**Sociology AS (CIE Syllabus No:- 9699)**

# CHECKLIST

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| PAPER | TYPE | DURATION | NUMBER OF QUESTIONS | Maxmarks | Weighting |
| 1 | ESSAY  | 1hour 30 mins | 2 from a choice of 6 | 50 | 25 |
| 2 | DATA RESPONSE | 1hour 30 mins | 2 from a choice of 3 | 50 | 25 |

## RESEARCH METHODS – UNIT 2

This unit introduces candidates to the basic concepts and issues in research design and evaluation. The aim is to make candidates aware of the way in which sociologists can claim that their findings are truthful and worthwhile.

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| **GLOSSARY 1** |
| Methodology | Participant observation | Content analysis | Cross sectional surveys |
| Primary data | Non participant observation | Semiology | Case studies |
| Secondary data | Laboratory experiments | Personal documents | QuestionnairesStructured, unstructured, semi-structured, group interviews |
| Qualitative data | Field experiments | Sampling and methods |
| Quantitative data | Overt observations | Sampling error |
| Respondent | Longitudinal surveys | Pilot studies |
| **1. Methods of research** | **Done in class** |
| * The distinctions between primary and secondary data and between quantitative and qualitative data
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| * The different quantitative and qualitative methods and sources of data, including questionnaires, interviews, observation techniques, experiments, longitudinal studies, case studies, content analysis, semiology, documents and official statistics.
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| * The stages of research design, deciding on research strategy, formulating research problems and hypothesis, sampling and pilot studies, conducting the research, interpreting the results and reporting the findings
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## THEORY AND METHODS – UNIT 2

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| **GLOSSARY 1** |
| Positivism | Comparative analysis | Research effect | Methodological pluralism |
| Interpretivism | Scientific method | Researcher bias | Value judgement |
| Validity | Hypothesis | Researcher values | Falsification |
| Reliability | Hypothetico-deductive method | Value freedom | Research funding |
| Objectivity | Variables | Hawthorne effect | Paradigms |
| Subjectivity | Correlation | Ethical issues | Domain assumptions |
| Representativeness | Causation |  |  |
| **2. Theory and methods** | **Done in class** |
| * The relationship between theory and methods, positivist, and anti-positivist
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| * The theoretical, practical and ethical considerations influencing the choice of topic, choice of methods and the conduct of research
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| * The strengths and limitations of different sources of data and methods of research
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| * Validity, reliability, objectivity and representativeness as key concepts in assessing the value of different methods of research
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| * Bias
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| * Triangulation and methodological pluralism
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