

Introduction to Research

Research is a systematic, structured inquiry aimed at finding answers to questions or resolving problems. It involves the careful examination and investigation of materials, sources, and facts to establish new conclusions or verify existing knowledge. It is a process that follows acceptable scientific methodologies to generate new knowledge or insights in a given field of study.

Task 1: Read the statements and write 'true' or 'false'.

1-Research is a personal work based on one's feelings, opinions and ideas.

2-Research is a collection of long quotes or paragraphs copied from different sources from the Internet, books and articles.

3-Research is a mere summary of information found in different sources.

The Objectives of Research

- Study and describe accurately the characteristics of situations, problems, phenomena, services, groups, or individuals.
- Discover and establish the existence of relationship, association, and interdependence between two or more aspects of a situation or phenomenon.
- Propose and test certain hypotheses.
- Test reported findings and conclusions on new data and novel conclusions on previously reported data.
- Understand different phenomena and develop new perceptions about it.
- Explain unexplored horizons of knowledge.

Motivations for Conducting Research

Task2: A- Read the following paragraph and underline the reasons that motivate people to do research.

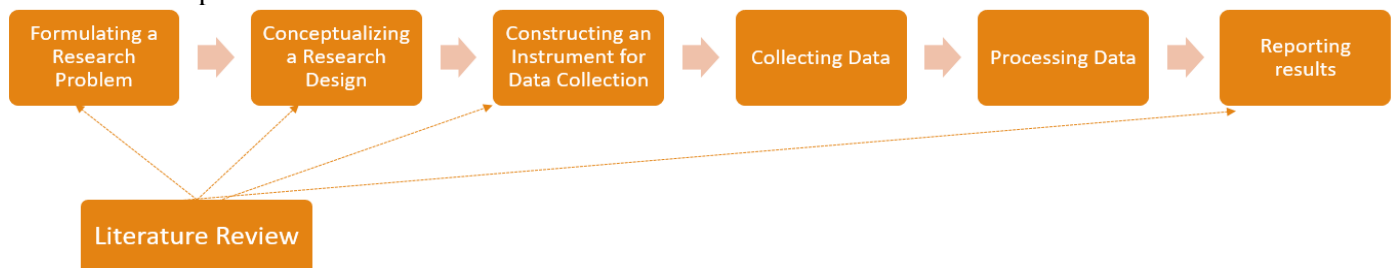
Research is a long process, so the main driving factor need to be motivation. For some researchers and post-graduate students, the main objective behind the research is to earn a degree. To philosophers and thinkers, research may mean the outlet for new ideas and insights. Research may mean the development of new styles and creative work. Irrespective of the domain, research is conducted to increase understanding of professions, advance the professional knowledge and perfect its practices. What people do nowadays in their professions has been tested and developed by researchers.

B- Can you think of other reasons?

C- If you decide to pursue an academic career and do research in your field, what will motivate you?

The Research Process

The research steps:



*Literature review refers to reviewing the existing works (theories, practices, research works...etc) done in the field for the aim of acquainting the researchers with the existing body of knowledge, establishing background for their work, developing appropriate research methodology and integrating their findings within their field of study. Therefore, this step accompanies other steps in the research process as suggested by the graph.

Task 3: Halima is a former student at UMKB department of English. She graduated two years ago. Her M2 research work is entitled 'Assessing the Effectiveness of Text-to-Speech and Automatic Speech Recognition in improving EFL learners Pronunciation of Past-ed -The Case of Elementary Learners Level at The Center of Intensive Training at the University of Biskra'.

Name the steps that Halima followed to conduct her research, and order them.

- 1-Halima worked with her supervisor to choose a researchable topic.
- 2-She designed the pretest, the post test and the questionnaire.
- 3-She read different books and articles about her topic, reported and summarized their findings.
- 4-She tested the students before the use of the applications on their use of past -ed, she taught sessions of pronunciation of past -ed to the experimental group, tested the students after she finished teaching them. She distributed the questionnaire to elicit data about the students' opinions on the use of the applications.
- 5-She chose to organize her research work in a quasi- experiment that uses pretest- post test control -experimental group design.
- 6-She concluded that TTS and ASR technologies have positive impact of on learners' awareness, perception, and production skills. She reported that the students have positive perceptions and high satisfaction with TTS and ASR technologies, emphasizing their effectiveness as valuable resources for pronunciation practice and self-assessment.
- 7-She used inferential statistical technique to analyse the data obtained from the tests and descriptive technique to summarize the answers of the students' questionnaires.

Research methodology is the science of studying how research is done scientifically (all the steps of the research process). It is interested in the various steps that are adopted by a researcher in conducting the research along with the logic, justification, and rationale behind these steps.