2.10 Primary and Secondary Data, Quantitative and Qualitative Data: 10-minute Pack

AQA 8192 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. For questions worth 2 marks or more write your answers using full sentences where requested. Spend about 10 minutes on this paper.

1 Which one of the following, in the context of GCSE sociology research methods, is an example of primary data?

- ☐ A) A government survey dataset published last year
- ☐ B) A police crime table from the national statistics website
- ☐ C) Notes from an interview the researcher conducted themselves
- ☐ D) A historic diary held in an archive

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

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2 Classify the following source in the context of sociology research: 'A local council publishes an annual table of homelessness counts for each neighbourhood.' Is this primary or secondary data? Explain your answer briefly.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

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3 Classify the following example: 'A school produces annual league tables showing average exam scores for each class.' Is the data quantitative or qualitative? Explain your answer briefly.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

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4 Name two kinds of secondary quantitative sources that a GCSE sociology researcher might use and explain briefly why each counts as secondary quantitative data.

(Total for Question 4 is 4 marks)

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Mark scheme · 2.10 Primary and Secondary Data, Quantitative and Qualitative Data: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

C (notes from an interview the researcher conducted themselves) **B1**

Answer: C

Question 2

identifies it as secondary data **B1**

brief development, e.g. it is pre-existing published information produced by the council, not collected first-hand by the researcher **B1**

Answer: This is secondary data, because it is pre-existing published information produced by the council rather than data collected first-hand by the researcher.

Question 3

identifies it as quantitative data **B1**

brief development, e.g. average exam scores are numerical measures that can be compared and graphed **B1**

Answer: This is quantitative data, because average exam scores are numerical measures that can be compared and presented in tables or graphs.

Question 4

identifies one correct source, e.g. national census statistics **B1**

brief explanation of why it is secondary quantitative, e.g. it is pre-existing numerical data collected and published by another organisation **B1**

identifies a second correct source, e.g. local authority crime figures or school exam results **B1**

brief explanation of why it is secondary quantitative, e.g. they are numerical counts or rates published by institutions and not collected first-hand by the researcher **B1**

Answer: Examples: national census statistics, which are pre-existing numerical data collected and published by another organisation; and local authority crime figures or school exam results, which are numerical counts or rates published by institutions and not collected first-hand by the researcher.

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