

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

MSC IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

STAGE I FIRST SEMESTER OCTOBER 2005 EXAMINATIONS

ILI 5102 RESEARCH METHODS AND DATA ANALYSIS TECHNIQUES

TIME: 3 HOURS + 30 MIN READING

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. ANSWER ANY **FOUR** QUESTIONS.
2. EACH QUESTION CARRIES 25 MARKS.

SECTION A

Answer one question in this section

1. (a) "Politics of Social Science research can seduce us into magnifying the differences between quantitative and qualitative Research. But it needn't and shouldn't" (Beker, 1996:65) Critically discuss this statement. [25 marks]

or

- (b) "Increasingly, the terms quantitative and qualitative research have come to signify much more than ways of gathering data; they now denote divergent assumptions about the nature and purposes of research in Library and Information Sciences," critically, discuss this question. [25marks]

SECTION B – Compulsory Question

2. A Regional organization is willing to provide funding for a research project on the impact of ICTS, Library or Information Science in Zimbabwe.
 - (a) From the general area, come up with a specific research problem and show the significance of that Research problem. [10 marks]

- (b) Come up with a Research Design you will use to solve the research problem you chose in (a). In your answer pay special attention to the research tools and the sampling techniques you will use. [15 marks]

SECTION C – Answer Any Two Questions

3. “Literature Review is the most significant stage in the research process” critically discuss this statement. [25 marks]
4. Discuss the usefulness of participant observation as a research tool in Library and Information Science. [25 marks]
5. “Unlike other social sciences, statistics is very essential to Library and Information Science.” Critically discuss this statement. Use examples in your answer. [25 marks]
6. When conducting content analysis, researchers need to read between the lines to get at latent structures of meaning. (Van Zoonen 1994:69) Discuss some of the content analysis techniques which allow researchers to read between the lines. [25 marks]

END OF EXAM