

Week 2

Research: A Way of Thinking

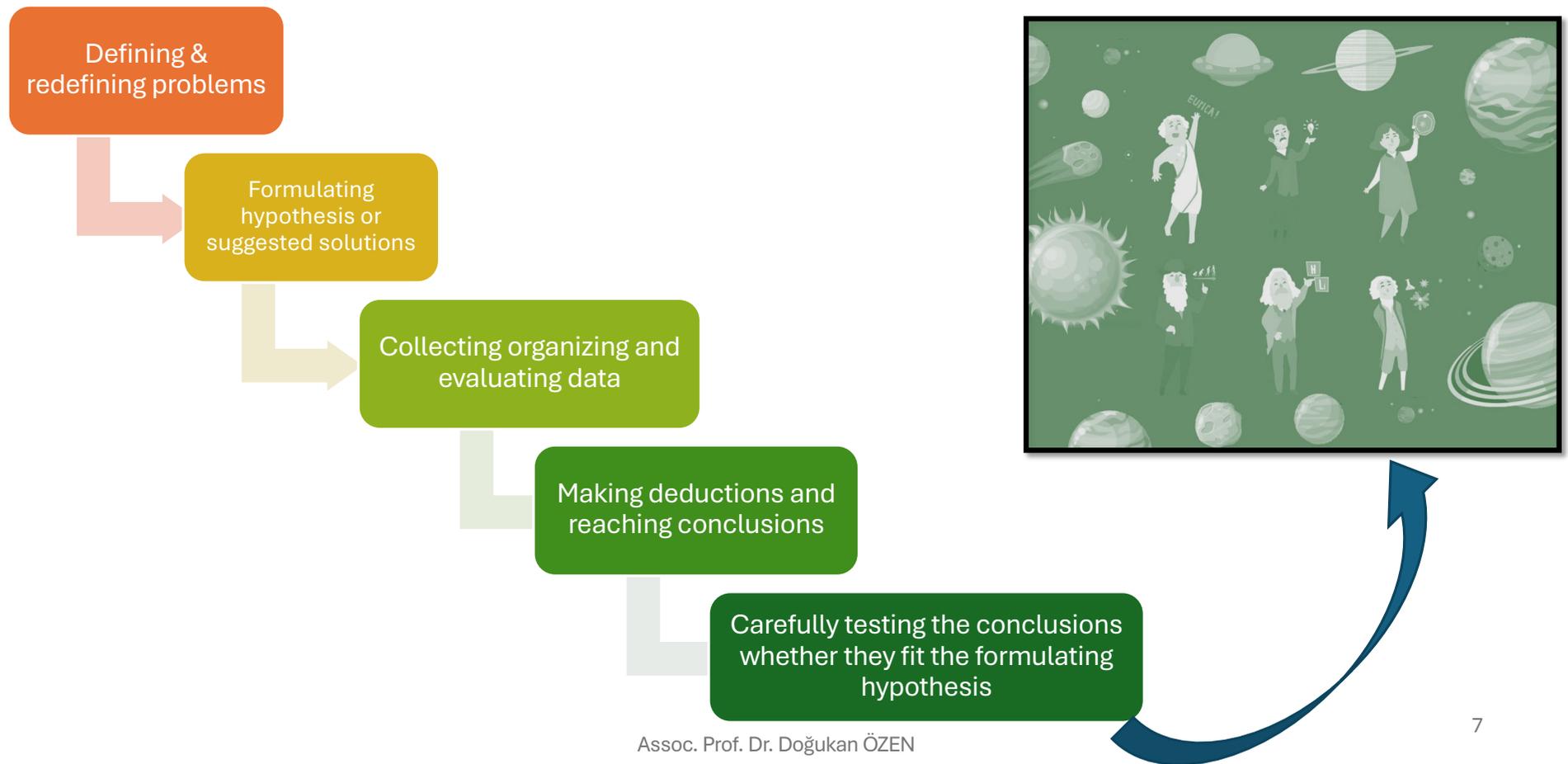
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Research

- Knowledge
- A scientific and systematic search
- A movement from known to unknown



Definition of Research in a Broad sense



Research: a way of thinking...

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Objectives of Research

To gain familiarity with a phenomenon or to achieve new insights into it

studies with this object in view are termed as *exploratory* or *formulative* research studies

To portray accurately the characteristics of a particular individual, situation or a group

studies with this object in view are known as *descriptive* research studies

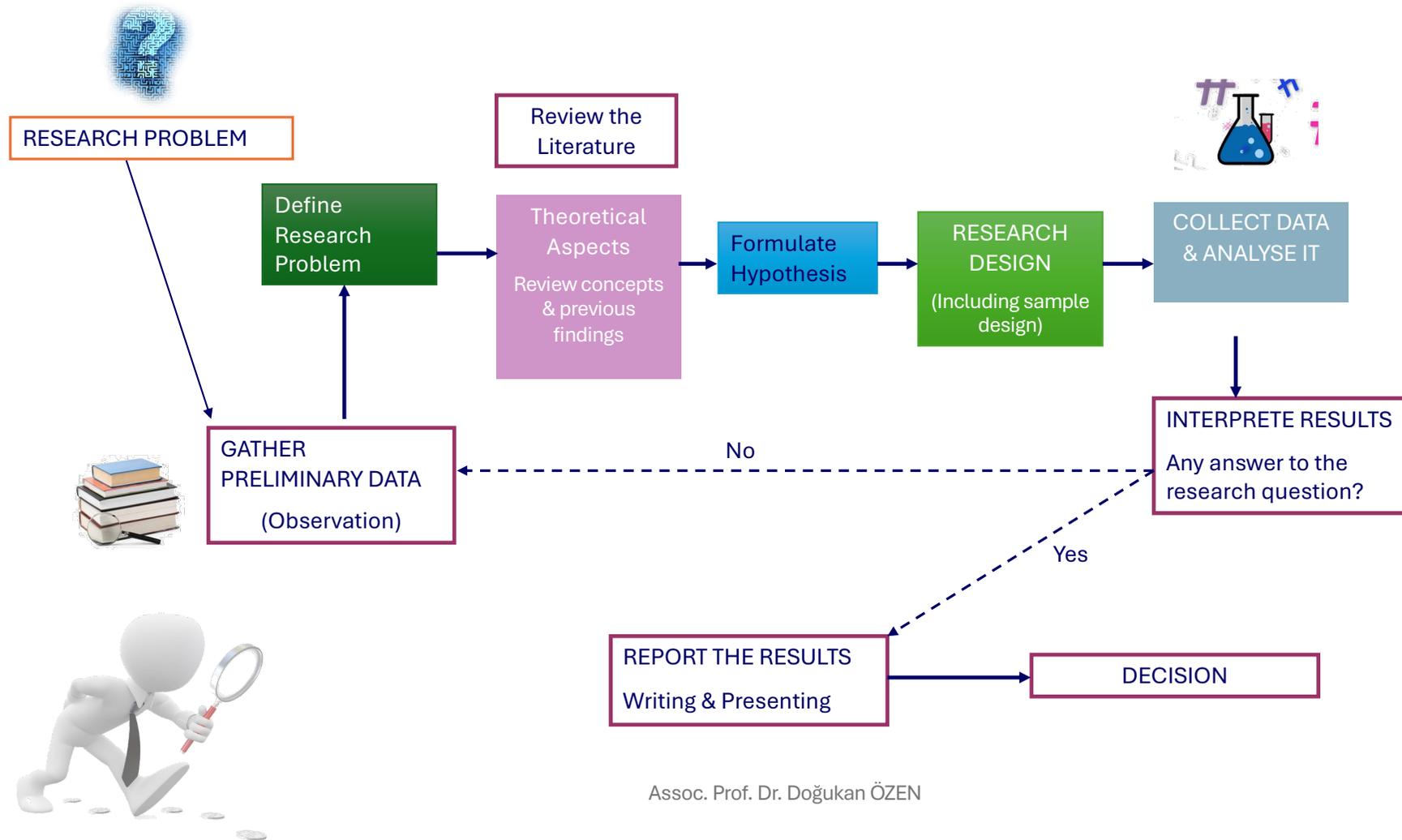
To determine the frequency with which something occurs or with which it is associated with something else

studies with this object in view are known as *diagnostic* research studies

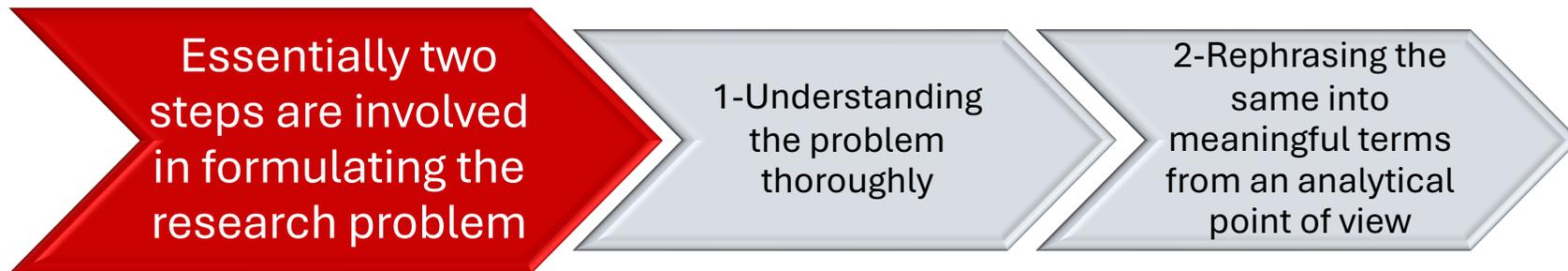
Importance of Knowing “How research is done?”

- ✓ *The knowledge of methodology provides good training specially to the new research worker and enables him to do better research.*
- ✓ *Knowledge of how to do research will inculcate the ability to evaluate and use research results with reasonable confidence.*
- ✓ *When one knows how research is done, then one may have the satisfaction of acquiring a new intellectual tool which can become a way of looking at the world and of judging every day experience.*
- ✓ *The knowledge of methodology helps the consumer of research results to evaluate them and enables him to take rational decisions.*

RESEARCH PROCESS IN FLOW CHART

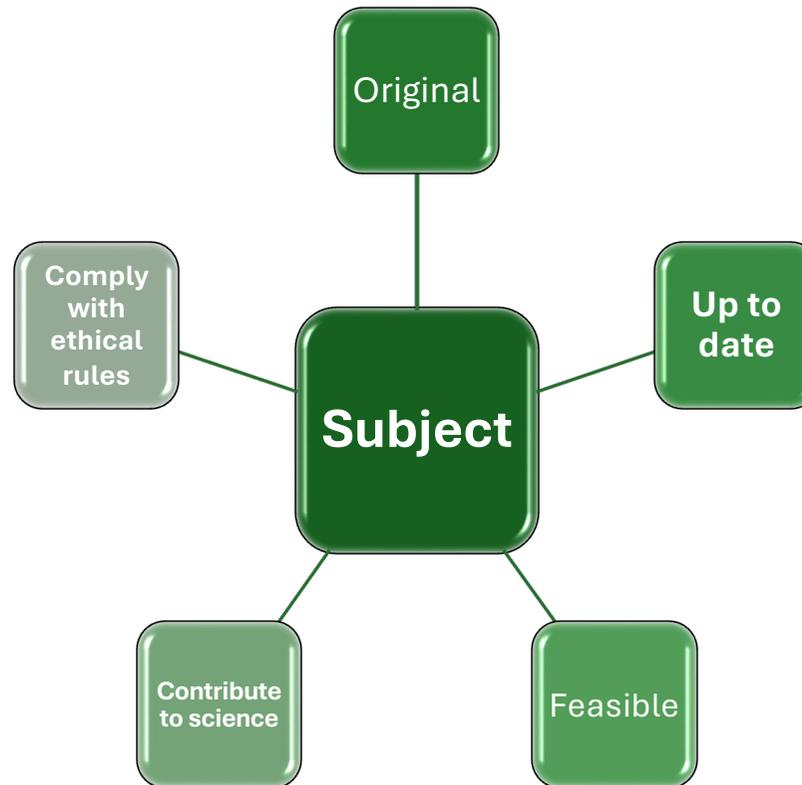


1- Formulating the research problem



- ✓ The problem to be investigated must be defined unambiguously for that will help discriminating relevant data from irrelevant ones
- ✓ Care must be taken to verify the objectivity and validity of the background facts concerning the problem.

Several criterias for the topic of the research



2- Extensive Literature Survey



Undertake extensive literature survey

- Abstracting and indexing journals
- Published or unpublished bibliographies
- Academic journals
- Conference Proceedings
- Government reports
- Books

3- Development of working hypothesis



- Working Hypothesis: Tentative assumption made in order to draw out and test its logical or empirical consequences.
 - Provide the focal point for research
 - Affect the manner in which tests must be conducted in the analysis of data (and indirectly the quality of data which is required for the analysis)
- Aim is to guide the researcher by delimiting the area of research and to keep him on the right track.



How does one go about developing working hypotheses?

- ❖ Discussions with colleagues and experts about the problem, its origin and the objectives in seeking a solution;
- ❖ Examination of data and records, if available, concerning the problem for possible trends, peculiarities and other clues;
- ❖ Review of similar studies in the area or of the studies on similar problems;
- ❖ Exploratory personal investigation which involves original field interviews on a limited scale with interested parties and individuals with a view to secure greater insight into the practical aspects of the problem.