

“Covert ethnography can make it easier to gain access to certain settings and therefore has much to recommend it.” Explain how this may be true, then outline the shortcomings of covert research.

What is the role of key informants in ethnographic research? Is there anything to be concerned about when using them?

How does it happen that some ethnographers over-identify with people they are observing? What are some consequences of over-identification?

Why are field notes important for ethnographers? What are the main types of field notes and why is it useful to distinguish between them?

How can visual materials be used in ethnography?

What is theoretical sampling? How can it be used in ethnographic research?

What are the main features of feminist ethnography? Does it refer to physical harm alone?

What are some of the difficulties involved in implementing the principle of informed consent when doing ethnographic research?

Can reception in social research ever be justified? Explain.

What is meant by “balancing risks and potential benefits”?

Do research questions have the same characteristics and significance in qualitative research as in quantitative research?

Is the approach to theory in qualitative-research primarily inductive or deductive?

Why do qualitative researchers reject the notion of validity and reliability used in quantitative research?

What are the main goals of qualitative researchers.

What are some of the main criticisms of qualitative research? Are those criticisms valid?

“The difference between quantitative and qualitative research revolves entirely around the concern with numbers in the former and with words in the latter.” To what extent is this statement accurate?

The main steps in quantitative research?

Why may multiple indicators of a concept be preferable to using a single indicator?

Name and define four different kinds of measurement validity, providing an illustration of each one.

Outline the main goals of quantitative researchers. What is to be gained by achieving them?

Explain how the techniques used by quantitative researchers may produce findings that are not applicable to everyday life.

What is a “theory”, as the term is used in this chapter

What is the inductive method, and how can it be used to come up with theories or interpretations of social phenomena.

What is meant by the terms “Positivism”, Interpretivism and critical social science.

What do the terms “objectivism and Constructionism” mean?

Outline the main differences between quantitative and qualitative research in terms of the relationship between theory and data, epistemological considerations, and ontological issues.

How might someone’s personal values influence the topics they choose to research?

What are the main characteristics of a good research question?

Explain the time order criterion of causation

What is a spurious correlation

What is a nomothetic explanation

What is an idiographic explanation? How do qualitative researchers produce them?

How are true experiments able to establish causal connections between variables?

What is a quasi-experiment?

What is meant by a cross-sectional research design?

Why might a longitudinal research design be superior to a cross-sectional one?

What is a case study?