

1. Applied practice questions on research methods

A series of questions which require students to apply their knowledge of research methods to different scenarios.

2. Brick wall

A resource to establish knowledge of key methodological concepts including validity, reliability, representative, ethics. Students to colour code matching phrases. Then they need to write their own definitions (progressive learning).

3. Bubble diagrams

Revision-based activity to record key information from the main methods and sampling, secondary data and triangulation.

4. Chart for designing a study

A chart with key sections for designing research and trigger questions. A challenging activity but useful to encourage knowledge of the key stages and decision-making involved when designing research.

5. Differences between quantitative and qualitative research

This handout looks at two different pieces of research which both investigate the same topic (fear of crime). Cobbina's is a qualitative approach and Jackson's is a quantitative approach. It will encourage students to identify the differences between the style of research e.g. sample size, method etc. It also includes extracts of their data to help illustrate how quantitative and qualitative data are presented (progressive learning / methods in context / links to substantive topic of crime).

6. Ethical Breaches

Questions related to examples of ethical breaches. Students have to reflect on the breach and offer potential solutions.

7. Ethical issues

An applied activity where students need to consider the ethical issues associated with certain/novel topics and consider how they may deal with them.

8. Ethics review checklist

A 'mock' ethics review checklist. Students can work in groups and develop a piece of research and address all the potential ethics. Other groups could form an 'ethics committee' and scrutinise the project. A useful insight to what happens for active research sociologists in their profession.

9. Evaluation of the unstructured interview

Students will review an extract of Dobash and Dobash's study of violence against wives and then answer applied questions relating to the methodology. Link to family topic.

10. Fill in the gaps 1

A brief gap filling activity.

11. Grover cube

Students can make a dice which consists of the main methodological issues. This can be done as a class-based activity or in groups/pairs to apply knowledge to particular methods.

12. Key term glossary

A chart to create a glossary of key terms encountered on the course.

13. Main methods definitions

A table to record the definitions of the main social research methods.

14. Methods overview – student

A blank table that students can use to record key information on the main methods for revision purposes. Accompanied by a teacher version with suggested information.

15. Methods overview – teacher

Same as above but with guidance notes.

16. Noughts and crosses

A quiz-based activity to recap knowledge. There are 35 different charts with numbers all randomized (no one has the same / or can be done in groups). 25 questions will be needed and students find the number to record the answer. When the answers are read, they circle if correct or cross if incorrect. Winner is the first to create a horizontal, vertical or diagonal line (don't necessarily have to have them all right to win!).

17. Participant observation

Information about the method of observation including a key study by James Patrick with applied questions.

18. Question schedule for domestic labour questionnaire

Links with resource 6 and is a list of developed questions (links with resource 7).

19. Questionnaire worksheet

A bubble diagram for students to research and record information on the questionnaire method.

20. Research aims and hypotheses

A worksheet explaining the difference between aims and hypotheses with practical activities.

21. Research key sociologists

A research-based activity to get to know the key sociologists from the GCSE course. Students can be allocated one sociologist or it can be group-based work. An opportunity to make substantive topic links and look at the research methodology (methods in context). Could be a class presentation activity and work could be displayed (links with resource 1).

22. Research methods catchphrase

A quiz-based resource where questions can be posed and a coloured square removed for students to guess the research method-based picture. Adaptable to suit needs. The final slide is an activity for students to draw around their hands on A3 with one hand focused on qualitative methods and the other quantitative. In each finger they should write a methodological concept then proceed to write further key words which link to the concept and either the quantitative or qualitative approach. One is modelled for an example. Could pose a challenge and guidance may be required.

23. Revise the strengths and weaknesses of questionnaires

A flower outline which contains strengths and weaknesses of the questionnaire method. Students should colour code the key in the centre and identify the strengths and weaknesses. Information could then be used to write up 'full' points.

24. Sampling

An illustrated information handout to study some key approaches to sampling. It ends with some practical activities. Suggestion: I have brought in smarties for students to use to try out different sampling techniques.

25. Secondary data

Information and questions relating to secondary data and distinctions between quantitative and qualitative sources.

26. Selecting research respondents

A sampling-based handout to revise the definitions and strengths and weaknesses of different approaches.

27. The problem of response rates

Information regarding the issue of response rates and ways to improve response rates.

28. Validity reliability scale

A resource to evaluate the issues of validity and reliability related to the main research methods. Students plot on the scale how valid or reliable they think particular methods are and add notes to contextualise or have a class-based discussion.

29. Venn diagram questionnaires and interviews

A Venn diagram for students to compare and contrast the self-report techniques of questionnaires and interviews.

30. Issues when carrying out sociological research

This table contains information about some of the difficulties involved in carrying out social research related to access and gatekeepers. It also has links to research and requires students to consider the problems in relation to novel scenarios.