

Lab Session #2

Problem 2.1: *Rapid application development concepts (RAD)* (50 points)

1. According to James Martin (1990), *High quality, lower cost and rapid development* go hand-in-hand if an appropriate development methodology is used. What does this mean?
2. James Martin identifies the four essential aspects of RAD as being: Tools, People, Methodology and Management. Explain why the *People* aspect of RAD is so important. As a RAD project manager, what **practical People** issues might you need to consider?
3. Your group discusses how the modern business climate has contributed toward the need for a controlled RAD environment. Identify **three** business-related reasons for considering a RAD environment.

Problem 2.2: *Dynamic systems development method (DSDM)* (50 points)

1. The article states that “DSDM uses prototyping, and iterative and incremental development”. Explain, as fully as possible, why you think these three approaches work together.
2. The article also explains that “In DSDM, time is fixed for the life of a project, resources are fixed as far as possible, and requirements are allowed to change. Partial solutions can be delivered to satisfy immediate business needs”. A partial solution can be considered as a working system that does not contain all the required functionality, but enough to enable the basic business processes to proceed. The remaining functionality is delivered at a later date (i.e. A partial solution requires an incremental approach to development).
 - (a) Why do you think this approach to system development is popular in today's business environment?
 - (b) Think of an example of a business system (e.g. A payroll system). Identify the main areas of functionality that you might reasonably expect to find in such a system. Now, consider the order in which you might deliver these functional areas if you were going to undertake partial delivery.

Each group submits a lab report by sending email to the IU blackboard. A good report must include analysis, proof or at least real examples and assessment.