# Chapter 3

Managing the Information Systems Project

Problems and Exercises Solutions

1 . Which of the four phases of the project management process do you feel is most challenging? Why?

The implementation stage as the project manager must pool together all of his research and use it effectively along with months of plans to implement the system successfully. This is also a stressful time which is also a challenge as the project manager will find out if the project works or not and if not months of work may have been wasted along with resources.

2 . What are some sources of risk in a systems analysis and design project, and how does a project manager cope with risk during the stages of project management?

Any project includes risk as there is a lot of things to consider and there is always risk when change is involved. Also if not planned properly there is a risk to the business as it is investing resources into the project such as money, time and manpower. The project manager deals with these risks by planning, research, and other risk managements methods. He must monitor any risk and tackle it early to avoid delay to the project or waste of money.

3. Suppose that you have been contracted by a jewelry store to manage a project to create a new inventory tracking system. Describe your initial approach to the project. What should your first activity be? What information would you need? To whom might you need to speak?

The initial approach would be to initiate the project and I would evaluate the job ahead include all of its complexities. I would collect information using interviews and company statistics. I would interview and speak with the manager, the secretary or whomever records inventory, ordinary staff and customers.

4. Draw a Network diagram for the following table and calculate the critical path

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Activity | Time (weeks) | Immediate Predecessors |
| A | 1 |  |
| B | 1 | A |
| C | 2 | B |
| D | 3 | B |
| E | 3 | C |
| F | 2 | D |
| G | 1 | E,F |

The critical path is both … a,b,c,e,g. and a,b,d,f,g. both taking 8weeks.

5. A project has been defined to contain the following list of activities along with their required times for completion.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Activity No. | Activity | Time (weeks) | Predecessors |
| 1 | Collect requirements | 3 |  |
| 2 | Analyze processes | 2 | 1 |
| 3 | Analyze data | 2 | 2 |
| 4 | Design processes | 6 | 2 |
| 5 | Design data | 3 | 3 |
| 6 | Design screens | 2 | 3,4 |
| 7 | Design reports | 4 | 4,5 |
| 8 | Program | 5 | 6,7 |
| 9 | Test and Document | 7 | 7 |
| 10 | Install | 2 | 8,9 |

1. Draw a Network diagram for the activities.
2. Calculate the earliest expected completion time.
3. Show the critical path…**is 1,2,3,6,8,10. Taking 15 weeks.**
4. What would happen if activity 6 were revised to take 6 weeks instead of 2 weeks?