Abbreviations

Some people react badly to acronyms and special scientific terms, which they experience as unnecessary jargon; but special terms are inherent to any relatively developed craft, and I find that, provided that they are properly introduced and make sense, they make communication and thinking easier. Nobody complains that motor engineers have a specialized and sophisticated vocabulary for the parts and processes of motor cars, nor that chefs have a complex vocabulary for their expertise. A social research text has no less need for an expert vocabulary (or theory-language). I hope that the terminology below shows its value in use, and apologize to the extent to which it does not.

Relevant terms are introduced and made meaningful within the text. This list provides a quick reference in case of uncertainty.

ACRQ answer to a Central Research Question
ATQ answer to a Theory-Question
BDA Biographical Data Analysis
BDC Biographical Data Chronology
BIM Biographic-Interpretive Method
BNIM Biographic-Narrative-Interpretive Method
CF conceptual framework
CH counter-hypothesis (to one previously put forward)
CLS critical linguistics/semiotics
CRQ Central Research Question
DARNE description – argumentation – report – narrative – evaluation
EH experiential hypothesis
EI empirical indicator/indication
FFSI fairly-fully structured interviewing
FH following hypothesis (a predictive hypothesis about what will be found next or later in a lived-life chronology or in a told-story text)
II interviewer intervention
IL informant language (or folk-language)
IM interview material

1 In previous publications, including Chamberlayne et al. (2000), I referred to the German QUATEXT approach as 'BIM'. Upon reflection, to stress the key role of narrative in the method, I refer to it in this text as 'BNIM'.
ABBREVIATIONS

IQ
informant question

LSDI
lightly-structured depth interview

NVC
non-verbal communication

PL
paralinguistics

QUATEXT
Institute for Qualitative Social Research

RP
Research Purposes (the purposes which determine the objectives of your research and your Central Research Question)

sH
shaping hypothesis (about how an event might shape the future of a life)

SH
structural hypothesis (a hypothesis about what might be the structural principle of a biographical chronology [BDC] or of a told story [TSS] or of a case history)

SHEIOT
situation – happening – event – incident – occasion/occurrence – time

SOSTRIS
Social Strategies in Risk Society

SQUIN
Single Question aimed at Inducing Narrative

SQUIN-B
Single Question aimed at Inducing Narrative of a Biographical nature

SSDI
semi-structured depth interview

TC-EI
theoretical concept/empirical indicator

TFA
thematic field analysis

TL
theory-language

TQ
theory-question

TQUIN
Topic Question aimed at Inducing Narrative

TSS
Text Structure Sequentialization (the structure of the sequential development of a [narrative] interview)

I wrote this book text that deals involved in dialectical works with conceptual texts. In one hand, to several theorems, they were often quite like Strauss (1990), on the other hand, I sensed which I found fascinating, compelling to consider. The more books I read, the more I realized that for postgraduate students, it would be useful to provide a comprehensive overview of qualitative research. As a result, I wanted to put together a coherent and comprehensive account of the relevant concepts. I am grateful to my students, my colleagues, and my friends for their support and encouragement.