

Diyala University

College of Basic Education

Department of English

Subject : Observation

Third Stage

Second Course

By : Lecturer Omar Nasrallah

Observation: from the earliest history of scientific activity .

observation has been

**The prevailing method of inquiry .observing natural phenomena
aided by**

**systematic classification and measurement led to the development of
theories and**

**law and natures forces . As a data gathering device direct observation
may make**

**an important contribution to descriptive research certain type of
information can**

best be obtained through direct examination by researcher.

**Example one may study the characteristics of school building by
observing and**

**recording such aspect as materials of construction .Number of rooms
for various purpose ,size of rooms ,amount of furniture and
equipment {best :1981,158}**

Types of observation

1.1– Nonparticipant observation the observer is not directly involved in the

situation to be observed .

1.2—Simulation observation the researcher creates the situation to be observed

and tells subjects what activities they are to engage in this technique allows the researcher to observe behavior that occurs infrequently in natural situation

1.3 ---Naturalistic observation the observer purposely controls or manipulates

nothing and in fact work very hard at not affecting the observed situation in any way {ALsaedy:2002,13}

1.4---Participant observation in which the teacher participates in the classroom by teaching or asking {Ross :1974,162}

2-How to do instructed observation ?

2.1 -1- Take a note book and pen .

2- Note down when you see some thing interest .

3- Write down theories as you form them

4-Look for more evidence

5- Ask people to confirm things

3- Characteristics

1- Focus in community and ethnic groups .

2-To know immediate impact of an event and aspect of every day life

.

3- To get an inside view of reality .

4-Focus in persons and the setting . { [www. Pathway –Egypt](http://www.Pathway-Egypt.com) }

3.1 –Observer reliability

Unreliable observations are as useless as data based on an unreliable test

Determining observer reliability generally requires that at least two observers

Independently make observations, their record judgment as to what occurred

can then be compared to see how well they agree.

One approach to increase reliability is to use shorter observation periods and to

base reliability calculations on both agreements and disagreements on occurrence-

Cases and nonoccurrence's of behavior with this approach it is easier to determine

Whether observers are recording the same events at the same time .

Observation Bias observation bias refers to invalid

observation that

result from the way in which observer observe. {ross:1974,292}

4- Recording of observation

The observers should have to observe and record only one behavior at a time

even if you are interest in two types of behavior for example teacher behavior

and student behavior the observer should only one have to make one decision at

time . Thus , if two types of behavior are to be observed they should probably

Be observed alternately . {Van Dalen :1962,47}

5- Check List

The check list , the simplest of the device , consist of a prepared list of items . The

Presence or absence of the item may be indicated by checking yes or no , the type

Or number of the items may be indicated by inserting the appropriate word or

number . This simple laundry –list type of device systematizes and facilitates

the recording of observations , and helps to ensure the consideration of the

important aspect of the object or act observed . Readers are familiar with

check list to help buyers purchase a use car . {best :1981, 161)