

The Nature of Research

Content

1. Definition of “research”
2. Fundamental characteristics of research.
3. Types of research.
4. Stages of scientific research.

The purpose:

**to clarify the main features of
research and
to specify its types and stages**

***Research* is something that people undertake in order to find out things in a systematic way, thereby increasing their knowledge.**

'Systematic' suggests that research is based on logical relationships and not just beliefs. As part of this, your research will involve an explanation of the methods used to collect data, will argue why the results obtained are meaningful, and will explain any limitations that are associated with them.

***'To find out things'* suggests that there is a multiplicity of possible purposes for your research. These may include describing, explaining, understanding, criticizing and analyzing. However, it also suggests that you have a clear purpose.**

Characteristics of research

- data are collected systematically;
- data are interpreted systematically;
- there is a clear purpose: to find things out.

The ways in which the term is used wrongly are:

- just collecting facts or information with no clear purpose;**
- reordering facts or information without interpretation;**
- as a term to get your product or idea noticed and respected.**

Types of researches

Pure research is original investigation undertaken to gain new scientific or technical knowledge and understanding, but without any specific applications.

Applied research is original investigation undertaken to gain new scientific or technical knowledge with a specific practical aim or objective.

Basic research	Applied research
<p>Purpose:</p>	<p>Purpose:</p>
<p>to expand knowledge of processes</p>	<p>to improve understanding of a particular problem</p>
<p>Findings</p>	<p>Findings</p>
<p>universal principles relating to the process and its relationship to outcomes</p>	<p>solution to problem, new knowledge limited to a problem</p>
<p>Significance</p>	<p>Significance</p>
<p>of theoretical relevance and value to society in general</p>	<p>of practical relevance and value to particular organizations</p>
<p>Context:</p>	<p>Context:</p>
<p>undertaken by people based in universities; choice of topic and objectives determined by the researcher; flexible time scale.</p>	<p>undertaken by people based in a variety of settings including organizations and universities; objectives negotiated with originator; tight time scale.</p>

Stages of research

1

**setting
general
area
of research;**

2

**defining
the object
of
research;**

3

**analyzing
problem
situation
and stating
a problem;**

Stages of research

4

**specifying
the subject
of research;**

5

**formulating
a research
aim;**

6

**setting
objectives;**

Stages of research

7

**developing
research
methods;**

8

**collecting,
describing,
processing,
interpreting
research
data;**

9

**making
conclusions;**

Stages of research

10

**determining
application
area;**

11

**writing
a research project**

Thank you for attention!