

**BOWEN UNIVERSITY**  
**COLLEGE OF LIBERAL STUDIES**  
**HISTORY AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES PROGRAMME**

**B.A. SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION 2022/2023 SESSION**

**COURSE CODE: HIS 322                      COURSE CREDITS:3**

**COURSE TITLE: METHODOLOGY IN HISTORICAL RESEARCH**

**INSTRUCTION: ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY  
EQUAL MARKS OF 23    TIME ALLOWED 2<sup>1/2</sup> HRS**

1. How do you explain the notion that history writing is all about decision making. In the light of your response, what do you consider the basic reasons for writing history?
2. Highlight the steps required in Historical research.
3. State the basis format for citation of the following source materials using the Chicago Manual of Style:
  - (a). Article in a Journal (b). Chapter in a book (c). Newspaper (d). Internet source, (e). Book
4. Each of the sources for the reconstruction of the past has its limitation. What do you consider the limitations of the following source materials:
  - (a) Oral Information (b) Archival materials (c) Internet source (d) Newspaper
5. Assuming that the following data were collected during your field work
  - (i) Suggest a viable research topic
  - (ii) Classify the data collected
  - (iii) Explain how you conducted your field work
  - (iv) Write a brief historical account of not more than 300 words.
    - a. Since independence Nigeria has had many political problems which negatively affected every sphere of life. The first Republic lasted only about 5 years, the second barely 4 years while the third did not take off at all. Since 1966, military dictatorship had dominated the political scene. The present efforts at democratization must succeed. This is why the constitutional conference must be given every chance. (*The African Voice*, December 2, 1994).
    - b. Between 1967 and 1970, Nigeria fought a civil war, the main reason for this was the distrust among the main ethnic groups. (Albert Manitoba, *Growth of the Nigeria Nation*, Racine: Supremo Press, 1976, p. 183).
    - c. The origin of Nigeria may not go earlier than 1914. That was the year the British merged their various protectorates around the river Nigeria (J.A. Mackenzie, D. O., Ife Div Personal Letters).
    - d. Nigeria became independent in 1960 (Oral, interview with Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe, Onitsha,) October 16, 1991).

**6** Distinguish between primary and secondary source materials and discuss what the historian's attitude towards each should be.

**Or**

How can a historian strive to attain objectivity in the course of interpreting his source materials?