“Speculation, procedures, and conclusions are not scientific unless they are made public.” Is this true? Discuss.

Most qualitative researchers believe that the world is a single reality, whereas most quantitative researchers believe that the world is made up of multiple realities. Which position would you support? Why?

Can you think of some other ways of knowing besides those mentioned in this chapter? What are they? What, if any, are the limitations of these methods?

“While certainty is appealing, it is contradictory to a fundamental premise of science.” What does this mean? Discuss.

Is there such a thing as private knowledge? If so, can you give an example?

Many people seem to be uneasy about the idea of research, particularly research in schools. How would you explain this?

Research Exercise One: What Kind of Research?

Think of a research idea or problem you would like to investigate. Using Problem Sheet 1, briefly describe the problem in a sentence or two. Then indicate the type of research methodology you would use to investigate this problem.

PROBLEM SHEET 1

**Type of Research**

1. A possible topic or problem I am thinking of researching is: ____________________________

2. The type of research that seems most appropriate to this topic or problem is (circle one):
   
   a. An experiment  
   b. A correlational study  
   c. A causal-comparative study  
   d. A survey using a written questionnaire  
   e. A survey using interviews of several individuals  
   f. An ethnographic study  
   g. A case study  
   h. A content analysis  
   i. A historical study  
   j. An action research study  

3. What questions (if any) might a critical researcher raise with regard to your study?

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