hSTELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI – 600 086
(For candidates admitted from the academic year 2023 – 2024 & thereafter)

M.A DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2024
BRANCH III - ECONOMICS
FIRST SEMESTER

COURSE   : CORE
PAPER   : RESEARCH METHODS AND ANALYSIS – I (THEORY)
SUBJECT CODE: 23EC /PC/RM14
TIME   : 1 ½ HOURS   MAX. MARKS: 60

Q. No.	SECTION A (4 x 3 = 12) Answer any two out of three questions in 50 words each.	CO	KL
1	a) Define the empirical approach in scientific research.	1	1
	b) Describe the role of observation in scientific method.	2	2
2	a) Define salami slicing	1	1
	b) Explain the importance of formulating a research problem	2	2
3	a) List the different types of data	1	1
	b) Discuss the advantages of using secondary data in research	2	2
	SECTION B **PART A** (2 x 6 = 12) Answer any two out of three questions in 150 words each.	CO	KL
4.	Explain the difference between primary and secondary data collection methods. Provide an example of each and discuss when you might choose one over the other	3	3
5.	Explain the process of conducting a literature review for a research study. What are the key steps involved and why is each step important?	3	3
6.	Outline the key elements of the scientific method. How do these elements contribute to the overall research process?	3	3
Q.No.	**SECTION B** **PART B** (2 x 6 = 12) Answer any two out of three questions in 150 words each.	CO	KL
7.	Analyze the ethical considerations researchers must address when working with human participants.	4	4
8.	Differentiate between experimental and non- experimental research design.	4	4
9.	Examine the role of hypothesis formulation in the research process.	4	4
Q. No.	**SECTION C** (2x12=24) Answer any two out of three questions in 600 words		

10	a)	Design a research study to investigate the impact of social media usage on academic performance among college students. Include your research problem, hypothesis, sampling method and data collection technique.	5	5
	b)	Critically evaluate the potential limitations and biases in your proposed study. How might these affect the validity of your results and what steps could you take to mitigate these issues?	6	6
11	a)	Develop a plan for analyzing data collected from a survey on consumer satisfaction with online shopping experiences. Include both descriptive and inferential statistical methods you would use	5	5
	b)	Critique the limitations of your proposed analysis plan and suggest how these limitations might affect the interpretation of results.	6	6
12	a)	Create an outline for a research report on the effectiveness of a new teaching method in improving student learning outcomes. Include all major sections and subsections.	5	5
	b)	Assess how the findings from the study could be applied to improve educational practices. Consider potential challenges in implementing the results and how they might be overcome.	6	6

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