

國立彰化師範大學 98 學年度博士班招生考試試題

系所：教育研究所

科目：教育研究法

☆☆請在答案紙上作答☆☆

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1. Please read the following abstract carefully and answer the following questions:

“Generally educational research is grounded in the empirical traditions of the social sciences (commonly called quantitative and qualitative methods) and is as such distinguished from other forms of scholarship such as theoretical, conceptual or methodological essays, critiques of research traditions and practices and those studies grounded in the humanities (e.g. history, philosophy, literary analysis, arts-based inquiry). Since the early twentieth century, mainstream educational research is of an empirical nature. In quantitative research, one typically looks for a distribution of variables (how many are there with this or that characteristic) and for explanations, which can be of a deductive-nomological kind, incorporating universal laws, or be of an inductive nature, which employ statistics. Due to being subsumed under its own set of laws, quantitative research can offer an explanation either in terms of an argument (a logical structure with premises and conclusions governed by some rule of acceptance), or as a presentation of the conditions relevant to the occurrence of the event and a statement of the degree of probability of the event given these conditions. Using Polkinghorne's distinction between an “analysis of narratives” and “narrative analysis” one can further differentiate between two kinds of qualitative research. One may be interested in common features in different cases. Here the purpose is not only to describe categories, but also to deal with the relationships between different categories. In many cases this kind of research is generally analogous to a quantitative design (including hypotheses), with the exception that qualitative data are gathered, i.e. they refer to what people feel about, or what their experience is with, particular things, what they say that their reasons, desires and intentions are. To be distinguished from this is a second kind where the researcher arranges events and actions by showing how they contribute to the evolution of a plot. The plot is the thematic line of the narrative, the narrative structure that shows how different events contribute to a narrative. This interpretive research thus goes beyond research as the accumulation of knowledge and comes close to those areas of scholarship (see above) that were distinguished from educational research grounded in the empirical traditions of the social sciences. In other words, an interpretation is offered. In this paper various problems relative to the different types of research will be dealt with. It will be argued that educational research (the study of education) should be characterised by *various modes of explanation* depending on *the kind of theoretical interest* one is pursuing. That is it does not give us fixed and universal knowledge of the social world as such, but rather that it *contributes to the task of improving upon our practical knowledge of ongoing social life*. It presupposes *dialogue between all those involved* and furthermore *invokes a normative stance*. Finally, it should be seen as a case of *positive slowness* that prevents us from being absorbed in the chaos of unmediated complexity.”

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SOURCE: "Qualitative and quantitative research methods: old wine in new bottles? On understanding and interpreting educational phenomena," by P. Smeyers, 2008, *Paedagogica Historica*, 44(6), p.691.

- a) What is the viewpoint of the author? (15%)
 - b) As a researcher in education, what is your opinion? (10%)
2. Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) and Hierarchical Linear Models (HLM) are two popular statistical techniques that can be used to deal with quantitative data.
- a) Please define these two methods. (15%)
 - b) Compare with the traditional statistical techniques, what is the advantage of SEM? (5%)
 - c) Compare with the traditional statistical techniques, what is the advantage of HLM? (5%)
3. 行動研究是教育工作者解決實務問題的一種方式。一般而言，可分為批判行動研究(critical action research)與實用行動研究(practical action research)兩種類型。
- a) 請分別說明何謂批判行動研究與實用行動研究並比較兩者異同之處。(8%)
 - b) 請說明如何執行行動研究。(5%)
 - c) 適用於行動研究效度的規準有哪些。如何確保這些研究效度的品質？(7%)
 - d) 如何對於行動研究品質進行評鑑。(5%)
4. What are the major characteristics of an experimental research?(7%)
- How do you evaluate the adequacy of an experimental research in terms of internal validity and external validity? (18%)