2.9 Case Studies and Longitudinal Studies as Research Methods: 10-minute Pack

AQA 8192 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. For questions worth 4 marks or more write your answers in full sentences. Spend about 10 minutes on this paper.

1 Explain two ways a detailed case study of a single youth club could produce findings that are not reliable for other clubs in the same region.

(Total for Question 1 is 4 marks)

2 Define what is meant by 'sample attrition' in the context of a longitudinal research project following the same participants over decades.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

3 Outline one strength of using a case study to research the culture of a single company.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

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Mark scheme · 2.9 Case Studies and Longitudinal Studies as Research Methods: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

identifies a reason, e.g. the club may have a unique set of staff or a particular funding situation	**B1**
development, e.g. staff style or funding can shape activities and behaviour so results do not transfer to clubs with different conditions	**B1**
identifies a second reason, e.g. the small sample and specific local culture may produce context dependent findings	**B1**
development, e.g. local demographics or community history can affect outcomes, reducing reliability if repeated elsewhere	**B1**

Answer: Findings may not be reliable because the club could have a unique staff team or funding situation affecting activities and behaviour, and because the small, context specific sample and local culture mean results depend on local demographics and history and may not repeat elsewhere.

Question 2

identifies sample attrition as the loss of participants from the sample over time	**B1**
development, e.g. due to moving away, refusing further participation or dying, which can bias results	**B1**

Answer: Sample attrition is the loss of participants from the sample over time, for example because people move away, refuse further participation or die, which can bias the study results.

Question 3

identifies a strength, e.g. produces rich, detailed qualitative data about the company's culture	**B1**
development, e.g. allows deep understanding of processes, meanings and relationships within that organisation	**B1**

Answer: A case study produces rich, detailed qualitative data about the company's culture, allowing a deep understanding of processes, meanings and relationships within that organisation.

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