Research Problem

Prepared by

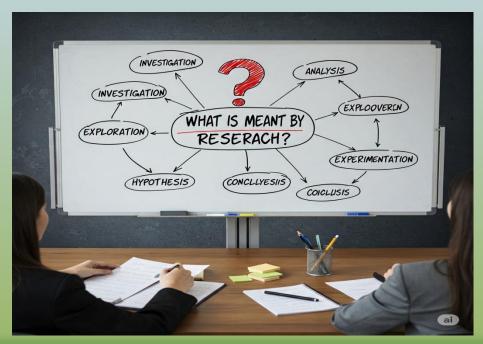
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Introduction

- ☐ The word "Research" derived from the Middle French word "Recherche" which means "to go about seeking".
- □Re+Search = Research, which means search again to find out something new.
- □ Research is a systematic investigation to gain knowledge about a new or established fact or to find possible reason and solution of an issue.

What to do?

- Find again
- Examine again
- Search again
- Investigate again
- Look into again



Source: Jemini google search

Research Problem

- □ There has few steps to complete a research journey. The first and foremost step of a research is to construct a research problem.
- □ Constructing research problem is like the identification of destination before starting a research journey.

Definition

- A research Problem is a clearly defined issue, difficulty or gap in knowledge that a researcher aims to investigate.
- A research problem is a statement about an area of concern, a condition to be improved, a difficulty to be eliminated, or a troubling question that exists.

Research Problem

A research problem is a specific issue, difficulty, contradiction, or gap in knowledge that a researcher aims to address through systematic investigation.



Examples:

- Impact of Social Media on Adolescent Mental Health
- Climate Change and Agricultural Productivity
- Online Learning and Student Engagement
- Healthcare Access in Rural Areas
- Renewable Energy Adoption
- Al in Healthcare Diagnostics



After selecting research problem, the researcher get the idea about "Where does the researcher go from here?"

Why define the Research Problem?

- Defining your destination before beginning a journey.
- It determines,
 - what you will do,
 - will it withstand scientific scrutiny,
 - · how you will do it, and
 - · what you may achieve!

Objectives

- ☐ To have knowledge about the steps of constructing a good research proposal.
- ☐ To identify the significances of formulating a research problem for a research.
- ☐ To fulfil the scheduled assignment for a Refresher Course given by UGC-MMTTC.

Characteristics of Research Problem

A good research problem has the following characteristics:

1. Clarity and Specificity

- A clear problem statement avoids ambiguity and is easily understood.
- It's specific, addressing a particular aspect of a broader topic.

2. Focus and Scope

- A research problem should be focused, not too broad or too narrow.
- It should have an appropriate scope, allowing for in-depth investigation.

3. Researchability

- It should be possible to find data or methods to investigate and answer the research question.
- This includes considering available resources, time, and expertise.

4. Relevance and Significance:

- The problem should address a question or issue that matters to the field or community.
- It should have potential significance or importance, contributing to existing knowledge.

5. Feasibility

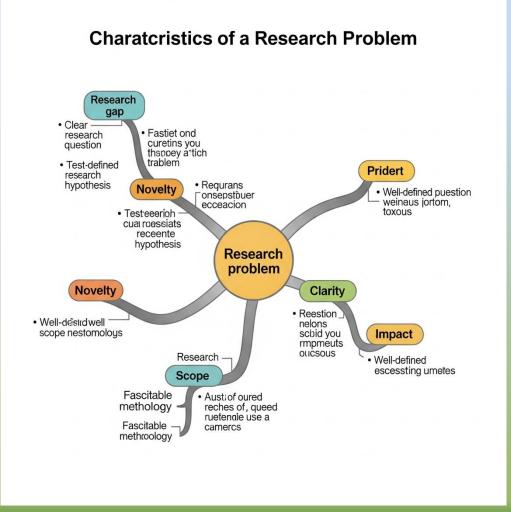
- It should be realistically study-able within the given time and resource constraints.
- This includes considering ethical guidelines and potential data accessibility.

6. Originality and Novelty

- A good research problem should offer something new or different to the existing body of knowledge.
- It can also build upon existing work or lead to new research trajectories.

7. Theoretical Grounding

- The problem should be grounded in relevant theory and literature.
- It should be based on a logical rationale and connect to existing theories.



Source: Jemini Google search

Major Steps for Selecting a Research Problem

Selecting a research problem is a crucial step in any research endeavour. It sets the foundation for your entire study. **These are the major steps commonly involved:**

- ➤ Identify a Broad Area of Interest
- > Dissect the Broad Area into Sub-areas
- ➤ Identify Your Specific Interest within Sub-areas
- > Conduct a Preliminary Literature Review
- > Formulate Study Potential Research Gap/Questions
- > Assess Feasibility and Test Researchability
- > Set clear objectives
- > Double-check your work
- ➤ Define and Refine the Research Problem (Problem Statement)

Significance of Research Problem

A clear research problem is arguably the most crucial element in initiating and successfully completing any research endeavour.

- Provides Direction and Focus
- Justifies the Research
- Shapes Research Questions and Hypotheses
- Enhances Literature Review
- Contributes to Knowledge
- Facilitates Data Collection and Analysis
- Aids in Interpretation of Findings
- Attracts Interest and Funding
- Improves Overall Quality
- Ensures Relevance and Contribution
- Enhances Credibility and Validity
- Motivates the Researcher

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