1. Required (Compulsory) Topics

- **Overview of Research:**
  Meaning, purpose, significance of ethical conduct in research, Classification of Research based on its purpose (Basic, Applied, Evaluation and Action Research)

- **Scientific Thinking:**
  Types of reasoning, Critical Thinking, Importance of existing knowledgebase (research literature)

- **Elements of Research:**
  Concepts, Constructs, Definitions – Theoretical and Operational, Theory, Literature Review and its importance, Models, research questions and objectives, research design and methodology.

2. Topics with a Choice (Elective)

- **Quantitative Research Methods:**
  Variables, Conjecture, Hypothesis, Measurement, Types of data and scales, Sample, Sampling techniques, Probability, Probability Distributions, Hypothesis Testing, Level of Significance and Confidence Interval, t-test, ANOVA, Correlation, Regression Analysis

  OR

- **Qualitative Research Method:**
  Types of approaches – Narrative, phenomenological, grounded theory, ethnographic, case study, sampling techniques; postmodernism; etic and emic; triangulation; approaches to analysis of qualitative data – coding, qualitative content analysis, thematic analysis; interviewing; focus groups
Sample Questions:

I. Purpose of conducting a literature review is:
   a) Satisfaction of the Researcher that s/he is on right track
   b) To enhance credibility as researcher is in sync with predecessors
   c) To reduce accountability as the researcher gives credit & disowns the quote
   d) To help readers in reading further details from the quoted work

II. Which of the following is not a non-probabilistic sampling method?
   e) Quota
   f) Judgment
   g) Snowball
   h) Systematic

III. Which of the following is not an appropriate source of data for qualitative research:
    a) interviews
    b) experiments
    c) historical documents
    d) observations