

Individual Assessment

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1.Introduction to my individual assessment

My name is Hristiana Teneva and I am a university student at University of Wales Trinity Saint David. Here on this word document I am going to introduce you to what primary and secondary data is. The data I am going to be using about my research and questionnaire is called quantitative data. I am also going to show you the questionnaire I have created so I can collect university students opinion about Moodle and what they think about online learning in general. I am also going to show you that in percentages in an apple chart pie. I am going to finish this assessment with my conclusion and references included.

2.What is primary data?

Primary data is a real time data that is collected by the researcher himself and used for generation of questionnaires, surveys, personal interviews, experiments etc. The collection time of primary data is very long and is always specific to the researcher's needs. Primary data are usually collected from the source—where the data originally originates from and are regarded as the best kind of data in research. Primary data means original data that has been collected specially for the purpose in mind. It means someone collected the data from the original source first hand.

- The collection of primary data is collected in either observation method, interviewing method or questionnaire. You gather information about people, events, or programs. The observation method is used in studies relating to behaviour of the person. With this method the observation becomes a scientific tool and the method of data collected for the researcher is systematically planned. The interviewing method is actually really simple. You understand about someone's impressions, thoughts and their experiences. Also what you do is learn more about their answers in the questionnaire. In the questionnaire method this method is sent out to the people who want to participate and then they need to read it, understand it, answer to all questions and then return it to the researcher. This method consists of number of questions typed in order that makes sense for the reader (a logical sense) on a form. The questionnaire should be short and simple, so the reader does not become bored or confused from all the questions, because if they are really confused and ask you a bunch of questions it can become really annoying for both the person who formed the questionnaire and the reader. A very important thing is that the questionnaire should be in a nice colour and the font should not be too big or too small, because a lot of people struggle with their eye sight. It should look presentable so it catches the attention of the reader.

2. What is secondary data?

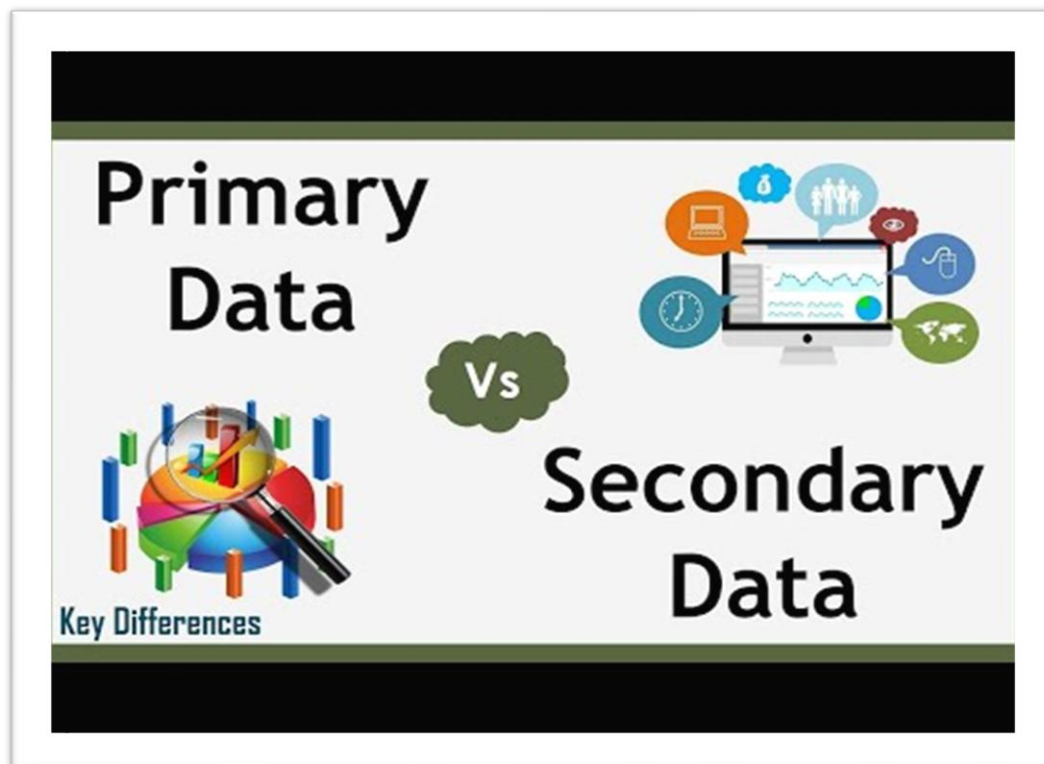
Secondary data is a data that is already collected from the primary source or the primary user and it is made available for researchers to use it so they can use it for their own research such as books, websites, journal personal sources etc. It is a type of data that has already been collected in the past. The data may also have been collected for general use with no specific research purpose like in the case of the national census. A data classified as secondary for a particular research may be said to be primary for another research. This is the case when a data is being reused, making it a primary data for the first research and secondary data for the second research it is being used for.

Differences between primary and secondary data

Comparison	Primary Data	Secondary Data
Meaning	Generated by the researcher himself	Already collected by someone else earlier and made available to the researcher
Time	Real time data	Past data
Process	Very long and involved process	Easy and quick process
Collection time	Very long	Very short
Sources	Surveys, Questionnaires, Experiments, Interviews	Newspapers, websites, books, journals

Specification	It is always specific for the researcher's needs	It may or may not be specific for the researcher's needs
Accuracy and Reliability	A lot more	Relatively less

As can be seen from the explanation above is that primary data is an original data, which is directly collected by the researcher from a source that is needed for the requirements. And secondary data is easily accessible but the data are not pure as they have undergone through many treatments.



4.What is quantitative data?

Quantitative data is a type of data, which value is composed of numbers or counts which is unique, because it is associated with each data set. This data is also called numerical data, because as I mentioned above it is formed of numbers and it describes numerical values such as :

- How many?
- How often?
- How much?

It can be used for statistical analysis which forms real life decisions and it can be also used for mathematical computations, which for instance could mean:

How much could this product cost? or How much people are going to be in the meeting?

The key word used here is how and it is also really important to ask that word while doing a quantitative research.

There are also two different types of quantitative data:

1. Discrete Data

2. Continuous Data

What is discrete data?

Discrete data is a data that only can take certain values. Information that can be categorized into a classification. A good example of discrete data could be test questions answered correctly and number of people in a meeting.

What is continuous data?

Continuous data is a data that can basically take any value and is also measurable. For instance weight, height, temperature are all continuous data. And all of them can change over some time, for example a person weights 60 kilograms in 2020, but during Coronavirus Lockdown that person stayed at home most of the time and gained weight and now weights 75 kilograms, because they did not use that movement.

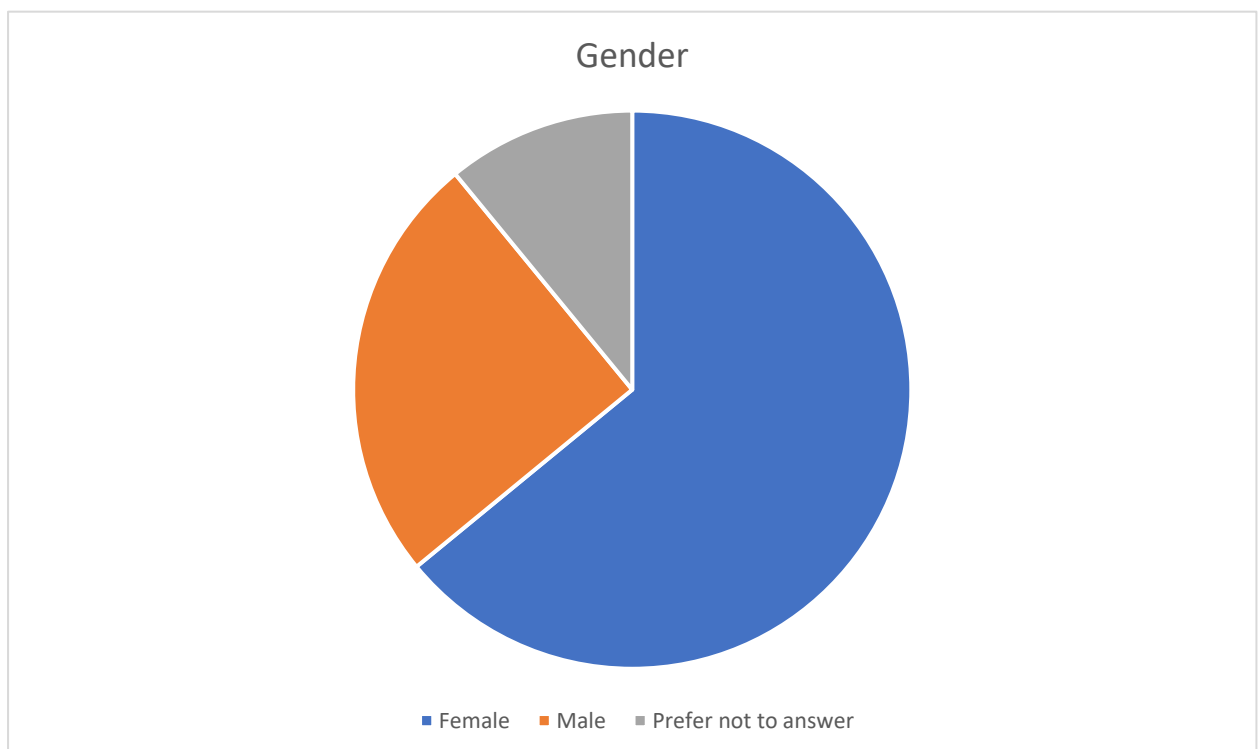
5. The questionnaire I have created

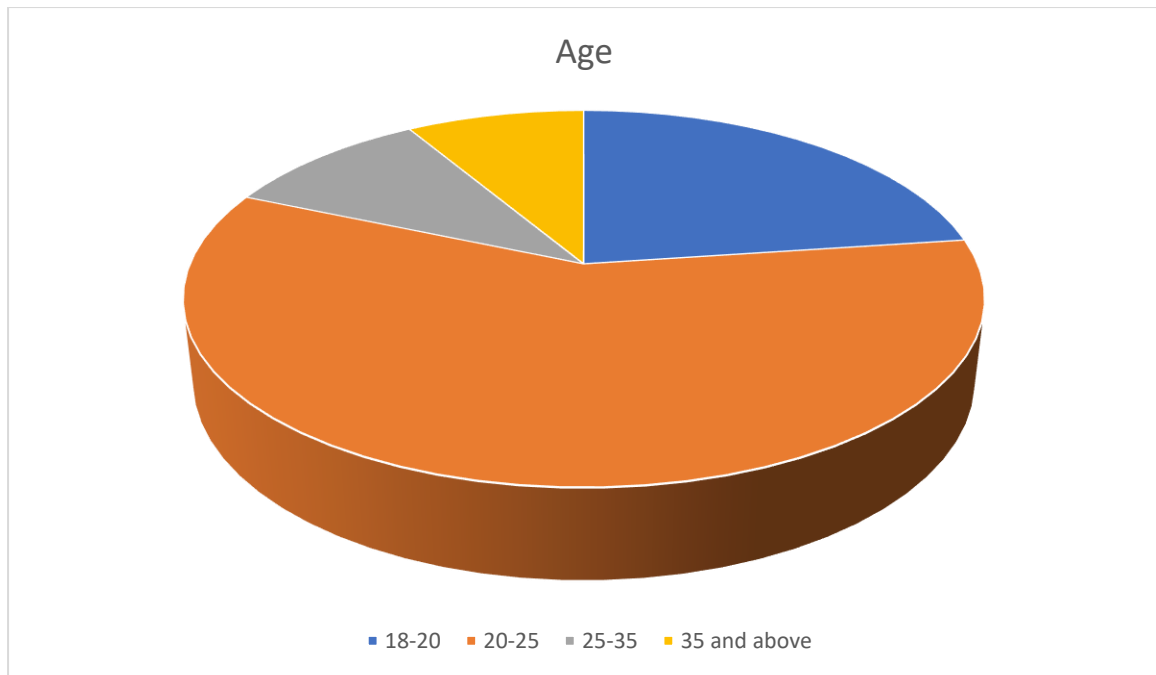
My questionnaire consists of both open and closed questions. An open question means that the reader can express what they are thinking and they can answer as much as they like in their own words. Closed questions are the type of questions that can be only answered with yes or no. The person can not express their own opinion or thoughts they can only choose between the mentioned above yes or no. The questions I have asked are short, simple and to the point, so the individuals that I have gathered can understand them and be interested to take part in my questionnaire. I also think that I structured them very logically from the least sensitive to the most sensitive. The students that participated in this questionnaire are remaining anonymous, because I think that way they really expressed their honest opinion and thoughts without me knowing who answered what specifically.

Here I am going to insert my very own questionnaire and one example of answer:

Questions:	Answers
What gender are you?	Female
How old are you?	21 years old
Do you currently study at University and which University do you study at?	Yes I study at University of Wales Trinity Saint David
Do you think online learning is good for you?	Yes, because I can focus on myself while learning and staying at home and I can spend more time working and seeing my family more often
Since you study at UWTSD, what do you think about Moodle?	I think moodle is a great platform and makes my studies easier
Why do you think moodle is great/bad?	I think it is good because when I did not understand something in class when my lecturer is speaking fast I can always go back to moodle and check the power point presentation again.
What features of moodle do you like the most?	I like that I can access all of my presentations any time during the day without worrying about not understanding something

Here I am going to insert two apple pie charts I have created so you can understand more about the people I have interviewed and their gender and age.





6. Conclusion

In conclusion I think I did pretty well on this assignment, because I explained all of the contents properly and gave a lot of information about primary, secondary and quantitative data. What I struggled was not being confident about finding people who want to answer my questionnaire, but I was really surprised when a lot of students reached out to me wanting to see my questionnaire and trying to answer my questions. All of them said my questions are really easy to understand and they are glad that they remained anonymous. This task was really hard for me because I did not really understand most of the content that I wrote above, but after hours of doing my research and gathering a lot of information I think I am pretty confident in myself and my research.

Studying online this year online has been challenging for me, because I prefer face to face studies, as it is easier to be focused and you can always ask questions. I find it really hard to focus at home and concentrate but I found effective ways to stay focused. This course is really entertaining for me and having this certificate would open a lot of doors for me.

I think moodle is a great platform for students and also teachers to use, because you can find a lot of useful information there like the studies in week 3 if you are in week 6 and if you need to remember them

7. References

Here are all the references I have gathered to write this assessment.

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