Guide to complete your project/research:

Literature review:

This should help you link your questionnaire or the format you use to gather the information. Compare your format/information obtained with what the literature say such as to what extent or the way your company do things.

Your literature review should describe and critically analyse what other authors have written or other persons work; ***Hint: When you are doing this – keep the following two questions uppermost in your mind: What is this text or article or journal saying? (summary); • What do I think about what it's saying? (Evaluation).***

It is to set your study within its wider context and to show the reader how your study/work supplements the work that has already been done on your topic.

Do a reflection and see how you would do things differently.

Keep references as you go along

Website not so important as in most cases we do not know their credibility

Recommended texts to guide you through your research:

- Research Methods for Business Students by Mark Saunders, Phillip Lewis and Adrian Thornhill.
- Research Methods for Science by Michael P. Marder
- Success in your project, a guide to student system development projects by Phillip Weaver

Research process

Find out about companies from research literature or what other researchers have done.
How they have done their work in the past
How is it being done now?
Is the company doing it in a similar way?
State why they do it in a similar way or
State why they cannot do it in a similar way

Describe each strategy

Then choose a method for your research
Justify why (written format)
State why the chosen method is better

Research methods

Explain which methods & sub-method apply to your research /work. How does it apply to the work you are doing?

- Research Philosophy
  - Epistemology – Concerns what constitutes acceptable knowledge in the field.
  - Ontology – Concerns with the nature of social phenomena as entities
  - Axiology – Studies judgement about value.

- Approaches
    - Deductive – Involves the development of theory that is subjected to rigorous test.
    - Inductive – Apply theory to data collection
- Strategies
    - Experiment
    - Survey
    - Case study
    - Action research
    - Grounded theory
    - Ethnography
    - Archival research
- Choices
    - Mono method
    - Mixed methods
    - Multi-methods
- Time horizons
    - Cross-sectional
    - Longitudinal
- Techniques and procedures
    - Data collection and data analysis

Formal report

Use third person language

Do not use 1st person such as I, my, we

If you use questionnaire:

State the type and why

Open

Close

Both

State how reliable the information is

How many questionnaires were filled out?

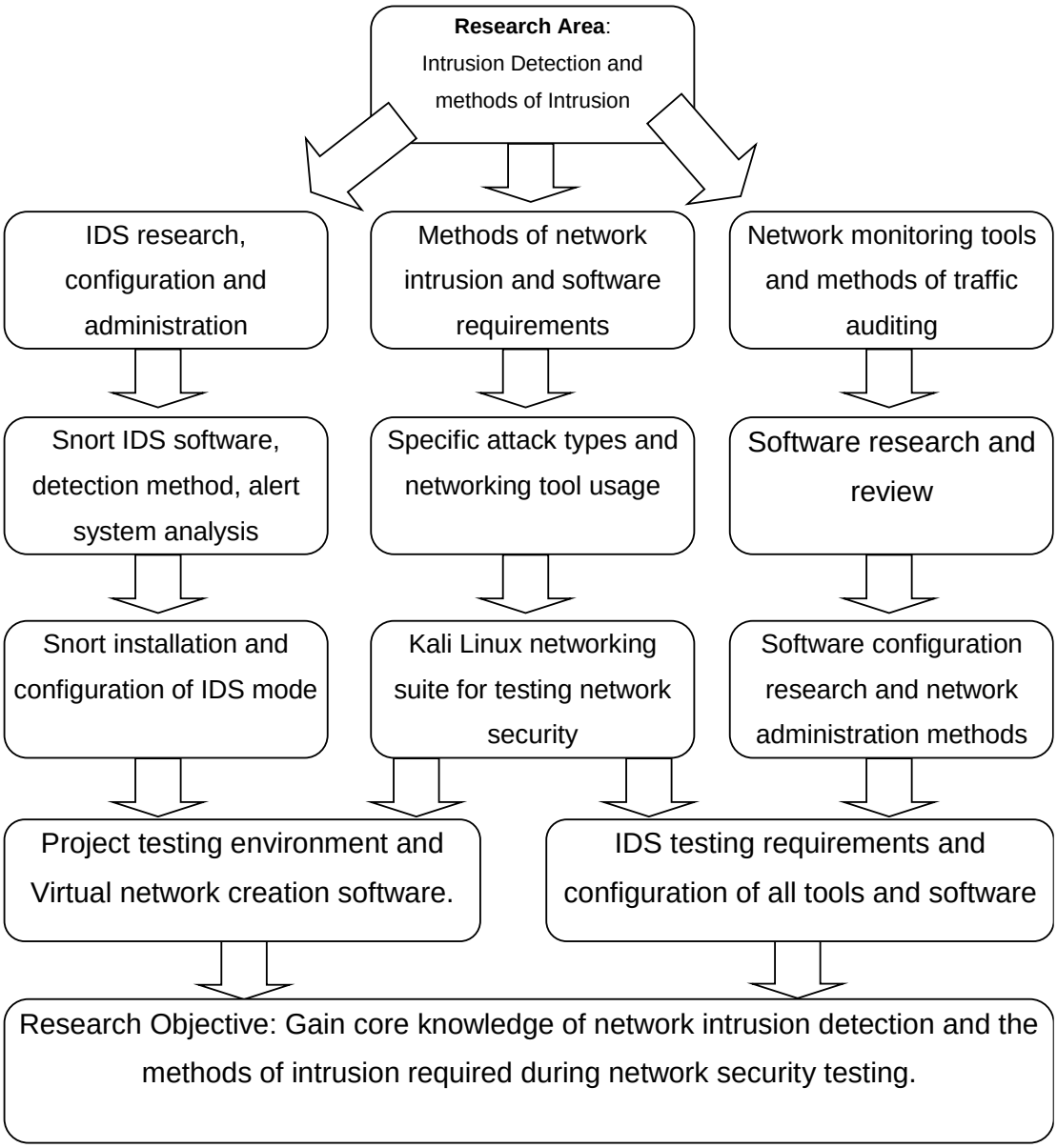
Give reason for the sample size.

Example:

RESEARCH DESIGN

A research design is required to help direct the research material usage during the research process. All research within this report has been drafted using this method or timeline of research. During each stage, a question was used to help identify how this question could gain relevant answers to allow for a research deliverable in-keeping with the overall project objectives.

A flow chart was designed to display visually how the research will be completed using this method. The initial area of study being intrusion detection and methods of intrusion as the core of the research, each stage will fundamentally flow from this core and branch out into three areas of required research: IDS software and intrusion detection methods; network monitoring tools and methods; and methods of intrusion and network intrusion tools. The figure below shows the design and process of this research (See fig. below):



The progress of the research design shows specifically which topic line will lead forward into deeper research. Beginning with the basic understanding of IDSs, the concept and methods of network intrusion and the software that is installed to both prevent attacks and gain access to network assets. Each phase or layer progressing (flow chart) into the next layer of each topic. This method has been implemented due to the research areas chosen being specific and tied together with the three main concepts. As the progression continues the three topics begin to consolidate information gained, concluding with the understanding required to construct and test the IDS within a simulated environment.