

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO
FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES

**Final Examination in Post Graduate Diploma in Labour Relations and
Human Resources Management – Semester II
202/21 Online Open Book Examinations**

PG Dip (LRHRmgt) - 5203 Research Methods

9.00 AM to 12.00 Noon

Answer four (04) questions only

This paper has five (05) questions and two (02) pages.

1. i. What are the key differences between basic research and applied research?
(15 marks)
- ii. “An automobile manufacturer is conducting a research in an attempt to predict the design of a motor vehicle that consumers will desire in the year 2022. Is this a basic research or an applied research? Explain.
(10 marks)
- (Total: 25 Marks)**
2. i. Define *qualitative* and *quantitative* approaches of research. Compare and contrast these two approaches.
(10 marks)
- ii. Assume that you are interested in doing a research on the interface between business organizations and the University. Write three (03) research questions that may be appropriate for this research.
(15 marks)
- (Total: 25 Marks)**

3. What is meant by the research problem? Describe the main issues which should draw the attention of a researcher in formulating the research problem. Give suitable examples to elucidate your answer.

(25 Marks)

4. i. What do you mean by ‘research questions and research objectives? Explain your answer with the use of an example.

(15 marks)

ii. Explain the terms ‘References’ and ‘In-text citations’ with the use of an example for each.

(10 marks)

(Total: 25 Marks)

5. i. What is meant by a hypothesis? What characteristics must it possess in order to be a good research hypothesis?

(15 marks)

ii. How would you differentiate between population and sample? Explain your answer clearly, with the use of examples.

(10 marks)

(Total: 25 Marks)

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