



ZIMBABWE

**MINISTRY OF HIGHER AND TERTIARY EDUCATION,
INNOVATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEVELOPMENT**

**HIGHER EDUCATION EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL
(HEXCO)**

NATIONAL DIPLOMA

IN

BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

MODULE: Research Methods

**PAPER NO: 500/15/S15
500/22/S14**

DURATION: 3 Hours

JUNE 2026 EXAMINATION

REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Non-programmable scientific calculator
- 2) Formula list

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATE

Attempt any five (5) questions

QUESTION 1

- a) Define the term literature review. (2 marks)
- b) State and explain any six (6) roles of literature review. (18 marks)

QUESTION 2

- a) Explain any five (5) sources of research topics. (10 marks)
- b) Describe any five (5) qualities of a good question. (10 marks)

QUESTION 3

The CEO is interested in the relationship between employees' salaries and their work experience. A random sample of eight employees was considered and the data as shown in the table:

Experience (years)	5	3	8	2	3	9	4	6
Salary (\$)	480	420	610	400	450	660	480	540

- a) Identify the dependant and independent variables. (2 marks)
- b) Estimate the least squares regression line. (10 marks)
- c) Predict the salary for an employee with 7 years of experience. (2 marks)
- d) Calculate Spearman's rank correlation coefficient. (6 marks)

QUESTION 4

Identify and explain ten (10) steps in a research process. (20 marks)

QUESTION 5

- a) Define the following terms as used in research:
- i) Population (2 marks)
 - ii) Sample (2 marks)
 - iii) Sampling units (2 marks)
 - iv) Sampling frame (2 marks)
 - v) Census (2 marks)
- b) What do you understand by probability sampling technique. (2 marks)

PAPER NO: 500/15/S15-RESEARCH METHODS

PAPER NO: 500/22/S14-RESEARCH METHODS

- c) Describe any four (4) probability sampling techniques. (8 marks)

QUESTION 6

- a) Explain any five (5) qualities of a good interviewer. (10 marks)
- b) Discuss open-ended questions as they relate to data collection. (10 marks)

QUESTION 7

- a) Name any two (2) measures of dispersion. (2 marks)
- b) During a research, A2 farmers were asked a question on the quantity of maize produced on their plots:

Number of tonnes produced	Number of farmers
20-<30	10
30-<40	20
40-<50	16
50-<60	9
60-<70	5

As part of data analysis and data presentation you are required to:

- i) Calculate Pearson's coefficient of skewness and interpret. (12 marks)
- ii) Draw a histogram and estimate mode. (6 marks)

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