Designing and Conducting Mixed Methods Research 4th edition Creswell Test Bank

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Designing and Conducting Mixed Methods Research (4th)

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Total Questions: 50

Multiple Choice (25)

Q1. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Knowledge*

Which statement best defines mixed methods research?

a) A study that uses only qualitative data to explore a phenomenon overtime and different contexts.
b) A research approach that integrates both quantitative and qualitative methods within a single study. ✓ correct
c) A method that relies exclusively on numerical data collection and analysis.
d) A sequential process in which replication is prioritized over integration.

Q2. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Application*

A researcher is studying high school dropout rates. She first administers a large–scale survey to measure predictors of dropout, then conducts follow–up interviews with selected students to better understand the personal experiences behind those patterns. This approach is best described as _____.

a) combining two theories to form a new experimental approach
b) using both qualitative and quantitative data to enhance understanding ✓ correct
c) switching between data sources to improve sample size
d) eliminating bias by using only objective measurements

Q3. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Analysis*

Which example best illustrates the value of integrating qualitative and quantitative strands in mixed methods research?

a) counting survey responses to measure participant satisfaction
b) interpreting interview data without comparing it to numeric trends
c) combining survey results with interview findings to generate deeper insights ✓ correct
d) selecting a single method and refining it for efficiency

Q4. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Application*

A researcher wants to examine student engagement in online courses by comparing survey statistics and student reflection journals in a single comprehensive design. What type of research does this most clearly represent?

a) longitudinal research
b) experimental research
c) mixed methods research ✓ correct
d) purely ethnographic research

Q5. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Comprehension*

Mixed methods research involves the _____ integration of qualitative and quantitative approaches to answer research questions more completely.

a) accidental
b) superficial
c) intentional ✓ correct
d) isolated

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Q6. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Knowledge*

Which of these would be considered an example of mixed methods research?

a) conducting a national survey about health behavior using likert–scale questions only
b) observing classroom interactions without recording numerical data
c) analyzing archived datasets from government statistics
d) interviewing participants and administering a structured questionnaire within the same study ✓ correct

Q7. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Analysis*

A study collects participant narratives about work–life balance and statistically compares those responses to job satisfaction scores. this is best described as what?

a) comparative historical research
b) a purely quantitative survey
c) a mixed methods approach ✓ correct
d) an ethnographic case study

Q8. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Application*

Researchers observe patients' recovery experiences through diaries and simultaneously track clinical health indicators like blood pressure and heart rate. This combination of tools most closely reflects _____.

a) archival research
b) meta–analysis
c) mixed methods design ✓ correct
d) experimental manipulation

Q9. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Comprehension*

In an example of mixed methods, numerical survey findings are often paired with qualitative interviews in order to _____.

a) reduce the number of participants needed
b) confirm and elaborate on results from each source ✓ correct
c) eliminate the need for data analysis
d) avoid drawing any conclusions

Q10. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Knowledge*

Which type of research problem is especially appropriate for a mixed methods design?

a) one that can be answered using observation alone
b) one that requires both breadth and depth to fully understand ✓ correct
c) one that involves only secondary data sets
d) one that excludes all forms of subjective interpretation

Q11. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Comprehension*

Researchers may choose mixed methods when there is a need to obtain complete and corroborated results because _____.

a) combining methods can strengthen confidence in the conclusions ✓ correct
b) qualitative methods alone always produce identical findings
c) quantitative data eliminates the need for interpretation
d) using one method is faster and more accurate

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Q12. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Analysis*

Which scenario reflects the use of mixed methods to explain statistical results?

a) running complex statistical models without considering context
b) conducting interviews to clarify why certain quantitative patterns occurred ✓ correct
c) avoiding qualitative data to reduce bias in explanation
d) discarding unexpected survey findings as outliers

Q13. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Knowledge*

A researcher conducts informal focus groups before developing a survey instrument. This approach demonstrates which of the following?

a) a need to explore before administering instruments ✓ correct
b) reliance on experimental control
c) commitment to random sampling only
d) elimination of qualitative inquiry

Q14. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Comprehension*

Mixed methods can enhance experimental studies by _____.

a) removing the intervention to observe natural change
b) adding qualitative insights to understand outcomes beyond numeric measures ✓ correct
c) reducing the number of participants required in randomized trials
d) replacing control groups with survey questions

Q15. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Application*

A study uses both interview data and performance metrics to compare and describe different hospital departments. This illustrates mixed methods being used to do what?

a) develop theoretical models
b) describe and compare cases ✓ correct
c) remove subjective viewpoints
d) prevent variability between cases

Q16. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Analysis*

Which example best demonstrates mixed methods research designed to involve participants and create change?

a) auditing archival records from a distance
b) surveying individuals only after a project is complete
c) using interviews and surveys to inform and adjust a community–based intervention ✓ correct
d) eliminating all researcher–participant interaction during the study

Q17. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Application*

Mixed methods may be especially valuable in program evaluation because they _____.

a) replace the need for a control group
b) allow researchers to develop, implement, and evaluate a program using multiple sources of data ✓ correct
c) depend on valid, statistically significant numerical indicators of success
d) focus specifically on individual–level perceptions post–intervention

Q18. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Comprehension*

One advantage of mixed methods is that it _____.

a) simplifies data collection by shortening timelines
b) provides more comprehensive answers to research questions ✓ correct
c) eliminates the need for theoretical frameworks
d) guarantees perfectly reliable results

Q19. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Application*

A school district planning to examine how test scores relate to student perceptions may choose mixed methods because it does what?

a) prevents statistical comparisons
b) supports practical applications by combining insights from multiple data types ✓ correct
c) requires less time than traditional approaches
d) avoids the need for participant involvement

Q20. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Analysis*

How does mixed methods research offer analytical advantages over single–method studies?

a) eliminating researcher interpretation of secondary data
b) focusing specifically on subjective reporting and individual–level data
c) reducing the scope and depth of research questions
d) enabling researchers to triangulate results across qualitative and quantitative data ✓ correct

Q21. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Knowledge*

Which of the following statements reflects an understanding of an advantage of mixed methods research?

a) It is the only approach that produces statistically significant findings.
b) It combines the strengths of qualitative and quantitative approaches. ✓ correct
c) It removes the need for accurate measurement.
d) It limits researcher flexibility during analysis.

Q22. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Knowledge*

The challenge of researcher skills in mixed methods refers to what?

a) the need for researchers skilled in both qualitative and quantitative methods ✓ correct
b) difficulties accessing suitable participant groups
c) dependence on overly abstract theoretical frameworks
d) demands involved in merging multiple types of collected data

Q23. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Analysis*

Why are researcher skills particularly challenging in mixed methods research?

a) the approach requires no data interpretation
b) mixed methods eliminates inductive reasoning
c) numeric data and narrative data can never be combined
d) integrating multiple forms of evidence demands high analytic expertise ✓ correct

Q24. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Comprehension*

Mixed methods research often requires significant time and resources because it _____

a) entails collecting and analyzing more than one form of data ✓ correct
b) involves hiring large numbers of participants
c) uses only one type of data collection
d) replaces planning with improvisation

Q25. *[Multiple Choice] · Cognitive Domain: Application*

Educating others about the value of mixed methods might involve which of the following?

a) limiting presentations to only numerical data collected
b) showcasing studies that reveal the added value of combining methods ✓ correct
c) advising scholars to rely solely on traditional qualitative reporting
d) suggesting that experimental methods offer better alternatives than integration

True/False (15)

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Q26. *[True/False] · Cognitive Domain: Knowledge*

Mixed methods research integrates both quantitative and qualitative approaches within a single study.

a) True ✓ correct

b) False

Correct answer: True

Q27. *[True/False] · Cognitive Domain: Knowledge*

Mixed methods research focuses exclusively on collecting numerical data.

a) True

b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Q28. *[True/False] · Cognitive Domain: Knowledge*

A study that includes interviews and survey questionnaires is an example of mixed methods research.

a) True ✓ correct

b) False

Correct answer: True

Q29. *[True/False] · Cognitive Domain: Knowledge*

Mixed methods studies do not include observations or historical documents in their designs.

a) True

b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Q30. *[True/False] · Cognitive Domain: Knowledge*

Mixed methods research is often used when a research problem requires both breadth and depth of understanding.

a) True ✓ correct

b) False

Correct answer: True

Q31. *[True/False] · Cognitive Domain: Comprehension*

Researchers use mixed methods to obtain more complete and corroborated results than a single method might provide.

a) True ✓ correct

b) False

Correct answer: True

Q32. *[True/False] · Cognitive Domain: Knowledge*

Mixed methods is inappropriate for explaining statistical results in social science research.

a) True

b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Q33. *[True/False] · Cognitive Domain: Knowledge*

Exploratory qualitative work can be used in mixed methods to guide the development of survey instruments.

a) True ✓ correct

b) False

Correct answer: True

Q34. *[True/False] · Cognitive Domain: Comprehension*

Researchers cannot enhance experimental studies beyond measured outcomes by incorporating mixed methods approaches.

a) True

b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Q35. *[True/False] · Cognitive Domain: Knowledge*

Mixed methods can be especially useful when researchers need to describe and compare multiple cases.

a) True ✓ correct

b) False

Correct answer: True

Q36. *[True/False] · Cognitive Domain: Knowledge*

Projects aimed at creating change and involving participants are rarely appropriate for mixed methods approaches.

a) True

b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Q37. *[True/False] · Cognitive Domain: Comprehension*

One advantage of mixed methods research is that it allows researchers to address different aspects of a problem using complementary data sources.

a) True ✓ correct

b) False

Correct answer: True

Q38. *[True/False] · Cognitive Domain: Comprehension*

Mixed methods studies are used for theory development and have no role in guiding practical applications or decision–making.

a) True

b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Q39. *[True/False] · Cognitive Domain: Comprehension*

One challenge of mixed methods is that data collection and analysis often require significant time and resources.

a) True ✓ correct

b) False

Correct answer: True

Q40. *[True/False] · Cognitive Domain: Comprehension*

Educating stakeholders about the value of mixed methods research is rarely necessary because its benefits are universally understood.

a) True

b) False ✓ correct

Correct answer: False

Essay (10)

Q41. *[Essay] · Cognitive Domain: Comprehension*

Explain what is meant by*mixed methods research*and why a researcher might choose this approach.

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: Mixed methods research refers to a design that purposefully blends both quantitative (numeric) and qualitative (narrative) forms of data within a single study. Researchers choose this approach when they believe that using both types of evidence will offer a more complete, nuanced understanding of a research problem than either method alone, for example, using surveys to identify patterns and interviews to understand the reasons behind those patterns.*

Q42. *[Essay] · Cognitive Domain: Analysis*

Describe an example of a mixed methods study and explain how both qualitative and quantitative data are used.

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: A mixed methods study might examine the effectiveness of a new community health program. Researchers could use pre- and post-test surveys to collect numeric data on changes in health behaviors (quantitative), while also conducting focus groups with participants to explore their personal experiences with the program (qualitative). Together, these data help determine not only whether the program worked, but also how and why.*

Q43. *[Essay] · Cognitive Domain: Application*

What type of research problem is best suited for a mixed methods design, and in what ways can combining qualitative and quantitative approaches lead to more effective problem–solving?

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: Educational reform efforts often require mixed methods. When evaluating a new teaching strategy, researchers might use student test scores to measure academic improvement (quantitative) and classroom observations or student comments to understand engagement and instructional challenges (qualitative). Blending these approaches helps reveal whether the reform is effective and how it is experienced in real-world settings.*

Q44. *[Essay] · Cognitive Domain: Analysis*

Why might mixed methods be considered advantageous when investigating complex social phenomena?

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: Complex social issues, such as inequality or health disparities, often involve both measurable trends and lived experiences. Mixed methods allow researchers to triangulate findings—using statistics to identify broad patterns and qualitative evidence to interpret the meaning behind those trends. This dual perspective strengthens conclusions, supports theory development, and increases the practical usefulness of research for policy or practice.*

Q45. *[Essay] · Cognitive Domain: Comprehension*

What is one major challenge researchers may encounter when implementing mixed methods research, and how can this challenge influence the overall quality or feasibility of a study?

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: One common challenge is the amount of time and resources required. Because mixed methods studies involve both qualitative and quantitative data collection, researchers must often design two separate data-gathering processes, allocate more personnel, and perform multiple types of analyses. These demands can prolong the timeline of a study, increase costs, and require specialized training, making implementation more difficult for inexperienced teams.*

Q46. *[Essay] · Cognitive Domain: Application*

Discuss how the design of a mixed methods study reflects the philosophical assumptions underlying this approach. Provide an example of how these assumptions influence decisions about data collection or integration.

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: Mixed methods research is grounded in the philosophical assumption of pragmatism, which emphasizes using the most appropriate tools to answer a given research question rather than adhering to a single methodological tradition. This approach assumes that both objective (quantitative) and subjective (qualitative) viewpoints contribute valuable insights, and that truth is often complex and multifaceted. As a result, mixed methods researchers purposefully choose designs that allow for integration—such as convergent or explanatory sequential designs—to ensure both forms of data inform one another. For example, in an explanatory sequential design, a researcher may first collect and analyze survey data to identify trends, then follow up with interviews to gain deeper interpretive insight into surprising or unclear results. This design choice reflects the philosophical view that knowledge is best constructed by combining numerical evidence with human perspectives, and influences practical decisions about when and how to integrate findings to create a more nuanced understanding than either method alone would provide.*

Q47. *[Essay] · Cognitive Domain: Analysis*

Evaluate the use of mixed methods in a real–world research context by describing one published study. Explain how the integration of qualitative and quantitative data contributed to the study's conclusions.

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: One published example of mixed methods research comes from a study examining adolescent mental health service utilization. Researchers began with a large-scale survey to quantify rates of service use and identify demographic patterns across communities. Then, qualitative case studies and interviews with adolescents and parents were conducted to explore factors affecting help-seeking behavior, such as stigma, access barriers, and perceptions of need. The mixed methods design allowed the researchers to connect statistical patterns—such as lower service utilization among rural youth—with qualitative explanations that revealed parental mistrust of providers and lack of confidentiality in small communities. Integration of these two data forms strengthened the overall conclusions by demonstrating not only what patterns existed, but why certain groups were less likely to access services. Without the qualitative component, the survey findings would have lacked explanatory power; without the quantitative component, the case studies might not have revealed broader population trends.*

Q48. *[Essay] · Cognitive Domain: Application*

A researcher conducts a national survey on public attitudes toward climate change and finds unexpected regional differences in concern levels. Propose a mixed methods design to explain these statistical results, justifying the sequencing and integration strategy.

> ***Suggested answer:*** *Sample response: To explain the observed regional differences, an explanatory sequential mixed methods design would be appropriate. In this design, quantitative data are collected and analyzed first—in this case, the national survey revealing variation in concern. The researcher would then purposefully sample individuals from regions showing unexpected results (e.g., low concern in areas with high exposure to climate risks) to participate in follow-up interviews or focus groups. The qualitative phase would aim to uncover underlying attitudes, local cultural norms, or political influences that shaped responses to the survey. Once qualitative data are analyzed, the findings would be integrated with the initial survey results to build a richer explanation of regional variation. This sequencing is justified because it allows the qualitative component to directly address patterns identified in the quantitative phase and produce a deeper, context-based explanation of statistical findings—ultimately enhancing the interpretive power and practical relevance of the study.*

Q49. *[Essay] · Cognitive Domain: Analysis*

Analyze how mixed methods research can strengthen the validity of findings in fields where stakeholder decision–making is influenced by both numerical data and lived experiences.

Suggested answer: *Sample response: In policy-oriented fields such as public health or education, decision-makers often rely on both statistical evidence and personal narratives when designing interventions. Mixed methods research enhances validity by enabling triangulation, where results from qualitative and quantitative approaches are compared and corroborated. When numerical findings (e.g., rising graduation rates) are supported by qualitative insights (e.g., student interviews describing increased support and motivation), stakeholders gain greater confidence that the intervention is truly effective. Mixed methods also offer complementarity, providing insights into not only whether a program works but how and why it works in context. This depth is critical in decision-making environments, where understanding the mechanisms behind outcomes can guide effective adaptation and scaling. By combining breadth of evidence with depth of understanding, mixed methods approaches produce findings that are both actionable and credible, making them particularly valuable in applied settings.*

Q50. *[Essay] · Cognitive Domain: Application*

Identify and discuss two challenges researchers may face when trying to develop the necessary skills for conducting mixed methods research. How might these challenges impact the quality of a study?

Suggested answer: *Sample response: One major challenge is the need for methodological expertise in both qualitative and quantitative approaches. Researchers trained in only one tradition may find it difficult to design data collection instruments, conduct analyses, or interpret results from the other tradition. If a researcher lacks competency in, for example, qualitative coding, they may overlook important themes or inappropriately integrate findings—thereby weakening the study's conclusions. A second challenge is mastering the advanced techniques involved in integrating data during interpretation. Effective mixed methods research goes beyond simply presenting two sets of findings; it requires skillful merging, convergence, or embedding of data. Without strong analytic integration skills, researchers may treat data sets as parallel rather than complementary, reducing the added value of mixed methods. Both challenges can compromise the overall rigor and credibility of a study, highlighting why skill development is critical in this research tradition.*