

Chapter 2: Epistemological bases for qualitative research

Multiple choice questions:

1. Generally speaking, qualitative researchers aim to create one of three types of knowledge. Which one of the following is NOT one of those three?

- A. Social constructionist knowledge
- B. Phenomenological knowledge
- C. Quantifiable knowledge
- D. Realist knowledge

2. Direct realism is a preferable term to naive realism because...?

- A. 'Direct' more fully captures the nature of a realist endeavour
- B. The term 'naive' implies that this approach lacks depth and sophistication
- C. Naive realism doesn't aim to give voice to marginalised groups
- D. Naive realism doesn't attend to the reality of people's experiences

3. Which of the following is typically NOT part of phenomenological research?

- A. Exploring the experiential world of participants
- B. Investigating material and social structures and their impact on experience
- C. Attending to the multiplicity of perspectives of the same event
- D. Foregrounding subjectivity

4. The aim of a social constructionist approach is to...?

- A. Focus on the way in which people talk about the world
- B. Obtain knowledge about the world
- C. Gather information about how phenomena are experienced by individuals
- D. Study social and psychological processes

5. A pluralist approach to qualitative research is useful because...?

- A. The researcher can develop their skills in utilising different data collection methods
- B. It is particularly suited to novice qualitative researchers
- C. It enables different approaches to be integrated to give a more complex or complete understanding of a phenomenon
- D. It enables hypotheses to be verified

6. Which of the following questions would be most suited to a social constructionist approach?

- A. A researcher wants to know what it is like for a nurse to feel stressed
- B. A researcher wants to know how 'stress' as a concept emerges within a nursing context
- C. A researcher wants to know how stressful events are managed within a hospital setting
- D. A researcher wants to know how frequently nurses experience stress