



## Worksheet 1: Research methods in context

Read both sources and answer the questions.

### Question 1

#### Source A: Average life expectancy in 1950 and 2019, in selected countries

The table below shows the average life expectancy for people in six countries between 1950 and 2019. The data is gathered from each country's official statistics, such as the census and death records.

Country	Life expectancy in 1950 (years)	Life expectancy in 2019 (years)
Argentina	46	77
Botswana	44	70
Egypt	49	72
Ghana	48	66
Hong Kong	64	85
Mauritius	45	75

Source: adapted from *Our World in Data*

- 1 Using the information in **Source A**, explain **two** reasons why the statistics are not useful in investigating life expectancy across the world.

a)

**The statistics are not useful in investigating life expectancy across the world because:** *the source has been adapted.*

**Explain the reason:** *This means the data has been changed in some way. For example, data may have been added or removed. This shows that the figures may not demonstrate a fully accurate picture of life expectancy across the six countries.*

b)

**The statistics are not useful in investigating life expectancy across the world because:**

**Explain the reason:**



## Question 2

### Source A: The Sociology of Housework (1974)

Ann Oakley is a British feminist who wanted to end women's subordination to men in both the home and wider society. In her famous study 'The Sociology of Housework' (1974) Oakley wanted to understand the experience of housework from the point of view of the women who did it. Her aims were to describe the housewife's situation and examine patterns of dissatisfaction.

Oakley conducted 40 semi-structured interviews with London housewives. The housewives were aged between 20 and 30 and all were mothers with at least one child under five. The interviews took two hours each and were conducted in the women's homes. She recorded the conversations so that she could have an accurate record. Using a tape recorder to record the women's words also allowed her to keep eye contact and keep the conversations as natural as possible.

Oakley concluded that many housewives in her sample did most or all the housework and they experienced housework as boring, repetitive and with little or no reward. Her findings disagreed with a previous study by Wilmott and Young which suggested that there is now more gender equality in the home regarding housework.

- 1 Using the information in **Source A**, explain **two** reasons why semi-structured interviews were useful in investigating women's experiences of housework.

a)

**Semi-structured interviews were useful in investigating women's experience of housework because:**

**Explain the reason by reference to the research:**

b)

**Semi-structured interviews were useful in investigating women's experience of housework because:**

**Explain the reason by reference to the research:**