

A **written questionnaire** is a form of social survey where respondents answers are provided in a written format. These can be open or closed questions depending upon the type of data the researcher wants

Qualitative data could be collected from asking respondents to provide written answers to **open questions**, which is more common with this format. However, **closed questions** can be asked too, which would provide **quantitative data**.

1) How has the COVID19 Lockdown impacted on your day to day life?

Responses to open questions are harder to analyse and quantify as there are more potential responses



With written responses, people are able to discuss the impacts freely with no imposition problem. This also helps researchers discover impacts they may not have considered in their preparation

Written questionnaires may provide people a better opportunity to consider their responses – improving the **validity** of answers

However, these questions may be better explored through unstructured interviews, where researchers can ask follow-up questions and get better clarity



The absence of a researcher in written questionnaires may also mean that people respond truthfully, particularly if their responses are anonymous

Sociological Research Methods