

**BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**

**Department of Agricultural Economics, Education and Extension
BSc Agricultural Science (Honours) Part II Examination**

AGM 221

RESEARCH METHODS

3 HOURS (100 Marks)

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer **QUESTION 1** and **ANY OTHER TWO** questions. Question 1 carries 50 marks and the rest carry 25 marks each.

1. Suppose that you have been tasked by the Ministry of Agriculture to conduct research to **investigate the low agricultural productivity** among smallholder farmers in Zimbabwe.
 - a) Formulate a research topic of your choice based the research issue above **[4 marks]**
 - b) Clearly describe the problem statement in line with your topic **[10 marks]**
 - c) Identify 4 research questions in line with your problem statement **[8 marks]**
 - d) State 3 specific research objectives related to your research questions **[6 marks]**
 - e) State 3 research hypotheses in line with your research objectives **[6 marks]**
 - f) Outline your proposed sampling framework and any possible limitations of the study **[16 marks]**
2. Outline the **research design** including how you would conduct **data collection and analysis** for the research issue raised in Question 1 above. **[25 marks]**
3. Explain in detail the theory and application of **qualitative** research methods in the agricultural and social sciences. **[25 marks]**
4.
 - a) Describe the **Interview Method** of research as well as the important considerations when conducting interviews in social science research **[15 marks]**
 - b) Explain the **issues** and concerns in conducting interviews **[10 marks]**

END OF PAPER