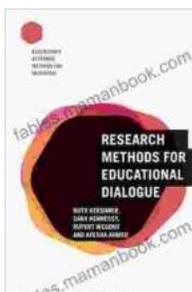


# **Research Methods for Educational Dialogue: Bloomsbury Research Methods for Education**

Dialogue has been a cornerstone of education, facilitating the exchange of ideas and the co-construction of knowledge. Research methods for studying educational dialogue are diverse, ranging from qualitative approaches like discourse analysis to quantitative methods like conversation analysis. This article reviews key research methods for investigating educational dialogue, showcasing their strengths and limitations.

## **Qualitative Methods**

### **1. Discourse Analysis**



## Research Methods for Educational Dialogue (Bloomsbury Research Methods for Education)

by Rupert Wegerif

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 3880 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 291 pages



Discourse analysis is a qualitative research method that examines the structure and function of language in educational contexts. By analyzing texts, conversations, and other forms of discourse, researchers aim to understand how participants construct meaning, negotiate power dynamics, and shape their identity.

## **2. Ethnography**

# ETHNOGRAPHY

(ethno = people; graphy = writing)

Writing about people

Must be fluent in the language of the people we study

To study daily life over a long period of time (one to two years)

To establish mutual trust with a full range of local people

Usually stay in a specific location such as a village or a room

*Ethnography involves immersing the researcher in a social setting to observe and interpret.*

Ethnography is a qualitative method that involves immersing the researcher in an educational setting over an extended period. Through participant observation, interviews, and document analysis, researchers gain a deep understanding of the culture, norms, and practices of the classroom. This method allows for insights into the complexities of educational dialogue.

## **Quantitative Methods**

### **3. Conversation Analysis**

#### Sample Transcript with Timestamps at Regular Intervals

Steve: Welcome back. [00:10] This is the second part of our interview, and I want to get through these questions as quickly as possible because I know you have somewhere to be.

Brad: Hi. It's my pleasure.

Steve: It says on the website you worked doing graphic design for a local branding agency before branching out and [00:15] starting your own business.

Brad: Well,

Steve: Was that a conscious choice?

Brad: Yes.

Steve: Sorry, one sec. We can hear the fan.

Charlie: [Inaudible 00:27]

Steve: No, no, that's perfect. Thanks. [00:30] Charlie: Good.

Was starting your own company intentional, or did you just sort of fall into it?

Brad: Actually, sort of both. I started out doing it as a favor for a friend. I don't really know what I was doing at the time. [00:45] but at some point I found myself having some success with that, and so I started doing it for local businesses and restaurants.

Then it kind of took off from there, and then I figured, well, if I'm going to be taking on all these new clients I might as well [01:00] get a website going and make something out of this, you know?

Steve: Sure. What kind of challenges did you experience when you were starting out, that you weren't expecting?

Brad: Hmm, challenges I wasn't [01:15] expecting.

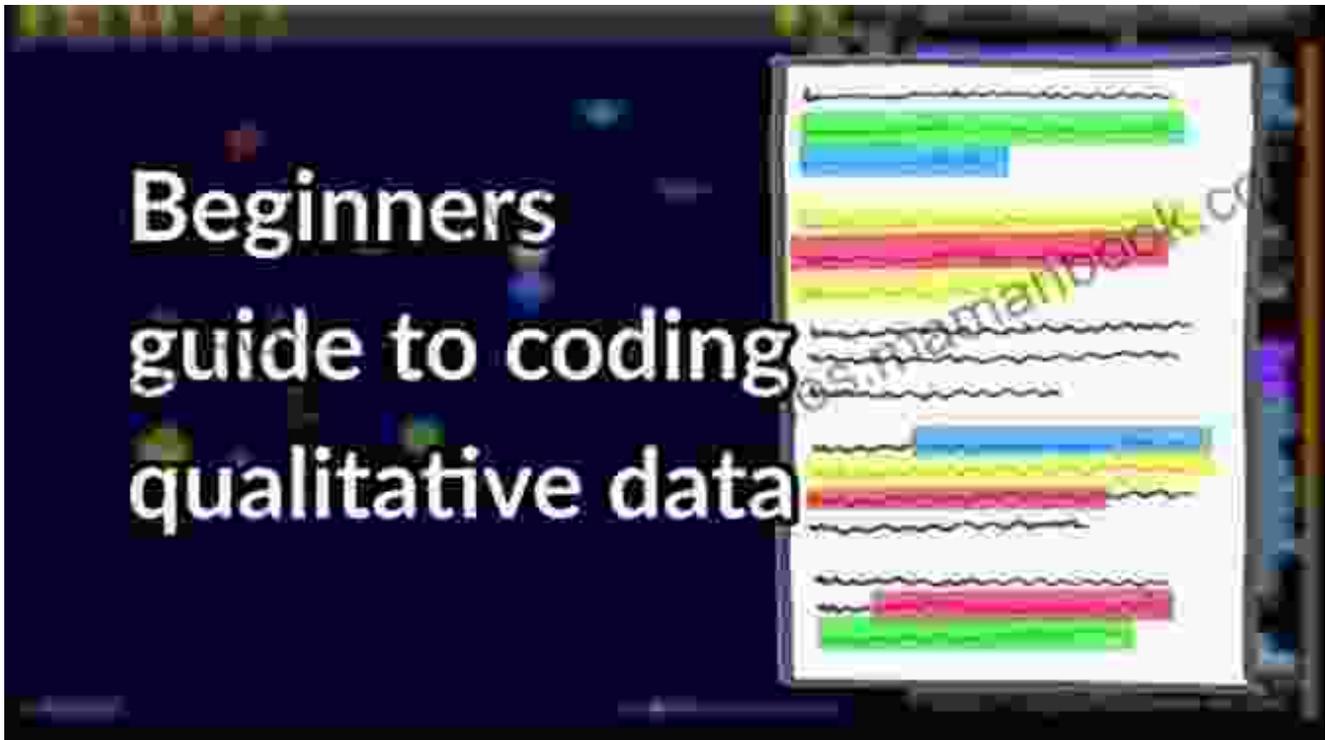
Steve: [Laughs] I keep putting you on the spot. I don't think I put that one in the question either. We're just ad-libbing here.

Brad: No, it's fine. So, challenges.

Steve: Yeah, it could be anything or anything. I forgot to [01:30] ask you earlier, did you bootstrap?

Conversation analysis is a quantitative method that examines the sequential organization of talk. By analyzing audio or video recordings, researchers identify conversational patterns, such as turn-taking, interruptions, and repair sequences. This method provides insights into the micro-level dynamics of educational dialogue.

## 4. Quantitative Discourse Analysis



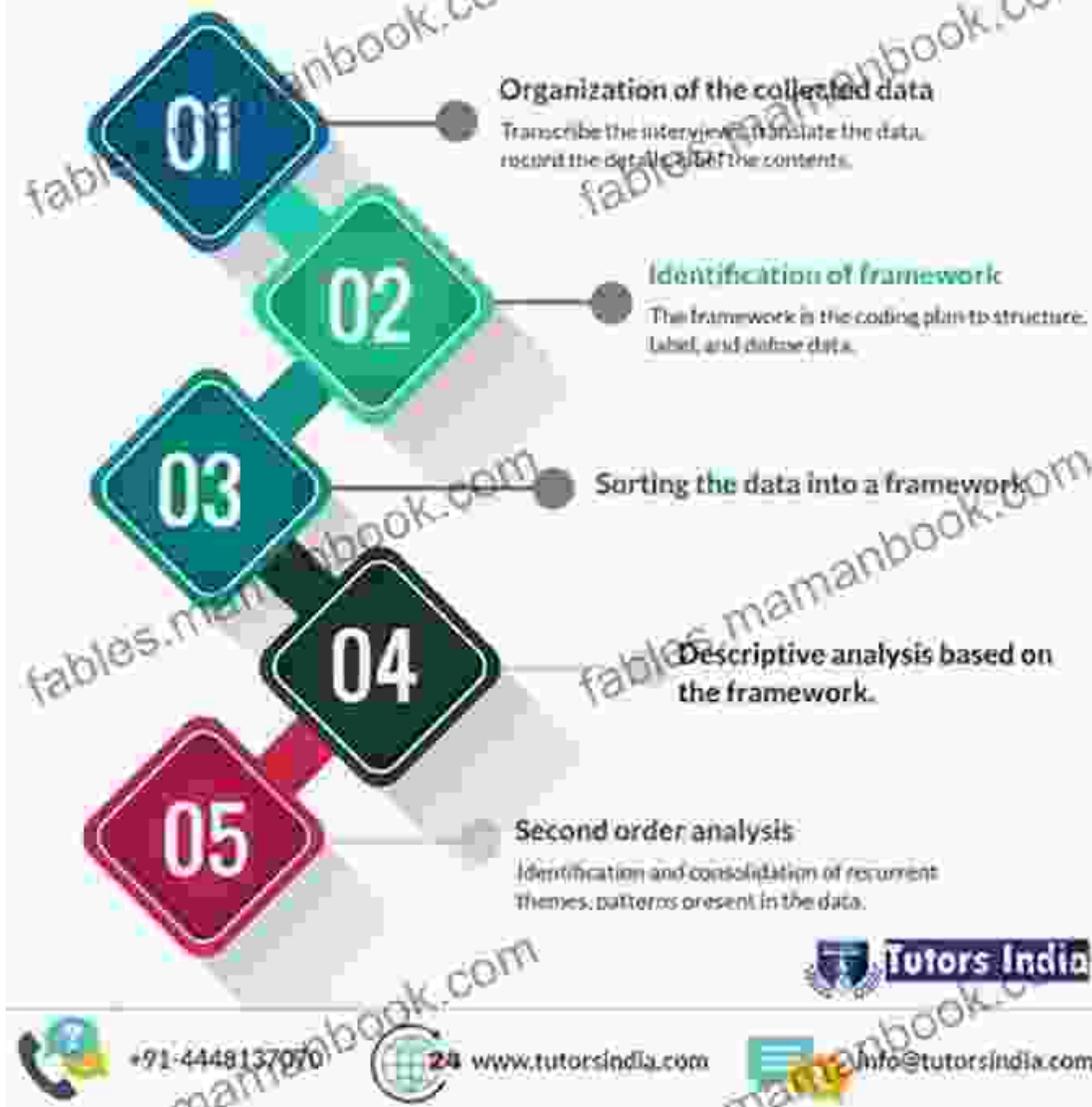
*Quantitative discourse analysis uses computational techniques to analyze large corpora of text.*

Quantitative discourse analysis combines quantitative and qualitative methods to analyze large datasets of text. Researchers use software programs to code and analyze data, identifying patterns and trends in language use. This method allows for the quantification of linguistic features and their impact on educational dialogue.

## **Mixed Methods**

### **5. Mixed Methods Research**

## A Step-By-Step Guide To Qualitative Data Analysis

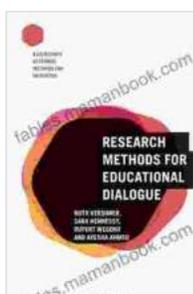


Mixed methods research integrates qualitative and quantitative methods to provide a more comprehensive understanding of educational dialogue. Researchers may combine discourse analysis with quantitative discourse analysis to analyze both the structure and function of language. Mixed methods offer triangulation, enhancing the validity and reliability of research findings.

Research methods for studying educational dialogue are diverse, offering a range of approaches to investigate the complexities of classroom interactions. Qualitative methods, such as discourse analysis and ethnography, provide deep insights into the construction of meaning and the social context. Quantitative methods, such as conversation analysis and quantitative discourse analysis, offer precise analysis of conversational patterns and language use. Mixed methods research combines strengths of both approaches, providing a comprehensive understanding of educational dialogue. Researchers should carefully select methods based on the research questions, research design, and available resources to maximize the effectiveness and rigor of their studies.

## References

\* [Bloomsbury Research Methods for Education: Dialogue]  
(<https://www.bloomsbury.com/us/academic/research-methods-for-education-dialogue-9781350112113/>) \* [Educational Dialogue: An ]  
(<https://books.google.com/books?id=l-zODwAAQBAJ>) \* [Research Methods in Education](<https://books.google.com/books?id=4JhwDwAAQBAJ>)



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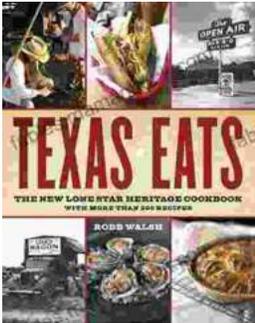
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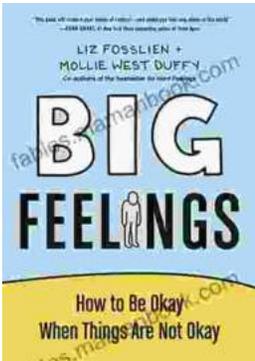
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