

MEANING OF RESEARCH



Research is a **systematic, objective and scientific investigation** undertaken to discover new facts, verify existing knowledge, establish relationships, or solve problems.

KEY POINTS



1. SYSTEMATIC

Follows a planned and organized process.



2. PURPOSEFUL

Conducted to answer a question or solve a problem.



3. KNOWLEDGE-ORIENTED

Discovers, verifies, or expands knowledge.



4. EMPIRICAL

Based on observation, evidence, and data.



5. OBJECTIVE

Attempts to minimize personal bias.



6. REPLICABLE

Procedures should be clear enough to be repeated or verified.



7. ANALYTICAL

Data are examined logically to reach conclusions.



8. PROBLEM-SOLVING

May address theoretical or practical problems.

SIMPLE DEFINITION



RESEARCH = Systematic Investigation + Collection of Evidence + Analysis + Valid Conclusions

RESEARCH PROCESS – QUICK RECALL



1. IDENTIFY PROBLEM



2. REVIEW LITERATURE



3. FORMULATE OBJECTIVES / HYPOTHESIS



4. COLLECT DATA



5. ANALYZE DATA



6. INTERPRET RESULTS



7. DRAW CONCLUSIONS



8. REPORT FINDINGS



RESEARCH IS NOT:

- ✗ Random information collection
- ✗ Mere gathering of facts
- ✗ Personal opinion without evidence
- ✗ An unsystematic search for information



REMEMBER:

Research is a **systematic search** for **new knowledge** or **verification** of **existing knowledge**.





1. CLASSIFICATION OF RESEARCH



1.1 BY PURPOSE / OBJECTIVE

TYPE	KEY QUESTION	KEY FEATURE
 EXPLORATORY	What is the phenomenon?	Little known; qualitative; generates ideas/hypotheses
 DESCRIPTIVE	What are the characteristics? Who/what/when/where/how – NOT why	Uses surveys, observation
 EXPLANATORY (CAUSAL)	Why does it occur?	Cause-effect; quantitative; experiments/regression

1.2 BY APPLICATION / OUTCOME

TYPE	GOAL	KEY DISTINCTION
 BASIC / PURE RESEARCH	Expand scientific knowledge	Knowledge for its own sake; universal applicability
 APPLIED RESEARCH	Solve a real-world problem	Specific, limited context; applies existing theory
 ACTION RESEARCH	Solve immediate local problem	Cyclical: Plan → Act → Observe → Reflect; practitioner-led
 EVALUATION RESEARCH	Assess program effectiveness	Measures success/failure of an intervention/policy

1.3 BY INQUIRY MODE (APPROACH)

TYPE	PHILOSOPHY	DATA	GOAL
 QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH	Positivist	Numerical	Test hypotheses; generalize; statistical analysis
 QUALITATIVE RESEARCH	Interpretivist	Text/images/sound	Deep understanding of participant's perspective
 GROUNDNED THEORY	Interpretivist	Qualitative (interviews)	Generate theory from data (constant comparative method)



KEY

Action Research cycle: **Plan** → **Act** → **Observe** → **Reflect**
(iterative; low generalizability; context-specific)

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