

Chapter: Collection of Data

Time Allowed: 2 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

Student Name:

Roll No: _____

Date: _____

General Instructions:

- All questions are compulsory. Read questions carefully before answering.
- Section A contains 15 Multiple Choice Questions of 1 mark each.
- Section B contains 5 Short Answer Questions of 3 marks each (Word limit: 60–80 words).
- Section C contains 5 Short Answer Questions of 4 marks each (Word limit: 80–100 words).
- Section D contains 5 Long Answer Questions of 6 marks each (Word limit: 120–150 words).

SECTION A: MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (1 Mark Each) — [15 Marks]

Q1. Primary data refers to information that is:

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| (a) Collected by someone else earlier | (b) Collected for the first time by the investigator |
| (a) Published in an official journal | (d) Gathered from secondary research repositories |

Q2. Which data collection method is most suitable when the field of inquiry is vast and respondents are literate?

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| (a) Direct Personal Investigation | (b) Indirect Oral Investigation |
| (c) Mailed Questionnaire Method | (d) Information through Local Correspondents |

Q3. Statistical information compiled and published in the Census of India is an example of:

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|------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) Primary Data | (b) Secondary Data |
| (c) Sample Data | (d) Raw Experimental Data |

Q4. A question that provides a restricted set of pre-determined choices (e.g., Yes/No, Multiple Choice) is called a:

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|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) Open-ended Question | (b) Closed-ended Question |
| (c) Unstructured Question | (d) Projective Question |

Q5. An enumerator is a person who:

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a) Answers the survey questions | (b) Conducts secondary library research |
| (c) Collects data by visiting respondents with schedules | (d) Publishes government economic bulletins |

Q6. Which sampling technique gives every single unit in the target population an equal and known chance of selection?

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| (a) Quota Sampling | (b) Convenience Sampling |
| (c) Simple Random Sampling | (d) Purposive Sampling |

Q7. Which national organization in India routinely conducts large-scale sample surveys on socio-economic indicators?

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) | (b) NITI Aayog |
| (c) National Sample Survey Office (NSSO / NSO) | (d) Ministry of Finance |

Q8. Errors arising due to non-response, measurement inaccuracy, or investigator bias fall under:

- (a) Sampling Errors
- (b) Non-Sampling Errors
- (c) Mathematical Standard Errors
- (d) Random Fluctuations

Q9. The comprehensive statistical survey covering every individual item or unit in a population is known as:

- (a) Sample Survey
- (b) Census Method
- (c) Pilot Survey
- (d) Stratified Survey

Q10. A preliminary try-out or pre-testing of a questionnaire on a small group before the main survey is termed as:

- (a) Primary Survey
- (b) Census Investigation
- (c) Pilot Survey
- (d) Field Audit

Q11. Which of the following represents an UNPUBLISHED source of secondary data?

- (a) Reports of Trade Associations
- (b) Government Gazetteers
- (c) Internal confidential records of private firms
- (d) International IMF Bulletins

Q12. When a population consists of distinct groups with heterogeneous characteristics, which sampling method yields the most representative sample?

- (a) Simple Random Sampling
- (b) Stratified Random Sampling
- (c) Convenience Sampling
- (d) Quota Sampling

Q13. Which type of error systematically tends to decrease as the size of the sample increases?

- (a) Non-sampling error
- (b) Sampling error
- (c) Data entry error
- (d) Questionnaire design bias

Q14. Personal bias of the investigator affects which primary data collection method the most?

- (a) Information through Local Correspondents
- (b) Mailed Questionnaire Method
- (c) Direct Personal Investigation
- (d) Telephonic Interview

Q15. Statement I: Secondary data can always be used directly without checking suitability or reliability.

Statement II: Primary data requires greater time, effort, and financial cost compared to secondary data.

- (a) Both statements are true
- (b) Both statements are false
- (c) Statement I is true, Statement II is false
- (d) Statement I is false, Statement II is true

SECTION B: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (3 Marks Each) — [15 Marks]

Q16. Distinguish between **Primary Data** and **Secondary Data** on the basis of: (i) Originality, (ii) Cost/Time involved, and (iii) Need for adjustments. [3 Marks]

Q17. Explain the **Mailed Questionnaire Method** of collecting primary data. Highlight one major advantage and one key limitation of this method. [3 Marks]

Q18. Clearly differentiate between a **Questionnaire** and a **Schedule** based on who fills out the form and field applicability. [3 Marks]

Q19. State three principal reasons why conducting a **Pilot Survey** is considered vital before launching a large-scale statistical investigation. [3 Marks]

Q20. Briefly explain the role and significance of the **National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)** as a major secondary source of socio-economic data in India. [3 Marks]

SECTION C: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (4 Marks Each) — [20 Marks]

Q21. Compare the **Census Method** and the **Sample Method** across the following four criteria: [4 Marks]

1. Scope & Coverage
2. Cost, Time & Manpower required
3. Degree of Accuracy & Reliability
4. Suitability for Infinite/Destructive Populations

Q22. Secondary data should not be used blindly without scrutiny. Explain four critical precautions an investigator must take prior to utilizing secondary statistical data. [4 Marks]

Q23. Explain the working mechanism of **Stratified Random Sampling** with the help of a concrete practical example (e.g., surveying students across different streams in a school). [4 Marks]

Q24. Differentiate between **Sampling Errors** and **Non-Sampling Errors**. State two distinct causes or examples that give rise to non-sampling errors. [4 Marks]

Q25. Describe the **Indirect Oral Investigation** method. Outline two specific situations where this method is preferred over direct interviews. [4 Marks]

SECTION D: LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (6 Marks Each) — [30 Marks]

Q26. Designing a reliable survey instrument demands meticulous planning. Detailedly explain six essential guidelines or qualities for drafting a **Good Questionnaire**. [6 Marks]

Q27. Critically evaluate the following primary data collection techniques by explaining their operational procedure, along with one distinct advantage and one limitation for each: [6 Marks]

1. Direct Personal Investigation
2. Information through Local Correspondents
3. Telephonic Interviews

Q28. Non-random sampling methods depend heavily on investigator discretion. Detail the following three non-probability sampling methods and explain why they are prone to personal bias: [6 Marks]

1. Purposive / Deliberate Sampling
2. Quota Sampling
3. Convenience Sampling

Q29. Case-Based Application Question: [6 Marks]

"An educational research agency wishes to conduct an empirical study regarding the monthly allowance and expenditure patterns of senior secondary students across 60 government and private schools in New Delhi."

Questions:

1. Should the agency adopt the Census Method or the Sample Method? Justify your recommendation with two key reasons. (2 Marks)
2. Which specific sampling method should be implemented to guarantee equitable representation from both private and government school sectors? Explain why. (2 Marks)
3. Frame **two closed-ended questions** and **two open-ended questions** suitable for inclusion in this study's questionnaire. (2 Marks)

Q30. Write comprehensive analytical notes on two major official sources of secondary data in India:

[6 Marks]

1. **Census of India:** Periodicity, governing authority, and demographic variables covered.
2. **National Sample Survey Office (NSSO):** Institutional framework, key survey rounds, and economic parameters assessed.