# Surveys Interview technique Questionnaires vs. Interviews **Methods of Data Collection** Face-to-face Telephone Mail Internet **Types of Questions** Closed-ended: must be answered by one of a limited number of alternatives. • Open-ended: solicit information about opinions and feelings by asking the question in such a way that the person must respond with more than yes-no, ratings, etc.

## **Rating Scales**

- Numerical: respondents work with a sequence of defined numbers.
  - 1=strongly agree
  - = 2=agree
  - 3=undecided
  - 4=disagree
  - 5=strongly disagree

### **Rating Scales**

- Graphic
- Unpopular \_\_ \_ \_ \_ Popular
  Likert-type: numbers are associated with different responses to statements that are easily classifiable as favorable or unfavorable.

SA A U D SD Favorable 1 2 3 4 Unfavorable 5 4 3 2 5

#### **Response Styles**

- Response set: tendency to respond to questions or test items in specific ways
  - Leniency bias
  - Central tendency bias
  - Acquiescent response set
  - Position preference

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## Difficulty of Questions

- Ceiling effect: restriction of range problem that occurs when task is too easy.
- Floor effect: restriction of range problem that occurs when task is too difficult.

#### Wording

- Double-barreled questions: questions that cover two different issues at once.
  - "Do you agree that the president should focus his primary attention on economy and foreign affairs?"
- Leading questions:
  - "Should laws be passed to eliminate all possibilities of special interests giving huge sums of money to candidates?"

#### **Ordering of Questions**

- Funnel
- Filter
- Practice
- Counterbalancing Order
- Preventing Response Sets
- Alternate Forms