

SHRI GURU NANAK DEGREE COLLEGE, RUDRAPUR

SUBJECT - SOCIOLOGY

Research Methodology in Sociology

Question Bank

50 Long Answer Questions

1. Define social research. Explain its meaning and major characteristics.
2. Describe the steps involved in the process of scientific research.
3. Explain the significance and scope of social research in sociology.
4. What are the objectives and goals of conducting social research?
5. Compare and contrast basic and applied research in the context of social science.
6. What is a social survey? Discuss its meaning, nature, and scope.
7. Explain the characteristics of an ideal social survey.
8. Discuss the importance of planning in a social survey.
9. Outline the key steps involved in conducting a social survey.
10. Analyze the challenges and limitations of conducting social surveys in India.
11. Define hypothesis. Explain its meaning and characteristics in detail.
12. What are the major sources of formulating a hypothesis in social research?
13. Why is hypothesis formulation important in research? Discuss with examples.
14. Explain the different types of hypotheses used in sociological research.
15. How does a hypothesis contribute to the scientific nature of social research?
16. Discuss the criteria of a good hypothesis.
17. Explain the relationship between theory and hypothesis in research.
18. Describe the process of testing a hypothesis in social research.
19. How can a false hypothesis still contribute to research knowledge?
20. What are the common errors in hypothesis formulation and how can they be avoided?
21. Define data. Differentiate between primary and secondary data.

22. Discuss the major techniques of data collection in social research.
23. Explain the uses, advantages, and limitations of questionnaires in data collection.
24. What is a schedule? Describe its types and characteristics.
25. Compare and contrast questionnaire and schedule as tools of data collection.
26. Explain the importance of observation as a method of data collection.
27. What are the different types of observation used in sociological research?
28. Discuss the merits and limitations of using interviews as a technique of data collection.
29. Explain the characteristics of a good interview.
30. How can a researcher ensure reliability and validity in data collection techniques?
31. Define census and sampling. Highlight the differences between the two.
32. Discuss the characteristics, advantages, and limitations of the census method.
33. Define sampling. Explain its importance in sociological research.
34. Describe different types of sampling methods with examples.
35. What is random sampling? Discuss simple and stratified random sampling.
36. Explain the concept of purposive sampling and its application in social research.
37. Compare and contrast probability and non-probability sampling methods.
38. How can a researcher determine an appropriate sample size for a study?
39. Explain the factors influencing the selection of a sampling technique.
40. What are the common sampling errors and how can they be minimized?
41. Define statistics. Discuss its importance in sociological research.
42. Explain the limitations of using statistics in social research.
43. What is meant by measures of central tendency? Explain their significance.
44. Define mean. How is it calculated? What are its merits and demerits?
45. Define median. How is it determined? In what situations is it most useful?
46. Define mode. Discuss its utility in statistical analysis.
47. Compare mean, median, and mode. Highlight their strengths and weaknesses.
48. Explain the role of elementary statistics in hypothesis testing.
49. How can statistical tools improve the accuracy and objectivity of research findings?

50. Discuss the problems faced by sociologists in applying statistical techniques to social research.

Short Answer Questions

1. What is social research?
2. Mention any two characteristics of social research.
3. Define scientific method.
4. What are the key steps in the scientific research process?
5. What is meant by objectivity in research?
6. Define a social survey.
7. Write two main objectives of conducting a social survey.
8. What is the difference between social research and social survey?
9. Mention two challenges in conducting a social survey.
10. What do you mean by planning in a social survey?
11. Define hypothesis.
12. State two characteristics of a good hypothesis.
13. What is a null hypothesis?
14. What is an alternative hypothesis?
15. Mention two sources of hypothesis formulation.
16. What is the importance of hypothesis in social research?
17. What do you understand by the term “testing of hypothesis”?
18. Differentiate between hypothesis and assumption.
19. Give an example of a sociological hypothesis.
20. What is a directional hypothesis?
21. Define data in research.
22. What is the difference between primary and secondary data?
23. What is a questionnaire?
24. Mention two characteristics of a good questionnaire.

25. Define a schedule in the context of research.
26. Differentiate between questionnaire and schedule.
27. What is observation in data collection?
28. Write two types of observation used in research.
29. Define interview as a method of data collection.
30. Mention any two limitations of the interview method.
31. Define census method.
32. What is meant by sampling?
33. List two advantages of using sampling in research.
34. What is simple random sampling?
35. What is stratified random sampling?
36. Define purposive sampling.
37. Differentiate between probability and non-probability sampling.
38. What is a sampling frame?
39. Mention two features of a good sample.
40. What is sampling error?
41. Define statistics.
42. What is the utility of statistics in sociology?
43. Name three measures of central tendency.
44. Define mean.
45. Define median.
46. Define mode.
47. What is the formula to calculate mean?
48. What is the importance of measures of central tendency?
49. Mention one limitation of using statistics in social research.
50. Why is it important to calculate mean, median, and mode?

Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

1. Social research primarily aims to:
 - a) Entertain society
 - b) Formulate policies
 - c) Understand social phenomena
 - d) Promote politics
2. Which of the following is a characteristic of scientific research?
 - a) Randomness
 - b) Subjectivity
 - c) Systematic approach
 - d) Bias
3. The first step in scientific research is:
 - a) Data analysis
 - b) Report writing
 - c) Problem formulation
 - d) Sampling
4. A social survey is:
 - a) A newspaper report
 - b) A gossip session
 - c) A systematic study of society
 - d) An interview with friends
5. The main tool of a social survey is:
 - a) Test tube
 - b) Schedule or questionnaire
 - c) Poem
 - d) Editorial
6. Which is not a step in scientific research?
 - a) Hypothesis testing
 - b) Data collection

- c) Cooking food
 - d) Interpretation
7. Social surveys generally use which of the following methods?
- a) Participant observation
 - b) Laboratory experiments
 - c) Interviews and questionnaires
 - d) Literary analysis
8. The goal of social research is to:
- a) Prove myths
 - b) Provide factual information
 - c) Encourage bias
 - d) Promote ideologies
9. Social survey deals with:
- a) Emotions
 - b) Scientific analysis
 - c) Imaginations
 - d) Dreams
10. Characteristics of scientific research include:
- a) Personal bias
 - b) Objectivity and reliability
 - c) Emotional subjectivity
 - d) Political influence

Unit II: Hypothesis in Social Research

11. A hypothesis is a:
- a) Theory
 - b) Speculation
 - c) Tentative statement
 - d) Proof

12. A good hypothesis should be:

- a) Complex
- b) Unverifiable
- c) Testable
- d) Vague

13. Hypothesis provides:

- a) Political views
- b) Direction to research
- c) Superstition
- d) Fixed laws

14. Which of the following is a source of hypothesis?

- a) Dreams
- b) Previous studies
- c) Horoscope
- d) Poetry

15. Importance of hypothesis in research lies in:

- a) Confusing data
- b) Guiding the study
- c) Avoiding analysis
- d) Skipping methods

16. Which is not a type of hypothesis?

- a) Null hypothesis
- b) Directional hypothesis
- c) Opposite hypothesis
- d) Non-directional hypothesis

17. Hypotheses are tested through:

- a) Data collection
- b) Reading novels

- c) Singing songs
- d) Gossip

18. A null hypothesis implies:

- a) No difference or effect
- b) High relationship
- c) Definite cause
- d) Emotional bond

19. Hypothesis should be based on:

- a) Assumptions
- b) Guess
- c) Available facts
- d) Superstition

20. Which one is an essential quality of hypothesis?

- a) Complexity
- b) Emotionality
- c) Simplicity
- d) Vagueness

Unit III: Data Collection

21. Primary data is collected:

- a) From books
- b) Through direct contact
- c) Via TV
- d) Through advertisements

22. Secondary data refers to:

- a) First-hand data
- b) Raw data
- c) Already collected data
- d) Fictional data

23. Questionnaire is:

- a) A conversation
- b) A written list of questions
- c) A speech
- d) An article

24. Schedule is used when:

- a) Literacy is high
- b) Investigator fills the form
- c) Respondent is anonymous
- d) Questions are hidden

25. Observation is suitable when:

- a) Respondents are absent
- b) Behavior is to be studied
- c) Dreams are analyzed
- d) Politics is discussed

26. Interview method requires:

- a) Email
- b) Face-to-face interaction
- c) Hidden camera
- d) WhatsApp

27. Secondary data can be found in:

- a) Family photos
- b) Published reports
- c) TikTok
- d) Personal opinions

28. A good questionnaire avoids:

- a) Leading questions
- b) Clear questions

- c) Objective questions
- d) Closed-ended items

29. Interview schedule is:

- a) Self-administered
- b) Investigator-administered
- c) Computer generated
- d) Imaginary

30. Observation method may lack:

- a) Accuracy
- b) Verifiability
- c) Control
- d) Natural behavior

Unit IV: Census and Sampling

31. Census covers:

- a) A sample
- b) Whole population
- c) Just youth
- d) Only poor people

32. Sampling means:

- a) Total enumeration
- b) Part selection from population
- c) Ignoring data
- d) Guessing

33. Random sampling is:

- a) Bias-based
- b) Equal chance to all
- c) Based on looks
- d) Based on money

34. Stratified sampling involves:

- a) Random guesses
- b) Dividing population into strata
- c) Ignoring groups
- d) Skipping data

35. Purposive sampling is:

- a) Random
- b) Based on researcher's judgment
- c) Census
- d) Online poll

36. Which sampling is most scientific?

- a) Convenience sampling
- b) Random sampling
- c) Snowball sampling
- d) Accidental sampling

37. A sample should be:

- a) Biased
- b) Representative
- c) Randomly chosen only from rich
- d) Ignored

38. Census method is:

- a) Cheap
- b) Time-consuming
- c) Biased
- d) Inaccurate

39. Simple random sampling gives:

- a) Unequal chance
- b) Equal chance

- c) No chance
- d) Guess-based selection

40. Sampling is preferred when:

- a) Population is small
- b) Resources are limited
- c) All are absent
- d) No data is needed

Unit V: Elementary Statistics

41. Statistics deals with:

- a) Feelings
- b) Numerical data
- c) Poetry
- d) Politics

42. Central tendency measures:

- a) Average
- b) Emotions
- c) Music
- d) Gossip

43. Mean is:

- a) Middle value
- b) Most frequent value
- c) Arithmetic average
- d) Tallest number

44. Median is:

- a) Middle value
- b) Average
- c) Highest number
- d) First number

45. Mode is:

- a) Least frequent number
- b) Average
- c) Most frequent number
- d) Random number

46. Limitation of statistics is:

- a) Subjectivity
- b) Inability to quantify quality
- c) Clarity
- d) Simplicity

47. Importance of statistics lies in:

- a) Clarifying social issues
- b) Making jokes
- c) Writing novels
- d) Printing posters

48. Which is not a measure of central tendency?

- a) Mean
- b) Median
- c) Mode
- d) Range

49. Statistics can help in:

- a) Data analysis
- b) Dream writing
- c) Myth formation
- d) Guess work

50. Mode is useful when data is:

- a) Uniform
- b) Skewed

c) Categorical

d) Continuous