**Group Project Part 1b Individual Submission - Research Paper on Program, Project, and Product Manager Roles**

**1. Program Manager**

**Roles and Responsibilities**:  
A program manager oversees a group of related projects (a program) to ensure they align with the organization’s strategic goals. Their focus is on long-term business outcomes, resource allocation, risk management, and stakeholder communication. They ensure projects within the program deliver cumulative benefits.

**Job Description**:

* Lead multiple interdependent projects
* Ensure alignment with business strategy
* Manage program-level risks, budgets, and timelines
* Communicate with stakeholders and executives
* Optimize resource allocation across projects

**Minimum Qualifications**:

* Bachelor's degree in business, management, or a related field
* 7+ years in project or program management
* Strong leadership and organizational skills
* Experience managing cross-functional teams

**2. Project Manager**

**Roles and Responsibilities**:  
A project manager is responsible for executing specific projects within a defined scope, timeline, and budget. They manage day-to-day tasks, coordinate with team members, track progress, and resolve issues to ensure the successful delivery of the project.

**Job Description**:

* Plan and execute projects from inception to completion
* Define scope, goals, timelines, and budgets
* Manage project risks and communicate status to stakeholders
* Lead cross-functional teams to ensure timely delivery
* Ensure project deliverables meet quality standards

**Minimum Qualifications**:

* Bachelor’s degree in a related field
* 3-5 years of experience in project management
* Proficiency in project management tools and methodologies
* Strong communication and problem-solving skills

**3. Product Manager**

**Roles and Responsibilities**:  
A product manager focuses on developing and improving a product. They work closely with engineering, marketing, and sales teams to define product vision, prioritize features, and drive the product roadmap to meet customer needs and market demands.

**Job Description**:

* Define product vision, strategy, and roadmap
* Gather and prioritize customer and market requirements
* Collaborate with cross-functional teams (engineering, design, marketing)
* Oversee product development lifecycle
* Monitor product performance and iterate based on feedback

**Minimum Qualifications**:

* Bachelor's degree in business, marketing, or related field
* 3-5 years of experience in product management
* Strong analytical and communication skills
* Experience with product lifecycle management

**Comparison:**

* **Program Manager**: Manages a group of interrelated projects, focusing on long-term strategic goals. They work at a higher level to coordinate project interdependencies and optimize business outcomes.
* **Project Manager**: Oversees individual projects, focusing on delivering specific objectives on time, within scope, and on budget. Their scope is narrower than a program manager’s, often overseeing one project at a time.
* **Product Manager**: Manages the development and lifecycle of a product, aligning customer needs with business goals. Their focus is on creating value through the product, rather than on project timelines or program-wide objectives.

**Typical Projects:**

* **Program Managers**: Multi-year digital transformation initiatives, enterprise-level software rollouts.
* **Project Managers**: Building a new website, executing a marketing campaign.
* **Product Managers**: Launching a new mobile app, developing a new product feature.

Appendix:

Prompt-

Describe the roles and responsibilities of a (1) program manager, (2) a project manager, and (3) a product manager. Create a job description for each role and include the minimum required qualifications. Compare and contrast the three roles and the types of projects each are typically involved with. Limit response to 500 words.