



*(University of Choice)*

**MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY  
(MMUST)**

**MAIN CAMPUS/BUNGOMA/WEBUYE**

**UNIVERSITY SPECIAL/ SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS**

**2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**THIRD YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION**

**FOR THE DEGREE  
OF  
BACHELOR OF COMMERCE**

**COURSE CODE: BCB 316**

**COURSE TITLE: BUSINESS RESEARCH METHODS**

**DATE: TUESDAY, 2<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST 2022      TIME: 8:00 - 10:00AM**

---

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

*Answer question ONE and any other TWO questions*

**TIME: 2 HOURS**

MMUST observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating

This Paper Consists of 4 Printed Pages. Please Turn Over.

## **QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) (30 MARKS)**

### **STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

The Kenya Government in its quest to ensure costs reduction in its activities, efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability, it has developed the procurement system and the public procurement act 2005 to the current public procurement and asset disposal act of 2015 and also implement a side by e-procurement practices to achieve its objectives. The policy on preference and reservation in public procurements, with youths included, will help solve most of the economic and societal challenges facing the country by empowering the preference groups. The youth involvement in public procurement borne from the preference policy is expected to be the highest amongst the special groups provided for in the policy given that they form a higher segment of the Kenya population.

An area of great importance and cries out for reforms due to corruption, entrepreneurs and cartels is the procurement section and financial management in public institutions, however, there are challenges of implementation of the procurement regulations and also the electronic procurement practices which have been broken into e-tendering practices, e-supplier management practices, e-ordering practices and integrated financial management information systems. In his study, Muraguri (2014) it is evident that public procurement preference and reservations policy among the marginalized group in public procurement had not been effectively implemented. Noor (2014) said that implementing-procurement will enhance transparency and costs reduction but public institutions had not fully adopted the E-procurement practices. This could be due to the enterprises being highly strained and the procurement laws not refined well hence the low implementation of the regulations by these corporations or cartels trying to avoid the transparency brought about by e-procurement practices and the preference regulations. To meet the goals there is need to take strategic measures for quick implementation of the legislation on the preference and reservations. With the introduction of e procurement by Kenyan government, many have expected that many marginalized groups was able to access procurement opportunities considering the availability of telecommunication and data facilities through mobile operators and the government through the fiber optic.

However, the scholarly evaluation of e-procurement initiatives, especially in relation to the use of e-procurement on implementation of preference regulations on state corporations in Kenya is very limited. There is a need to contribute to literature gap on the link between e-procurement and disadvantaged group's empowerment as the current uptake is just 3% against an available resource of 30% of the government procurement expenditure before full implementation of the e-tendering system (PPOA 2015). Noor 2014 stated that e-procurement adoption in Kenyan state corporations stood at only 33% regardless of it being introduced from 2005.

With the presidential executive order vide legal notice 114 of 2013 instructing all public entities to adopt the implementation of preference regulations and also e-procurement and Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS) by Dec 2015, the researcher wanted to find out if the implementation of the e-procurement would positively affect the uptake of preference regulations which stood at a mere 3% instead of 30% without e-procurement (PPOA 2015) to a higher percentage considering that those eligible to participate in the process form more than 50% of the total population of the country and the country was having excellent communication networks that would enable absorption of the preference regulations by those targeted.

**Required**

- a) Formulate the research topic, general objective and four specific objectives to be addressed by the researcher. (10 marks)
- b) Develop a conceptual frame work displaying independent, dependent and moderating variables that could help the research to expedite this research. (10 marks)
- c) What do you understand by the term hypothesis? In reference to the case above formulate four hypothesis to be tested by the researcher. (10 marks)

**QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

- a) Research design in exploratory studies must be flexible but in descriptive studies, it must minimize bias and maximize reliability. Discuss. (10 marks)
- b) Enumerate the different methods of collecting data. Which one is the most suitable for conducting enquiry regarding learners were in School of Business and Economics. (10 marks)

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

- a) The procedure of testing hypothesis requires a researcher to adopt several steps. Describe in brief all such steps. (10 marks)
- b) "Processing of data implies editing, coding, classification and tabulation". Describe in brief these four operations pointing out the significance of each in context of research study. (10 marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) "Knowing what data are available often serves to narrow down the problem itself as well as the technique that might be used". Explain the underlying idea in this statement in the context of defining a research problem. (10 marks)
- b) Explain the significance of a research report and narrate the various steps involved in writing such a report. (10 marks)

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

a) Two random samples drawn from two normal populations are:

Sample A	20	16	26	27	23	22	18	24	25	19		
Sample B	27	33	42	35	32	34	38	28	41	43	30	37

Test using variance ratio at 5% and 1% level of significance whether the two populations have the same variances. (10 marks)

b) Experimental method of research is not suitable in management field. Discuss, what are the problems in the introduction of this research design in business organization? (10 marks)

***This is the last page***