# Government Social Research
# Example Knowledge Test

January 2024

**This document provides some examples of the types of questions asked in the GSR Knowledge Test. The actual test is longer.**

## Question 1

A sample of 500 questionnaires records the pints of milk each household buys. The mean value is 4.36 per week, with a standard deviation of 2.1.

If every household starts buying an extra pint per week, which ONE of the following MUST be true?

A. The standard deviation for a week will be 3.1
B. The standard deviation for a week will be 1.1
C. The mean for a week will be 5.36
D. The mean for a week will be 4.36
E. The impact on the mean cannot be calculated without more information

**Answer: C**

## Question 2

You are to support a hospital in researching the idea of providing a new mentoring model to trainee nurses. This model has never been used within the hospital before.

Which TWO of the following would you include in the **opening** stages of the project?

A. Give a questionnaire to trainee nurses asking them to rate personal development preferences and include 'mentoring' as one of these
B. Sit in on trainee nurse mentoring sessions in a different hospital for a day
C. Review a summary of the literature on mentoring for trainee nurses
D. Send out an online questionnaire to patients asking them about their experiences of being cared for by trainee nurses
E. Set up focus groups with senior nurses at the hospitals to gather their views

**Answer: B and C**

## Question 3

The Royal Navy asks its staff whether they have been deployed outside of the UK in the last 12 months ('yes' or 'no') and, where they have, to state the number of days they were deployed outside of the UK in the last 12 months. 1,042 people said 'yes' they had been deployed outside of the UK in the last 12 months and '0' as the number of days they were deployed.

Which ONE of the following is the MOST appropriate way to deal with these cases?

A. Include the 1,042 cases as '0' in the analysis.
B. Email the 1,042 people and check the number of days deployed with them
C. Recode the 1,042 people as 'no' they have not been deployed outside of the UK
D. Recode the 1,042 people as having been deployed for 1 day each
E. Treat them as missing values

**Answer: E**