Class Activities

# Chapter #11: Qualitative Designs and Data Collection: Understanding What Behavior Means in Context

1. You are interested in gathering data via focus group from immigrants in your community to better understand (a) barriers they face to engage in their community, (b) their perceptions of services (e.g., English language learning classes) in their community, and (c) how they would want to change their community. Develop a guide for this focus group including:
   * Six to eight sample questions to assess immigrant perspectives on these topics.
   * A sample introduction to be read at the start of the focus group.
2. Imagine you are now interested in transforming your qualitative study of immigrants into mixed methods study and including some quantitative data collection. How is a mixed-methods study better than solely a qualitative or quantitative study? What types of questions would you ask as part of the quantitative portion of your study? How would you gather this information?
3. You are a research assistant working on a project examining parenting practices in families in urban Chicago. You are asked to conduct home visits with families to gather data on parental warmth. You visit each home and observe interactions between parents and children in order to measure parental warmth. You do not interact with families, but merely observe them (complete observer). What types of things would you want to observe? What would you pay attention to? Please explain any concerns you have about this strategy for collecting data.