

Resource 2.4.: Question formats

Open questions		
Description	Examples	Further information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The interviewer reads the question. - The participant answers in his/her own words. - The interviewer writes down the answer(s). <p>For multiple-response questions: If the participant keeps silent after a response, the interviewer asks ‘Anything else?’ Only when the participant responds ‘No’, the interviewer proceeds to the next question.</p>	<p><i>Single-response question:</i> What is the single most important reason to collect your drinking and cooking water at the arsenic safe well?</p> <p><i>Multiple-response question:</i> What are the advantages of collecting your drinking and cooking water at the arsenic safe well?</p>	<p>Advantages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We get the participant's own answers. • Allows exploration of the range of possible topics arising from an issue, including those that we had not anticipated. <p>Disadvantages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time-consuming for the participant and the interviewer. • Answers are difficult to code and compare. • Time-consuming for the data processing, as the responses have to be categorized. • Open multiple-response questions: Difficult to analyse.

Open questions with given response options		
Description	Examples	Further information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The interviewer reads the question. - The participant answers in his/her own words. - Based on the answer(s), the interviewer selects the corresponding response option(s). <p>For multiple-response questions: If the participant keeps silent after a</p>	<p><i>Single-response question:</i> What is the single most important reason to collect your drinking and cooking water at the arsenic safe well? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Taste 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Distance 88 <input type="checkbox"/> Other.....</p> <p><i>Multiple-response question:</i> What are the advantages of collecting your drinking and cooking water at the arsenic safe well?</p>	<p>Advantage compared to the previous format: Responses are pre-categorized to facilitate data gathering, entry, and processing.</p> <p>Prerequisite: knowledge about the most common responses.</p> <p>Disadvantage of open multiple-response questions: Difficult to analyse.</p>

<p>response, the interviewer asks ‘Anything else?’ Only when the participant responds ‘No’, the interviewer proceeds to the next question.</p>	<p>¹ Taste ² Distance ⁸⁸ Other.....</p>	
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<p>Closed questions with rating scales</p>												
<p>Description</p>	<p>Examples</p>	<p>Further information</p>										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The interviewer reads the question and the response options. - The participant chooses a response option. - The interviewer ticks the chosen response option. 	<p><i>Unipolar:</i> How much do you think that collecting all your drinking and cooking water at the arsenic safe well is tiring or not tiring?</p> <table style="width: 100%; text-align: center; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">¹</td> <td style="width: 20%;">²</td> <td style="width: 20%;">³</td> <td style="width: 20%;">⁴</td> <td style="width: 20%;">⁵</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Not tiring</td> <td>A little tiring</td> <td>Quite tiring</td> <td>Tiring</td> <td>Very tiring</td> </tr> </table>	¹	²	³	⁴	⁵	Not tiring	A little tiring	Quite tiring	Tiring	Very tiring	<p>Advantage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Precise and explicit responses Easy and quick to gather Easy to compare and analyse Easy to report <p>Disadvantage: unknown responses or aspects are not detectable.</p>
¹	²	³	⁴	⁵								
Not tiring	A little tiring	Quite tiring	Tiring	Very tiring								