supplement the main text without interrupting the flow.

S30. Ans.(c)

Sol. Informed consent mandates that researchers must inform participants about the research's nature and potential risks before obtaining their voluntary agreement to participate. This protects participants' autonomy and ensures ethical treatment in research studies, fostering transparency and trust between researchers and participants.