

21世纪英语专业课程系列学术著作

ASPECTS OF RESEARCH AND THESIS WRITING

科研方法与论文撰写

甘世安 著



陕西人民出版社
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Preface

One may run himself or herself to death without making an inch forward. This tragedy is made worse when the runner is not even aware but blindly confident that a progress being achieved just accordingly! The lesson from this is that great efforts do not necessarily result in proportionate reward. What ensures success is a correct method in doing right things.

The purpose of this book is to help students majoring in English to familiarize themselves with research methods and necessary knowledge of basic statistics. This book caters especially to postgraduate students pursuing research in cultural studies, Chinese-English translation, English teaching and linguistics and English literature.

I got the idea of this book ever since I studied in Singapore University in 1990, during which I was doing Diploma in Education. Thereafter, I either dipped into TEFL sporadically or flipped over some research methods in areas of my interest. Then a chance came in 1999 when China Scholarship Foundation sent me to U.S.A as a visiting professor. During my visit in Saint Thomas University and Minnesota University, I paid special attention to different research methods in education, language teaching and social behavior.

I owe this book particularly to Professor Karen B. Rogers who

taught me Principles of Educational Research; and Sally M. Hunter who was my adviser in the area of Human Relations and Multicultural Education. Thanks are also extended to Zhu Yiping, associate professor and a colleague of mine, who kindly helped provide valuable resources and materials for this book.

This book is a real challenge to me for two reasons: one is that writing purely in English and the other is teaching content knowledge in English. Unfortunately, I do not have full confidence in having successfully met those two

Gan Shi'an
September 2002

Contents

Part One Understanding the Nature of Research

Chapter 1	Cultivating a Research Mind	(4)
1.1	Avoiding Errors of Reasoning	(4)
1.2	A Keen Observer	(5)
1.3	Without Taking Things for Granted	(6)
1.4	Staying Unbiased	(8)
1.5	Predicting Based on Sound Reasoning	(9)
1.6	Become a Systematic Organizer	(10)
Chapter 2	A Research in Broad Sense (One)	(13)
2.1	Traditional Modes of Knowledge Seeking	(13)
2.2	A Scientific Research	(16)
2.2.1	Definition	(16)
2.2.2	Its Process	(18)
2.3	Types of Research	(23)
2.3.1	Meta-analysis Approach	(23)
2.3.2	The Trend Study	(26)

2.3.3 Cohort Study	(27)
2.3.4 The Panel Study	(28)
2.3.5 Follow-up Study	(29)
2.3.6 Historical Research	(30)
2.4 Correlational Designs	(31)
Chapter 3 A Research in Broad Sense (Two)	(35)
3.1 Experimental Researches	(35)
3.1.1 The One Shot Case Study	(35)
3.1.2 One-group Pretest Posttest Design	(36)
3.1.3 Intact Group Design	(36)
3.2 True Experimental Designs	(38)
3.2.1 Posttest Only Control Group	(38)
3.2.2 Pretest Posttest Control Group Design	(39)
3.3 Quasi-experimental Design	(40)
3.3.1 The Nonequivalent Control Group Design	(40)
3.3.2 Time-series Design	(41)
3.4 Factorial Design	(41)
3.5 Examples of Application	(43)
Chapter 4 Elements of Research (One)	(45)
4.1 Concept	(45)
4.2 Definition	(47)
4.3 Variables	(50)
4.3.1 Types of Variables	(50)
4.3.2 Independent Variable	(51)

4.3.3 Dependent Variable	(51)
4.3.4 Moderator Variable	(51)
4.3.5 Control Variable	(53)
4.3.6 Intervening Variable	(53)
4.4 Hypothesis	(54)
Chapter 5 Elements of Research (Two)	(58)
5.1 Levels of Measurement	(58)
5.1.1 Nominal Scales	(62)
5.1.2 Ordinal Scale	(63)
5.1.3 Interval Scale	(65)
5.2 Validity	(69)
5.2.1 Content Validity	(70)
5.2.2 Empirical Validity	(71)
5.2.3 Predictive Validity	(72)
5.2.4 Construct Validity	(74)
5.3 Reliability	(76)
Chapter 6 Elements of Research (Three)	(79)
6.1 Comparison	(79)
6.2 Manipulation	(80)
6.3 Control	(80)
6.4 Extrinsic Factors	(81)
6.5 Intrinsic Factors	(82)
6.6 Matching	(85)
6.7 Randomization	(86)

6.8 Generalization	(88)
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Part Two Conducting Research Work

Chapter 7 Deciding Focus	(93)
7.1 Developing Research Topics	(93)
7.1.1 Procedures	(93)
7.1.2 Sources of Topics	(93)
7.1.3 Narrowing Down a Topic	(95)
7.1.4 Characteristics of Good Topics	(95)
7.1.5 Stating Research Topics	(97)
7.2 Making a Schedule	(98)
7.3 Keeping Academic Integrity	(100)
7.3.1 Guidelines for Using Quotations	(101)
7.3.2 Acceptable Quoting Ways	(102)
7.3.3 Unacceptable Quoting Ways	(103)
7.4 Guidelines for Writing Paraphrase	(104)
7.4.1 Unacceptable Paraphrasing Way	(105)
7.4.2 Acceptable Paraphrasing Way	(105)
7.4.3 Comments	(106)
7.5 Guidelines for Writing Summary	(106)
7.5.1 Unacceptable Summary	(107)
7.5.2 Acceptable summary	(107)
7.5.3 Comments	(107)

Chapter 8	Reviewing Literature (One)	(109)
8.1	Using the Library	(109)
8.1.1	Using the Stacks	(109)
8.1.2	The Card Catalogue	(110)
8.2	Classification	(111)
8.2.1	Library of Congress Classification (U.S.A)	(111)
8.2.2	Library of China Classification	(114)
8.3	Using the Internet as Your Source	(115)
8.3.1	Searching for Information	(115)
8.3.2	General Search Engines	(116)
8.3.3	Some other Useful English Sites	(118)
8.3.4	Some Useful Chinese Sites	(119)
Chapter 9	Reviewing Literature (Two)	(121)
9.1	Handling Information	(121)
9.1.1	Summarizing and Maintaining Your Information	(121)
9.1.2	Cards for Abstracts	(122)
9.1.3	Cards for Critical Comments	(123)
9.1.4	Cards for Potential Use	(123)
9.1.5	Criteria for Evaluating Sources	(123)
9.2	Writing Literature Review	(124)
9.2.1	Things to Note	(124)
9.2.2	A Sample of Review Research	(125)

11.3.2 The Question	(161)
11.4 Impersonal Survey Methods	(168)
11.4.1 Mail Questionnaire	(168)
11.4.2 Telephone Surveys	(170)
11.5 Attitude Measurement	(171)
11.5.1 Arbitrary Scales	(173)
11.5.2 Thurstone Scales	(175)
11.5.3 Likert Scales	(178)
Chapter 12 Data Collecting (Two)	(182)
12.1 Unobtrusive Studies	(182)
12.1.1 Intent of Unobtrusive Measures	(182)
12.1.2 Physical Traces	(184)
12.1.3 Simple Observation	(185)
12.1.4 Archival Records	(188)
12.1.5 Public Records	(189)
12.1.6 Private Records	(193)
12.2 Content Analysis	(198)
12.3 Units and Categories	(203)
Chapter 13 Data Collecting (Three)	(208)
13.1 Questionnaire Design	(208)
13.1.1 Questions and Statements	(209)
13.1.2 Open-ended and Closed-ended Questions	(209)
13.1.3 Make Items Clear	(211)

13.1.4	Avoid Double-barreled Questions	(212)
13.1.5	Answerable to Respondents	(213)
13.1.6	Relevant Questions	(214)
13.1.7	Short Items Are Best	(215)
13.1.8	Avoid Negative Items	(216)
13.1.9	Biased Items and Terms	(216)
13.2	Questionnaire Construction	(219)
13.2.1	General Questionnaire Format	(220)
13.2.2	Formats for Respondents	(221)
13.2.3	Contingency Questions	(223)
13.2.4	Matrix Questions	(226)
13.2.5	Other Question Formats	(228)
13.2.6	Ordering Items in a Questionnaire	(229)
13.2.7	Instructions	(231)
13.2.8	Pretesting the Questionnaire	(233)
Chapter 14	Data Collecting (Four)	(235)
14.1	Sampling	(235)
14.1.1	The Knowledge of Sampling	(237)
14.1.2	Simple Random Sampling	(238)
14.1.3	Systematic Sampling	(241)
14.1.4	Stratified Sampling	(243)
14.2	Ensuring Sound Data	(244)
Chapter 15	Evaluating Research Study	(245)
15.1	Evaluating Research Study	(245)

15.2 Checklist (260)
15.3 Overall Quality of a Research (263)

Part Three Processing Data

Chapter 16	An Introduction to SPSS	(269)
16.1	Functional Parts	(269)
16.2	Data Editor Window	(272)
16.3	Data Input/Save/Printing	(273)
16.4	Chart Editor Window	(275)
16.5	Using Syntax Editor Window	(277)
16.6	Basic Steps in Data Analysis	(283)
16.6.1	Entering Numeric Data	(286)
16.6.2	Defining Data	(287)
16.6.3	Copying and Pasting Variable Attributes	(288)
16.6.4	Reading Files	(289)
16.6.5	Transforming Data Values	(292)
16.6.6	Distributed Analysis	(293)
16.6.7	Sharing Data File in Local Computer	(295)
16.6.8	Selecting a Procedure	(296)
16.6.9	Pivoting a Table	(298)
16.7	Creating a Chart	(304)
16.8	Customizing	(312)
16.9	Creating scripts	(315)

Chapter 17	Statistics (One)	(318)
17.1	The Concept of Statistics	(318)
17.1.1	Descriptive Statistics	(319)
17.1.2	Inferential Statistics	(320)
17.1.3	Prediction	(321)
17.1.4	Parametric Versus Nonparametric Statistics	(322)
17.2	Tabulation	(323)
17.3	Frequency	(324)
17.3.1	Ungrouped Data	(325)
17.3.2	Grouped Data	(326)
17.3.3	Class Limits	(328)
17.3.4	Cumulative and Relative Frequencies	(329)
17.3.5	Bivariate Frequency Distribution	(331)
17.4	Percentile Rank	(332)
17.4.1	Calculating Percentile Ranks	(334)
17.4.2	The Distribution of Percentile Ranks	(335)
17.5	Graphs of Frequency Distributions	(336)
17.6	Using Symbols for Statistics	(341)
Chapter 18	Statistics (Two)	(343)
18.1	Measures of Central Tendency	(343)
18.1.1	The Arithmetic Mean	(344)
18.1.2	Mathematical Operations with the Mean	(347)
18.1.3	The Median	(348)

18.1.4 The Mode	(350)
18.1.5 Calculating Mean/Median/Mode	(350)
18.1.6 Selecting a Measure of Central Tendency	(351)
18.2 Measures of Dispersion	(354)
18.2.1 The Range	(355)
18.2.2 The Mean Deviation	(356)
18.2.3 The Sum of Squares	(357)
18.2.4 The Variance	(358)
18.2.5 The Standard Deviation	(360)
18.2.6 Variance / Standard Deviation Computing	(361)
18.2.7 Skewness and Kurtosis	(362)

Chapter 19 Probability Distribution

19.1 Definition of Probability	(364)
19.2 Seven Fundamental Rules of Probability	(365)
19.3 Sampling a Finite Population Without Replacement	(367)
19.4 Factorial Notation	(369)
19.5 Application of the Fundamental Rules of Probability	(371)
19.6 Application of the Binomial Probability Distribution	(375)
19.7 Standard Scores	(380)
19.7.1 The Idea of a Standard Score	(380)