

Question 1

Hint: The team should ensure that their forecast is based on the parameters that are as close to their project environment as possible.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Agile project management approach favors empirical and value-based measurements instead of predictive measurements. Agile measures what the team delivers, not what the team predicts it will deliver. Theoretically, the project manager could have provided management with an estimate based on the velocity of the first completed iteration. However, since there is another answer choice that could result in a better estimate, such as the one based on several iterations, that answer choice would more accurately address the question asked. In order to provide the most accurate forecast, the project manager should use as much actual and observed data from the project as possible. This estimation, however, assumes that management allows the team to run several iterations. Since there is no sense of urgency in the scenario, the assumption that the team has time is reasonable.

Details for Each Option:

A

Provide an accurate estimate based on the velocity of the first iteration

Incorrect. With no other information available, providing an estimate based on only one iteration is plausible but not the best course of action. Under the circumstances described in the scenario and with the given set of the answer choices, another answer choice better addresses the question asked. Additionally, providing an estimate based on only one iteration would likely be inaccurate since the velocity tends to vary from iteration to iteration until it stabilizes

B

Request time to develop the project schedule baseline

Incorrect. Unless the scenario states otherwise, agile projects do not typically use traditional project management artifacts, such as the schedule baseline.

C

If possible, defer estimating until after a few iterations are completed

Correct. If and when possible, the team should defer estimating until after a few iterations as this should provide a more accurate forecast. The keyword in this answer choice is "if possible". If there was a sense of urgency in the scenario, e.g., the management wanted the estimation urgently, deferring the estimation would unlikely be possible.

D

Provide a random date just to calm the management down

Incorrect. It should be evident that the way this answer choice is worded makes it an incorrect answer.

Question 2

Hint: Face-to-face communication is the most efficient way for agile team members to interact with one another.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Colocating the team members would eliminate the need to communicate using email or other non-face-to-face communication methods. When team members are remotely located, the chances for problems with communication are greater than among colocated team members. Additionally, non-colocated teams experience challenges in important day-to-day interactions among the team members and other project stakeholders.

Details for Each Option:

A

Failure to respond to changes in scope

Incorrect. The question does not mention anything about changes that the customer requested, which the team did not implement.

B

Non colocated team members

Correct. Colocating team members would likely remove communication issues and improve communication. Colocation typically leads to higher productivity and the team members who are on the same page.

C

Delivering working software in each sprint

Incorrect. Delivering working software is one of the Agile Manifesto principles, "Deliver working software frequently, from a couple of weeks to a couple of months, with a preference to the shorter timescale." Properly implementing this principle would unlikely to lead to the customer's dissatisfaction.

D

Demotivated team members

Incorrect. There are no facts in the question that directly provides evidence for lack of motivation.

Question 3

Hint: What process group are you in?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The question implies the project is in the Close Project or Phase process. It is important to distinguish the difference between formal acceptance of project deliverables in the Validate Scope process versus 'confirming formal acceptance in the Close Project or Phase process. When closing a project, it is necessary to confirm the acceptance of all project deliverables in order to adequately complete and close the project. By doing this, the project manager is essentially 'confirming the delivery and formal acceptance of deliverables by the client. Sometimes, this can be viewed as ticking a checkbox in the checklist of the activities carried out during project closure. It is like asking the question, "Have the deliverables been accepted earlier in the project as part of the Validate Scope process?". If the answer is "Yes", check the box. This would eventually confirm that the deliverables have already been accepted.

Details for Each Option:

A Confirm the final acceptance of the deliverable

Correct. Based on the scenario described, the project manager is carrying out the Close Project or Phase process. Although the customer or sponsor formally accepts the completed project deliverables in the Validate Scope process, in the Close Project or Phase process, you must confirm final acceptance of the project deliverables.

B Settle procurement claims

Incorrect. When a PMP exam question refers to procurements, it does this from the perspective of a buyer. In this scenario, the buyer is the client, and you are the seller. Therefore, setting procurement claims is not applicable in this scenario. Theoretically, if the project manager, as a seller, subcontracted part of the work to a vendor, then the project manager would have to settle procurement claims as specified in the contract with the vendor. However, there is not enough information in the question to determine whether or not contracts with vendors have been used in the project. Even if the question referred to the procurement claims between the seller and the client as a buyer, these claims would have been settled using the claims administration technique as part of the Control Procurements process, which should have been completed before project closure. Based on all the above considerations, settling procurement claims is not the best answer to the question asked.

C Validate the scope objectives have been met

Incorrect. The Validate Scope process is the process of formalizing acceptance of the completed project deliverables. This answer choice is incorrect for a couple of reasons. First, the scenario states that the client has already formally accepted the work. Secondly, the Validate Scope process is part of the Monitoring and Controlling Process Group and not part of project closure as implied by the scenario.

D Ensure quality assurance was performed

Incorrect. Quality assurance is done as part of the Manage Quality process to examine and correct the process itself. Quality assurance would have been performed before the Close Project or Phase process has begun, and therefore is an incorrect answer.

Question 4

Hint: What action might help maximize the work not done?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

The scenario describes a situation where only some compliance-related policies and procedures for an agile project will be applicable. One of the principles outlined in the Agile Manifesto states, "Simplicity - the art of maximizing the amount of work not done - is essential." Compliance activities represent overhead, which does not directly provide value. In keeping with an agile mindset, the project manager should minimize the overhead and only include those compliance activities that are necessary. Classifying the compliance categories is one of the tasks associated with the Business Environment domain of the Project Management Professional (PMP) Examination Content Outline. Classifying the compliance categories that have been captured in the organization's policies and procedures may be helpful in differentiating those that require the expenditure of resources and those that do not. For example, the organization may have specific guidelines for complying with union rules and activities. However, if the project underway will not have union involvement, then that entire compliance category can be disregarded.

Details for Each Option:

A

Switch the project management approach from agile to traditional

Incorrect. The selection of a project management framework should be based upon the needs of the project rather than simply compliance activities. Compliance can be effectively addressed by any project management framework.

B

Incorporate all compliance policies and procedures in the implementation strategy

Incorrect. According to the scenario, only some of the organization's policies and procedures regarding compliance will be applicable to the project. There is no reason to develop strategies for the policies and procedures that do not apply to the project. This action would be inconsistent with the agile principle of maximizing the amount of work not done.

C

Ensure compliance activities are included in the project schedule baseline

Incorrect. A schedule baseline is typically used on projects led by a predictive project management approach, while the scenario describes an agile project.

D

Classify the compliance categories to determine the expenditure of project resources

Correct. Classifying the compliance categories that have been captured in the organization's policies and procedures may be helpful in differentiating those that require the expenditure of resources and those that do not.

Question 5

Hint: Where are problems encountered during a project tracked and monitored?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

The question implies that the project manager was carrying out the Implement Risk Responses process. An issue log is one of the project documents that may be updated during that process. The issue log is a project document where all issues are recorded and tracked. Data on issues may include the issue type, who raised the issue and when, description, priority, who is assigned to the issue, target resolution date, status, and final resolution. The issue log will help the project manager effectively track and manage issues, ensuring that they are investigated and resolved. Therefore, capturing this issue in the issue log is what the project manager should do first.

Details for Each Option:

A

Capture the problem in the issue resolution register

Incorrect. 'Issue resolution register' is a fake term made up for this question.

B

Update the communications management plan

Incorrect. The communications management plan is a component of the project management plan that describes how, when, and by whom information about the project will be administered and disseminated. It is not clear from the description provided whether or not the communications management plan will need to be updated. However, even if the communications management plan needs to be updated, the issue should first be captured in the issue log, and then a change request would need to be submitted and approved before the communications management plan can be updated.

C

Submit a change request

Incorrect. There is not enough information provided by the question to determine if a change request is needed to resolve the issue. The issue should first be captured in the issue log. The issue will then be assigned for follow up where a determination can be made about the appropriate action to be taken which may or may not include a change request.

D

Record the information in the issue log

Correct. The issue log is a project document where all issues are recorded and tracked. The problem described by the question should be recorded in the issue log along with other pertinent information including to whom the issue is assigned. From there the issue should be monitored and tracked to ensure a resolution.

Question 6

Hint: Only two days are left to accomplish the iteration goal.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Coaching is aimed to help the team members perform at their best, to stay on track, to resolve issues and concerns, to continuously improve their skills. The team members need to know what they are doing well and what could they improve. One-on-one meetings set at scheduled intervals are one of the agile coaching practices. However, issues that require immediate attention (the iteration goal is in jeopardy risking the whole project) should be addressed by agile leaders in real-time. As part of the on-going coaching efforts, the project manager has to step in, understand why the performance of the developer has degraded, and help the developer to resolve the issue. This help should be provided without waiting for the pre-scheduled one-on-one meeting, which could be too late in this situation.

As stated by the authors in the reference, "And even these scheduled one-on-ones are not meant to prevent the team's coach from helping the team when he or she sees a clear need. Don't wait for a one-on-one if you see an action occurs that needs redirection. Employ real-time feedback and address the issues as they arise; try to provide the feedback as close to the event as possible so it is more meaningful and corrections can be made quickly."

Details for Each Option:

A

Conduct the individual performance appraisal of the developer

Incorrect. Self-organizing teams may challenge Internal management policies, and managers may struggle with the individual performance appraisals. On agile projects, Individual team members are typically not appraised. Agile promotes a team rather than an Individual performance assessment

B

Ask the team to swarm on the tasks assigned to the developer

Incorrect. Swarming on the tasks assigned to the developer might be a plausible option. However, with only two days left to the end of the iteration, it is reasonable to assume that by completing the tasks of the developer, the team members will be unable to complete their own tasks. Therefore, in this situation, swarming is unlikely to be the best course of action.

C

Employ real-time feedback to address the issue with the developer

Correct. With only two days left until the end of the iteration and the whole project, the project manager should do everything in their power to help the team member resolve the issue and accomplish the iteration goal. Then, at the one-on-one meeting, after the iteration ends, further action can be considered, including a more in-depth analysis of the situation.

D

Wait for the one-on-one meeting scheduled with the developer

Incorrect. Although one-on-one meetings are one of the agile practices to coach team members, in this situation, waiting until after the Iteration is completed would be too late. Feedback and help should be provided in real-time so that the iteration goal could be met

Exam Content Outline: Domain: 1. People / Task: 1.13 Mentor relevant stakeholders / PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 7

Hint: How might colocation influence the project team's performance?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Project leaders are responsible for creating a collaborative project team environment. Collaboration is particularly vital in an agile environment, described by the question. However, in the scenario, the project manager assigned tasks to individual team members, which goes against agile best practices. Agile team members are empowered to decide on how the work will be completed and what tasks each team member will pull from the sprint backlog. The scenario indicates that this was the project manager's first agile project, which explains the approach the project manager took while assigning work to the team. As a result, the team members worked on their tasks individually. i.e., in isolation. The likely result of this situation is that issues would only be uncovered when the project team members attempt to integrate their completed work.

Project teams that work collaboratively can accomplish a shared goal more effectively and efficiently than individuals working on their own. By having the project team members work collaboratively in a war room rather than individually, team members would have been able to align their work in near real-time, which would have likely reduced the amount of rework.

Details for Each Option:

A

Increased the work in progress (WIP) limits on the team's Kanban board

Incorrect. It is not clear from the scenario whether or not a Kanban board was used. Even if we assume that a Kanban board was used, increasing the WIP limits would be counterproductive. WIP limits are put in place specifically to reduce the amount of work in progress. The greater the work in progress, the greater the risk of rework.

B

Increased the number of developers on the project team

Incorrect. In the scenario, the project ran over budget. Adding resources could have shortened the project duration but would have increased project costs even further. Additionally, Increasing the size of the project team does not address the problem of excessive rework, which was identified as the reason for the project missing its objectives.

C

Established a war room for the project team to work collaboratively

Correct. Colocation is an agile best practice in which the project team members are all physically co-located in a common area such as a war room or a common area (derived from the 'caves and common practice'). Project teams that work collaboratively can accomplish a shared goal more effectively and efficiently than individuals working on their own.

D

Established a more robust change control process

Incorrect. Agile projects, like the one described in the scenario, do not typically employ a rigorous change control process. Rather, agile projects harness change for the benefit of the customer and are more efficient without the burden of a change control process, let alone making it even more robust (assuming one was established for the project).

Question 8

Hint: Understanding the specific gap between the quality standard and deliverables is crucial.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The first step in addressing a quality-standard gap is to evaluate how the deliverables measure against the agreed-upon quality requirements. This ensures a focused and informed approach to resolving the issue. Escalating (A) or revising schedules (C) may be premature without understanding the gap, and lessons learned (D) would be a retrospective activity.

The logical first step in quality management is to assess and analyze the gap between the project's deliverables and the quality requirements. By conducting this evaluation, the project manager can determine the extent of the issue (How far is the website's page load speed from the expected standard?), identify the root cause (Is the issue due to inefficient coding, server response time, or lack of proper optimization?), and decide on corrective actions (Will caching, code optimization, or infrastructure improvements help meet the standard?). This approach aligns with quality assurance principles from the PMBOK® Guide, which emphasize proactive assessment and gap analysis before taking action.

First step in quality management: Evaluate deliverables against the defined quality standards. Importance of root cause analysis: Before taking action, understand why the deliverable does not meet expectations. Decision-making process: Scope, schedule, or escalation changes should be based on a clear assessment rather than assumptions. Corrective actions should be data- driven: Any corrective action risks being ineffective without identifying gaps.

Details for Each Option:

A

Escalate the issue to the sponsor to determine next steps.

Incorrect. Escalation should occur only after all efforts to resolve the issue have been explored.

B

Evaluate the quality requirements against project deliverables to identify gaps.

Correct. Evaluating the deliverables against quality requirements helps identify the root cause of the gap.

C

Revise the project schedule to allocate more time for testing.

Incorrect. Revising the schedule without analysis might waste resources or delay other tasks unnecessarily.

D

Conduct a lessons-learned session with the team to address the issue.

Incorrect. Lessons learned sessions are not appropriate for addressing current quality gaps.

Exam Content Outline: Domain: 2. Process / Task: 2.7 Plan and manage quality of products/deliverables / PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 9

Hint: Consider that the requirement needs to be added to a project baseline and that the project manager needs to be fair to all vendors.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

According to the scenario, the project manager is performing the Conduct Procurements process. A bidder conference (also called a contractor conference, vendor conference, and a pre-bid conference) is one of the tools and techniques used as part of this process. The project manager should be fair to all vendors and abide by the value of fairness in the PMI Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct. Project managers should constantly re-examine their impartiality and objectivity, taking corrective action as needed. The project manager, in this scenario, should provide equal access to information to those who are authorized to have that information. The missed requirement should also be added to the project scope baseline, which requires the Perform Integrated Change Control process to be carried out, including an approved change request.

Note, a procurement SOW can be revised as required as it moves through the procurement process until incorporated into a signed agreement. After that, if the SOW requires an update, an approved change request is needed to modify it as it is part of the agreement. While this point is not covered by the correct answer choice, updating the SOW, submitting a change request to update the scope baseline, and communicating the changes to all vendors is still the best answer of those provided.

Details for Each Option:

A

No further action is needed as the vendor's question have been addressed

Incorrect. The project manager's response may give that vendor an unfair advantage in bidding.

B

Update the statement of work and the scope baseline, and communicate the changes to all vendors

Incorrect. The procurement statement of work is the description of the procurement item based on the scope baseline and should indeed be updated. The changes should be communicated to the vendors. The scope baseline is part of the project management plan and is, therefore a controlled document. This answer is incorrect since it skips the change control procedure.

C

Update the statement of work and the scope baseline, and hold another pre-bid conference

Incorrect. Another pre-bid conference is one way to communicate clearly to all vendors in fairness for the procurement process. However, since the scope baseline is part of the project management plan, it is a controlled document which cannot be updated without an approved change request. This choice skips the Perform Integrated Change Control process.

D

Update the SOW, submit a change request to update the scope baseline, and communicate the changes to all vendors

Correct. Changes to the baseline must undergo the Perform Integrated Change Control process. A change to the statement of work should be cleanly communicated to all vendors.

Question 10

Hint: How might the project management framework differ between drug development phase and the governmental approval process?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The scenario describes a project with two very different phases. The drug development phase, being characterized by a high degree of uncertainty, complexity, and risk, is well-suited to an agile project management framework. Governmental approval is described as a highly structured and well-defined process, which is best suited to a predictive approach. It is important to remember that it is not necessary to maintain a single approach throughout the project. In some cases, it can be advantageous to combine different life cycles in order to best support the needs of the project. Thus, a hybrid approach using agile for drug development and a predictive framework for the governmental approvals provides the best strategy to manage the project.

Details for Each Option:

A

Agile for the drug development phase, and predictive for the governmental approval process

Correct. In this scenario, the drug development phase, which is characterized by a high degree of uncertainty, complexity, and risk is well-suited to an agile project management framework. Whereas, the governmental approval process would benefit from a predictive approach.

B

Predictive for the drug development phase, and agile for the governmental approval process

Incorrect. The scenario indicates that drug development will have a high degree of uncertainty, complexity, and risk. These aspects of the project would be better served with an agile approach rather than predictive. Additionally, projects that are highly structured and well defined are better suited to a predictive approach rather than agile.

C

Kanban to maximize WIP for compliance activities related to the governmental approval process

Incorrect. The project might benefit by incorporating the Kanban method. However, Kanban best practices seek to limit rather than maximize work in progress (WIP).

D

Crystal clear for both the drug development phase and the governmental approval process

Incorrect. Crystal is a family of methodologies that can be scaled depending on the project size and its criticality. Crystal clear is the lightest weight of the crystal family and is not suited for a life-critical project described in the scenario.

Question 11

Hint: Agile best practices do not supersede organizational policy.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Agile best practices do not supersede organizational policies. The project manager, as a diligent, respectful, and caring steward, has an obligation to comply with all organizational policies, even those that the project manager considers redundant. In an agile environment, the product owner serves as the voice of the customer and can ensure that changes are consistent with the overall project goals. In this scenario, any member of the change control board (CCB) can approve a change. Under the circumstances described in the scenario, complying with the new policy and, at the same time, adding the product owner as a member of the CCB would effectively grant approval authority to the product owner, thus providing a reasonable solution to the problem statement. However, if the request to grant the product owner the approval authority is denied, the project manager will need to continue submitting change requests even if it negatively impacts the project.

Details for Each Option:

A

Submit the change requests after the changes have been implemented to avoid delays

Incorrect. The purpose of submitting a change request is to obtain approval for the change before it is implemented. Submitting change requests after the fact would violate the intent of the organization's new policy and go against the project management principle of being a diligent, respectful, and caring steward.

B

Comply with the new policy but request that the product owner be added as a member of the CCB

Correct. The project manager has an obligation to comply with all organizational policies. In an agile environment, the product owner serves as the voice of the customer and can ensure that changes conform with the customer's goals. Granting approval authority to the product owner would be a reasonable solution to the problem.

C

Use discretion and only submit change requests that impact the project budget

Incorrect. The CCB might or might not be most interested in changes that impact the project budget. However, in this scenario, the organizational policy stipulates that all project changes must be approved by at least one member of the CCB. The project manager has to comply with the new policy and submit requests for all changes rather than just a subset.

D

Adhere to agile best practices and bypass the new change control process

Incorrect. Agile best practices indeed avoid the use of a formal change control process. However, agile best practices do not supersede organizational policies. The project manager, as a diligent steward, is obligated to comply with all established policies even when they seem to conflict with agile best practices.

Question 12

Hint: The project kick-off meeting usually takes place at the end of project planning and the start of executing. The project team and stakeholders attend the meeting.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The scenario implies that the Develop Project Management Plan process is being carried out. The project management plan is the main output of this process. The project kick-off meeting is usually associated with the end of planning and the start of executing. However, before project execution may begin, the project management plan has to be approved. The kick-off meeting is aimed to communicate the beginning of the project, key milestones, and other relevant information in order to inform and engage stakeholders and gain commitment.

Details for Each Option:

A

Inform and engage stakeholders and gain commitment

Correct. The purpose of a project kick-off meeting is to communicate the objectives of the project, gain commitment of the team for the project, and explain the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders.

B

Manage threats and opportunities throughout the project

Incorrect. Threats and opportunities are collectively known as risks. While the major project risks can be communicated on the kick-off meeting, managing the risks is not a goal of this meeting.

C

Ensure that the project is completed on schedule and budget

Incorrect. Ensuring that the project is completed on schedule and budget is one of main tasks of the project manager. However, this task is ongoing throughout the project life cycle rather than a one-time effort presented at the project kick-off meeting.

D

Secure resources required to complete project deliverables

Incorrect. This response describes the task of developing the resource (and, if needed, procurement) management plan rather than conducting the kick-off meeting.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.4 Empower team members and stakeholders

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 13

Hint: Which document authorizes the existence of a project and gives the project manager authority?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

A project charter is the document that authorizes the existence of a project and provides the project manager with the authority to apply organizational resources to project activities. The project charter also states the purpose, primary objectives, vision, and mission for the project, aligning the project stakeholders and the project team with the project goals, expectations, and outcomes. A project sponsor approves the project charter and is supposed to provide support for the project manager to achieve the project goals. While other answer choices could have been the source of 'some of the project manager's problems, the lack of a project charter addresses all of the project manager's problems and is, therefore, the best answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A Weak leadership skills

Incorrect. Leadership skills involve the ability to guide, motivate, and direct a team, as well as continuously communicate the project vision to the stakeholders and the team. The scenario suggests the stakeholders and the project team have differing opinions about the objectives and the outcome of the project. Although weak leadership skills may have led to that problem, there are other issues with project implying that the project manager's weak leadership skills are not the main or the only source of the issues.

B Lack of a project charter

Correct. The project charter formally authorizes the existence of a project and would have provided the project manager with the authority to apply organizational resources to project activities. A project sponsor approves and signs off the charter and acts as a project champion who supports the project, the project manager, and is concerned with the project's success. Therefore, the difficulty the project manager is encountering with decision making and acquiring computer hardware may have been eliminated if there had been a charter. The project charter also states the purpose, primary objectives, and vision for the project and would have provided the project team, as well as the stakeholders, with the same understanding of such. An approved project charter could have prevented the issues mentioned in the scenario from happening. Therefore, the lack of a project charter is the most likely source of the problems.

C Lack of a project management plan

Incorrect. The project management plan describes how the project will be executed, monitored and controlled, and closed. The problems the project manager is having with the project are related to his lack of authority, a lack of project goals, and difficulty getting sponsors to make decisions. These issues represent the lack of a project charter and not the lack of a project management plan.

D Lack of a procurement management plan

Incorrect. The procurement management plan describes how a project team will acquire goods and services from outside of the performing organization. the project manager's problem obtaining the computer hardware is most likely related to his lack of authority to purchase the equipment, not the lack of a procurement management plan.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.2 Lead a team

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 14

Hint: To answer this question correctly, think of how agile views servant leadership.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Helping the team to deal with impediments, reminding the team of the importance of time-boxing, and suggesting the team to use information radiators is the best course of action for the project manager to take in this situation. Such behavior represents the agile servant leadership approach. The project manager should not enforce the use of any tools or techniques with which the team is not comfortable. Rather, the project manager could suggest adapting existing solutions, such as an information radiator, that may better meet the needs of the team and are aligned with Agile best practices.

Details for Each Option:

A Help the team deal with impediments, remind of the importance of time-boxing, and force the team to use information radiators

Incorrect. Helping the team remove Impediments and reminding the team of the importance and discipline of time-boxed events is what the project manager is expected to do. However, the project manager should not force the team into using Information radiators. First, forcing is not the agile way of managing projects; second, the team may have reasons for using other ways of communicating the project status.

B Tell the team to deal with impediments, remind of the importance of time-boxing, and suggest the team to use information radiators

Incorrect. Removing impediments is one of the duties of the project manager as a servant leader. Telling the team to deal with impediments is not aligned with the agile leadership style. Based on this alone, the answer choice can be eliminated.

C Help the team deal with impediments, remind of the importance of time-boxing, and suggest the team to use information radiators

Correct. Of the choices provided, this answer represents the best course of action for the project manager to take.

D Do nothing, since the issues are minor and can be handled by the team because agile teams are self-managing and self-organizing

Incorrect. While it is subjective to whether or not the issues described in the question are minor, even minor issues have to be dealt with in order to help the team better apply agile best practices and eventually make better progress with their project. Being self-managing and self-organizing does not mean the team always and properly applies the best agile practices.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.13 Mentor relevant stakeholders

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 15

Hint: What are the appropriate topics for a daily standup meeting?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Agile leaders are responsible for creating a collaborative project team environment by establishing the organizational structure, including recurring meetings. A daily standup meeting, also called a daily scrum, is a brief meeting during which the team reviews its progress from the previous day, states intentions for the current day, and highlights any impediments. Daily standups are typically timeboxed to 15 minutes to keep the team focused on coordinating their efforts for the day. Agile teams are considered self-managing, self-directing, and empowered to make decisions concerning their work. Therefore, the word "enforce" in the answer that is considered to be correct may sound too strict for mature agile teams. However, if a project team is getting sidetracked with off-topic discussions, the project manager has the responsibility for ensuring that the project follows agile best practices and redirecting the conversation. Under these circumstances, the project manager may choose to adopt a directive leadership style and enforce the 15-minute timebox to keep the team members focused on the appropriate topics. Assuming that a discussion regarding the implementation of unit testing is necessary, the agile leader can set up a separate meeting for only that topic and ensure that the appropriate stakeholders are in attendance.

Details for Each Option:

A Suggest a compromise for the reasonable amount of unit testing

Incorrect. While brokering a compromise might seem like a plausibly correct response, a lengthy discussion on the implementation of unit testing is not appropriate for a daily standup meeting.

The agile leader should keep the team focused on an appropriate meeting agenda and intercede when discussions wander off-topic.

B Take no action since agile teams are self-organizing and self-managing

Incorrect. Agile teams are self-managing, and agile leaders should allow the team great latitude with their collaboration efforts. However, the project manager does have an obligation to ensure that the project execution is consistent with agile best practices. Spending an hour discussing unit testing at the daily scrum is inconsistent with these practices.

C Going forward, enforce a 15-minute time limit for the daily scrum

Correct. A daily standup meeting, also called a daily scrum, is a timeboxed meeting during which the team reviews its progress from the previous day, states intentions for the current day, and highlights any impediments. The project manager is responsible for keeping the team focused on the appropriate topics for the meeting and enforcing the timebox.

D

Ask the product owner to account for unit testing in the project backlog

Incorrect. Unit testing, or any other project-related tasks for that matter, should be accounted for in the product backlog. However, the issue described in the scenario surrounds the length of the daily scrum rather than the contents discussed during that meeting. Therefore, Involving the product owner would not address the issue at hand.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.2 Lead a team

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 16

Hint: Every project change requires that a formal change control procedure be followed.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Change requests should be processed according to the change management plan, which defines the process for managing changes to the project, including the process for submitting, evaluating and implementing change requests. Since one of the answer choices is for the project manager to abide by whatever is in the change management plan, you can eliminate the other answer choices since those options may contradict the change management plan. For example, in this scenario, if the change management plan grants authority to the project manager to authorize certain types of change requests, then it would be unnecessary for the project manager to go through the change control board for approval. However, to make this determination, the change management plan should be consulted. In order to answer this question correctly, one needs to understand that project managers should handle change requests in accordance with the change management plan.

Details for Each Option:

A Approve the change request. As the project manager, you should use expert judgment to decide what is best for the project.

Incorrect. Change requests should be processed according to the change management plan. Depending on the change management plan, you, as project manager, may or may not have the authority to make the final decision on change requests, regardless of your expertise.

B Meet with the change control board members individually and try to persuade them to approve the change request.

Incorrect. You should follow the process outlined in the change management plan. Assuming that you are not a member of the change control board (CCB) in this scenario, it may be inappropriate for you to circumvent the change control meetings process to try and influence their decision. The CCB should make the ultimate decision as to what, if any, changes are to be made to the project based on their expert judgment and the information presented in the actual change request.

C Submit the change request to the change control board and abide by their decision.

Incorrect. You should follow the process outlined in the change management plan. However, since that process was not given in the question, it is possible that the change management plan allows you, as project manager, under certain conditions, to make the final decision. Since it cannot be assumed that every change request must go through the change control board, this choice is not the best answer of those provided.

D Review the change management plan and follow the established process for processing change requests.

Correct. Change requests should be processed according to the change management plan. Since the correct procedure defined by the change management plan is unknown in this scenario, the other answer choices should be eliminated, making this choice the best answer to the question asked.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.10 Manage project changes

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 17

Hint: How do Scrum teams coordinate their activities?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The scenario describes a hybrid project that will use some elements of a predictive approach as indicated by the use of a project schedule in the form of a Gantt chart along with the product development teams using the Scrum framework. When a project has two or more Scrum teams with dependencies, the teams will need to coordinate their work. This coordination is typically accomplished with regularly scheduled Scrum of Scrum meetings, also known as "meta Scrum". Meta Scrum is a technique in which a representative of each Scrum team attends a meeting with the other representative(s) to coordinate their work. Since the project described in the scenario will utilize a project schedule in the form of a Gantt chart, these regularly scheduled and, as indicated by the scenario, extended Scrum of Scrum meetings should be reflected in the schedule to account for the time the relevant team members will spend attending these meetings.

Details for Each Option:

A Submit a change request to switch the Gantt chart to burndown chart

Incorrect. First, the scenario indicates that the project is still in planning. Change requests are not required during planning. Second, switching the Gantt chart to the burndown chart makes little sense and does not address the essence of the question, which surrounds the coordination between the teams rather than tracking their progress.

B Include Scrum of Scrums (SDS) meetings in the project schedule

Correct. A Scrum of Scrum meeting, also known as "meta Scrum", is a meeting in which two or more Scrum teams coordinate their activities. This technique is necessary if there are dependencies between the Scrum teams.

C Crash the schedule to eliminate the dependencies between the teams

Incorrect. Crashing is an example of a schedule compression technique. This technique can be used to shorten the schedule duration rather than eliminate dependencies between activities or teams.

D Reflect the actual velocity of the teams in the project schedule

Incorrect. The project schedule will eventually need to be adjusted to reflect the actual velocity of the teams. However, the teams will need to perform at least one sprint in order to calculate their actual velocity. The scenario suggests that the project is still in planning; therefore, the teams will not have any performance data with which to calculate their velocity.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.9 Integrate project planning activities

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 18

Hint: A structured and collaborative approach enhances knowledge retention and understanding.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The correct answer is B. A collaborative environment with defined roles ensures that all stakeholders understand their contributions and facilitates effective knowledge transfer. During knowledge transfer, it is essential to establish a structured and collaborative environment to ensure that the receiving team fully understands the processes, tools, and expectations for ongoing operations. Knowledge transfer requires defined roles and responsibilities and active participation from the project and operational teams. A well-defined communication strategy facilitates practical discussions, documentation, and training sessions. If roles are unclear, there is a risk of incomplete or misunderstood knowledge transfer, leading to operational inefficiencies or disruptions.

Details for Each Option:

A Conduct informal meetings with minimal structure to share lessons learned.

Incorrect. Informal meetings may lack structure and fail to capture critical details. While informal meetings can provide valuable insights, they often lack the structure to ensure a comprehensive knowledge transfer. Critical information may be overlooked or lost without defined roles and formal documentation.

B Ensure a collaborative environment with clear communication and defined roles.

Correct. Collaboration and clear roles promote successful knowledge transfer. Establishing a collaborative environment ensures that the project and operational teams are engaged, with clearly defined roles and responsibilities. Effective communication enhances knowledge retention, reduces misunderstandings, and supports long-term operational success.

C Assign only the project sponsor to review the knowledge transfer process.

Incorrect. Involving only the sponsor excludes key contributors. Assigning only the project sponsor to review the knowledge transfer process is ineffective because sponsors typically focus on high-level objectives rather than the technical and procedural details necessary for daily operations. Knowledge transfer should involve multiple key stakeholders, including the project team, operations staff, and subject matter experts.

D Rely solely on the knowledge management system for transfer without team interaction.

Incorrect. Sole reliance on systems without interaction can result in misinterpretation. While a knowledge management system is valuable, relying solely on it for knowledge transfer is inadequate. Documentation alone cannot replace interactive discussions, demonstrations, and hands-on training, which are critical for ensuring that the operations team fully understands the transition process.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.10 Ensure knowledge transfer for project continuity

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 19

Hint: An SPI of 0.6 and a CPI of 1.5 mean the project is behind schedule and under budget.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Earned value analysis is used in a project to compare planned versus actual schedule performance and planned versus actual cost performance to decide whether a corrective or preventive action is required. A CPI of 1.5 means that the project is getting \$1.50 worth of work out of every \$1.00 spent. Therefore, the project is under budget, and no corrective or preventive action is required. An SPI of 0.6 means that the project is only progressing at 60% of the rate originally planned. Therefore, the project is behind schedule, and corrective action is required. Since the project is under budget, there is funding to bring additional team members in or crash the project.

Details for Each Option:

A Nothing. The analysis shows the project is on budget and on schedule.

Incorrect. The analysis given in the scenario says the CPI is 1.5; meaning the project is getting \$1.50 worth of work for every \$1.00 spent or the project is under budget. The SPI mentioned in the scenario is 0.6, meaning the project is only progressing at 60% of the rate planned or the project is behind schedule. The project manager should look for options to correct the schedule.

Therefore, doing nothing is not the right answer.

B

Consider crashing the project schedule

Correct. Crashing the project schedule is a technique used to shorten the project schedule by adding members to the team. With a CPI of 1.5, the project is under budget; therefore, adding additional team members is a viable option for bringing the project schedule back into alignment with the schedule baseline.

C

Replace one of the higher paid team members with a lower-salaried employee

Incorrect. The scenario describes a project that is under budget with a CPI of 1.5, and behind schedule with an SPI of 0.6. Replacing a higher paid team member with a lower salaried one would not improve the schedule, which is the problem. Therefore, this is an incorrect answer.

D

Inform the customer that you are extending the delivery date for the project

Incorrect. Earned value analysis is used in a project to compare planned versus actual schedule performance and decide whether a corrective or preventive action is required. The project manager cannot arbitrarily adjust the schedule baseline. Therefore, this is not a correct answer.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.6 Plan and manage schedule

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 20

Hint: Your application upgrade has the opportunity of running faster and with more security. You should find out if your project resources can support it first.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

In this question, an unexpected opportunity presents itself. The modification of the application to be upgraded on the new mobile device could have a significant impact on multiple project constraints, including project scope, schedule, cost, quality, communications, risk, etc. Therefore, a change request should be submitted and analyzed first before any decision is made. The change request will have to go thru the organization's change control process established for the project.

Details for Each Option:

A Create a cost forecast and communicate it to stakeholders

Incorrect. A cost forecast contains either a calculated EAC value or bottom-up EAC value used to inform stakeholders of how much money the project is expected to spend once all activities have finished. Although the project stakeholders should be made aware of how much money is likely to be spent by the end of the project, a better answer would have been first to make a decision of whether to allocate more funds to capture the opportunity or not. If the funds were approved, a cost forecast may then have been issued to update project stakeholders of the new EAC taken from the revised cost baseline. However, that answer choice was not provided. Therefore, creating a forecast is not what you should do next.

B Submit a change request to modify the application

Correct. The question describes an opportunity to modify the application to run faster and more securely. Capturing this opportunity will likely affect multiple project constraints and baselines, so a change request should first be submitted and reviewed to understand all of its Impacts. If approved, additional time and money to cover this unplanned work may be added to the cost and schedule baselines. While an ideal answer would have been to first conduct a reserve analysis to see how much of a management reserve is available or needed, followed by a change request, this option is not provided, Therefore, of the choices given, submitting a change request is the best answer to the question asked.

C Update project funding requirements in consideration for the unexpected work

Incorrect. Project funding requirements are composed of the total funding requirements and periodic funding requirements for the project. A controlled document, project funding requirements are derived from the cost baseline and may include the sources of the funding. Although eventually it will be necessary for the project manager to update the project funding requirements in consideration for any funds needed to secure the opportunity, this is not the next step that should be taken. A better answer would have been to update the project funding requirements only after a change request had been submitted and approved to Incorporate new funds into the cost baseline for the unexpected work, however, that option was not isted.

D Conduct variance analysis for an appropriate reserve amount

Incorrect. This answer choice mixes up variance analysis' with reserve analysis. Reserve analysis is used to determine if previously created reserves are still required or if additional reserves should be added. Variance analysis, on the other hand, is the explanation (cause, impact and corrective actions) for any cost ($CV = EV-AC$), schedule ($SV = EV-PV$) or variance at completion ($VAC = BAC-EAC$) variances experienced on the project. Although it is important for the project manager to track and monitor any variances encountered on the project, conducting variance analysis is not the first step to be taken to capture the opportunity presented. As such, this is not the best answer choice of those provided.

Exam Content Outline: Domain: 3. Business Environment

Task: 3.3 Evaluate and address external business environment changes for impact on scope / PM Approach: Predictive

Question 21

Hint: A project manager needs to take appropriate actions to meet the project's objectives which likely will assist the company in achieving its strategic goals.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

As the project manager, you are ultimately responsible for the project as a whole and its success. You are also the one that has the overall view of the project. The scenario suggests the project budget is limiting the project's ability to meet the targeted completion date. While staying within budget is one of your responsibilities, you also need to make integrated decisions and act to ensure the project's objectives are met and remain aligned with the business plan and the benefits management plan. By deciding to ask for a budget increase so that the completion date can be met, rather than trying to cut costs to stay within the budget, you are contributing toward the project's success. An approved change request will be required to change the project budget.

Details for Each Option:

A Use the contingency reserves

Incorrect. Contingency reserves are allocated for known risks that have been specifically identified during risk analysis. Since the contingency reserves are included in the budget, using them would not increase the funding for the project and therefore is not your best course of action.

B Use the management reserves

Incorrect. Management reserves are additional funds to cover unforeseen risks that could impact the project. These reserves are not included in the cost baseline but are part of the approved cost budget. An approved change request is required to utilize management reserves and, therefore, cannot be used at the project manager's discretion.

C Cut costs to stay within the budget

Incorrect. The scenario suggests the current budget is a constraint to the project, and that increased funding is required to meet the objectives. While staying within budget is one of your responsibilities as the project manager, you also need to make integrated decisions and act to ensure both the project's and the company's objectives are met. By cutting costs to stay within budget, the company might miss its strategic goals.

D Ask for a change in the budget

Correct. The scenario suggests you find the budget is a constraint that could hinder the company's realization of one of their strategic goals. By asking for a change in the budget, you increase the chances of the company's to meet its strategic goals.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.10 Manage project changes

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 22

Hint: How does decentralized purchasing affect your authority?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Decentralized purchasing is found in smaller organizations or startup companies, and those without a purchasing, contracting, or procurement department. In such organizations, the project manager may assume the purchasing authority role to negotiate and sign contracts directly. For larger organizations with centralized purchasing, the actual procurement and contracting functions may be carried out by a separate department whose role is to purchase, negotiate, and sign contracts. In the scenario described, your company has decentralized purchasing. When a supplier offers you discounted goods, you have the authority to complete the purchase. Therefore, the next thing you should do is negotiate and sign the contract for the procurement of the discounted supplies.

Details for Each Option:

A Refer the supplier to the project sponsor for procurement

Incorrect. While you may want to discuss the procurement with the project sponsor, in a decentralized purchasing environment, the project manager may assume the authority to negotiate and sign contracts directly. Therefore, you would not need to involve the sponsor in the procurement

B Negotiate and sign a procurement contract with the supplier

Correct. Your company uses decentralized purchasing, which means there is not a purchasing, contracting, or procurement department. Therefore, negotiating and signing a procurement contract with the supplier would be your best course of action.

C Refer the supplier to the procurement department

Incorrect. A company with decentralized purchasing does not have a procurement department. The project manager has the authority to negotiate and sign purchasing agreements directly.

D Refer the supplier to the project management office (PMO)

Incorrect. The PMO can centralize and standardize the management of projects. While PMMOs vary as to what role play in the organization, POS are typically not involved in conducting procurements.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.11 Plan and manage procurement

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 23

Hint: The correct answer is also referred to as a cause-and-effect diagram.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Quality assurance is the process of translating the quality management plan into executable quality activities that incorporate the organization's quality policies into the project. Data representation techniques including the cause-and-effect diagram can be useful during quality assurance. Cause-and-effect diagrams are also known as fishbone diagrams, why-why diagrams, or Ishikawa diagrams. This type of diagram breaks down the causes of the problem statement identified into discrete branches, helping to identify the main or root cause of the problem. Of the available choices, the cause-and-effect or Ishikawa diagram is the most useful in determining the main cause of a quality issue, making the development of an Ishikawa diagram the best answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A Direct the project team to improve the quality of their work

Incorrect. Directing the project team to improve the quality of their work is not very helpful without first knowing the main cause of the problem. For example, it is possible that the issue lies with the material and/or equipment rather than the quality of the project team's work. Therefore, this choice is an incorrect response.

B Ask the project sponsor what to do

Incorrect. The project sponsor may very well need to be informed of the quality issues, but it is the project manager's responsibility to determine the cause and implement the necessary action. Therefore, this answer choice can be eliminated.

Create an affinity diagram

Incorrect. Affinity diagrams can organize potential causes of defects into groups showing areas that should be focused on the most. However, the question indicates that the causes of the poor quality are not known at this point. Therefore, the project manager should first seek to understand the main cause(s) of the quality issues, making the creation of an affinity diagram an incorrect answer.

D Develop an Ishikawa diagram

Correct. Cause-and-effect diagrams are also known as fishbone diagrams, why-why diagrams, or Ishikawa diagrams. This type of diagram breaks down the causes of the problem statement identified into discrete branches, helping to identify the main or root cause of the problem. Therefore, of the choices provided, developing an Ishikawa diagram is the best course of action for the project manager to take to understand why the product quality does not meet project requirements.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.7 Plan and manage quality of products/deliverables

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 24

Hint: Which technique involves the evaluation of the different choices available to achieve a particular project management objective?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: After analyzing several different options to determine which of those options will most help the team meet the objectives of the project, the project manager is selecting a corrective action to address his resource needs. This method is an example of alternatives analysis - a technique used in the Control Resources process. The other answer choices are also techniques used in the Control Resources process but based on the specific actions being described in this scenario; alternatives analysis emerges as the best choice.

Note, the PMBOK Guide refers to Control Resource as a process concerned with physical resources, while the question describes a scenario with human resources which is typically addressed by the Manage Team process. The fact the alternatives analysis technique is associated with the Control Resource process and not the Manage Team process does not mean the technique cannot be used in other processes to resolve issues the project manager is facing. In the scenario provided, the discussion the project manager is having with the team members regarding different options such as authorizing additional overtime, hiring subcontractors, or bringing in additional resources from another project team within the company is best described by the alternatives analysis technique. Therefore, among the available choices, alternatives analysis, while not ideal, is the best answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A Cost-benefit analysis

Incorrect. This type of analysis focuses on determining the best corrective action in terms of cost, but there is no indication from the question that cost was the major determining factor in the decision.

B Alternatives analysis

Correct. Alternatives analysis is a technique of the Control Resources process used to select the best resolution for correcting variances in resource utilization. Alternatives may include paying additional for overtime or additional team resources and weighing these alternatives against a late delivery or other factors.

C Problem solving

Incorrect. Problem solving involves taking methodical steps to deal with a problem. Those steps include: identifying, investigating, and analyzing the problem; choosing a solution; and checking the solution to determine if the problem has been fixed. In the scenario, the project manager is simply discussing various options. Nothing in the scenario indicates that methodical steps to deal with a problem have been taken.

D Interpersonal skills

Incorrect. Interpersonal skills, which include negotiation and influencing skills, are not the primary techniques being used in this scenario. The project manager is not negotiating with anyone for additional project resources or using influencing to solve the problem. Therefore, this is not the best answer choice.

Exam Content Outline:

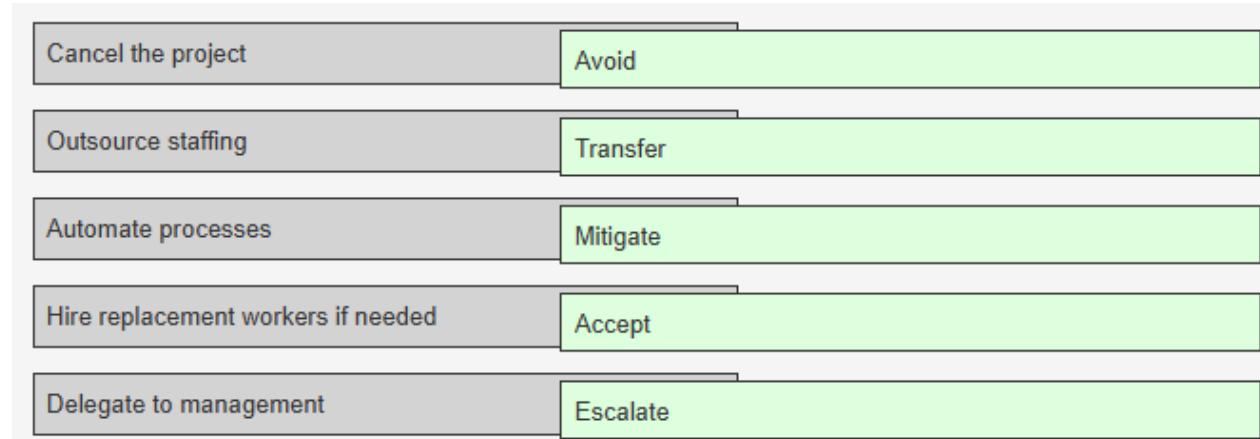
Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.7 Address and remove Impediments, obstacles, and blockers for the team

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 25

Hint: What kind of action is most likely a strategy of avoiding the threat entirely, transferring it to a third party, mitigating its likelihood of occurring, actively accepting it by putting a reserve in place, and escalating its handling to a higher authority?



Explanation:

Risk avoidance is when the project team acts to eliminate the threat or protect the project from its impact. The avoid strategy, including project cancellation, may be adopted when the level of overall project risk is significantly negative.

Transferring the risk involves shifting ownership of a threat to a third party to manage the risk and bear the impact if it occurs. Examples of risk transferring include the use of insurance, warranties, guarantees, etc. These actions typically involve payment of a risk premium to the party taking on the threat.

In risk mitigation, the action is taken to reduce the probability and/or impact of a risk - automating processes aims to do just that (assuming some project tasks can be done automatically rather than manually).

When a risk is actively accepted, its existence is acknowledged, but no immediate proactive action is taken; instead, a reserve is put in place. Hiring reserve workers are an example of risk acceptance.

Lastly, when escalating risk to management, a project team acknowledges that decision-making related to the risk is out of the project team's control and beyond their level of authority.

Question 26

Hint: What action would best ensure the required internal resource is available for the project during or before the initiation stage?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

The question suggests that the project manager is performing the Acquire Resources process. Pre-assignment is one of the tools and techniques that may be used in this process. When physical or team resources for a project are determined in advance, they are considered pre-assigned. This situation can occur if the project is the result of specific resources being identified as part of a competitive proposal or if the project is dependent upon the expertise of a particular person. Had the qualified agile coach employed by the company been pre-assigned, the resource may have been available for the other project and the situation described by the question may have been avoided.

Details for Each Option:

A

Documenting the potential unavailability of the agile coach in the project assumption log

Incorrect. An assumption log is a project document used to record all assumptions and constraints throughout the project life cycle. While documenting the potential unavailability of the agile coach in the project assumption log would have ensured that the project stakeholders are aware of the situation, this action alone would not have avoided the situation from occurring in the first place.

B

Using different verbiage in the resource management plan to remove the requirement for an agile coach

Incorrect. The resource management plan reflects the contractual requirements, in this case, the use of a qualified agile coach. Changing the verbiage of the resource management plan does not change the contractual obligation and is not an ethical approach.

C

Assigning a different team member from the company to serve as the agile coach

Incorrect. The question states that the company only employs one individual with the required skillset to serve as the agile coach, and that resource is not available. Therefore, allowing another employee without the contractually required skillset to serve as the agile coach is not a viable option.

D

Securing the internal agile certified practitioner with a pre-assignment when this requirement was first identified.

Correct. When physical or team resources for a project are determined in advance, they are considered pre-assigned. Since the need for an agile certified practitioner would have been identified during the initiation of the project, the internal agile certified practitioner could have been pre-assigned to meet this requirement in the contract.

Exam Content Outline: Domain: 1. People / Task: 1.0 Build a team/ PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 27

Hint: What common agile practice is used to help the team learn, improve, and adapt?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The question states the project team is transitioning from a waterfall approach to an agile project management framework. The fact the project still uses some elements of the waterfall to make the transition easier implies the project, as a whole, is hybrid. While retrospectives are typically associated with the agile project management framework, they can be used on any project, whether it is managed using waterfall/predictive, agile, or hybrid methodology. Retrospectives can be used to investigate issues and provide the project team an opportunity to learn from its previous work. Retrospectives allow the team members to improve and adapt their processes. During the iteration retrospective, the project team has the opportunity to discuss the issue of duplicate efforts and then adjust their practices to avoid the issue from happening in the upcoming iterations.

Note, the scenario does not specify what duplicate efforts exactly are there on the project. This information, however, is not required to answer the question. The idea is, as always, under the circumstances described in this particular scenario and with the given set of the available answer choices, to select the best answer to the question asked. In this case, bringing up the topic during the upcoming iteration retrospective is the best answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A Bring up the topic during the upcoming iteration retrospective

Correct. Regularly scheduled retrospectives can be used on any project, predictive, agile, hybrid. Retrospectives provide the project team an opportunity to learn from its previous work, investigate issues, and improve and adapt their processes.

B Do nothing since the team members are transitioning from waterfall to agile

Incorrect. Project managers are responsible to do everything in their power to make the projects they are leading successful. Duplication of efforts may lead to a waste of project resources thus reducing the chances of the project's success. Therefore, doing nothing is unlikely to be the correct answer.

C Fallback to a waterfall project management framework going forward

Incorrect. It is unclear if switching to a waterfall project management framework would resolve the issue of duplicate work. Regardless, this is an extreme response to a relatively minor issue. The project manager should not overreact and revert back to using a waterfall approach, but rather address the issue from within the agile or hybrid framework.

D Submit a change request to update the communications management plan

Incorrect. Change requests may be used when employing a hybrid project management framework implied by the question. However, even if the project used the change control system in place to manage changes, it is unclear as to what update exactly to the communications management plan would have been required so that it would have resolved the issue of duplicate efforts.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.10 Build shared understanding

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 28

Hint: Your choice of the most appropriate conflict resolution method can be influenced by factors present at the time of the conflict.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Your success in managing a project and your team often depends on your ability to resolve conflict appropriately and promptly. You should choose the most appropriate conflict resolution method based on factors such as the importance and intensity of the conflict and timelines. According to the scenario, the subject of the conflict (a report format) is not critical to project success. The project, however, has a critical time constraint and cannot afford any delays. Therefore, you need to address the dispute quickly so that the team members can return to work without further delay. The quickest way to resolve the conflict in this situation, and, therefore, your best course of action, is to use the force/direct method by selecting an approach that you think is the best and making the decision. Note that the collaborative or problem-solving approach, which incorporates multiple viewpoints and insights from different perspectives, is ideal for resolving conflicts. However, such an approach is not always possible. Project managers should use their interpersonal and team skills and situational judgment to determine how best to handle a conflict.

Details for Each Option:

A Tell the team members to figure it out for themselves

Incorrect. Telling the team members to figure it out for themselves is an example of the withdraw/avoid technique where you retreat from the situation allowing it to be fixed later or by others. This method would take time that you cannot afford. Therefore, this approach is not the best way to resolve the conflict.

B Look for an approach that would completely satisfy both team members

Incorrect. Looking for a resolution to the conflict that would completely satisfy both parties is an example of the collaborate/problem-solving technique, which leads to a win-win solution. Under the circumstances provided in the scenario, in which the argument turns into a shouting match, reaching a win-win solution is unlikely realistic given the short timeline and the Intensity of the conflict.

C Request that the team members return to work to avoid any further delays

Incorrect. Since the project has a critical time constraint and cannot afford any delays, requesting that the team members return to work may be a plausible option. However, this approach may harm the project manager's reputation and is not consistent with the best practices of being a servant leader for the project team.

D Select the report format that you think is best and make the decision

Correct. Pushing one team members viewpoint at the expense of another's is an example of the force/direct technique of conflict resolution. Although this method often results in a win-lose situation, this choice is best so you can quickly stop the intense argument and enable the team members to return to work without further delay.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People Task: 1.1 Manage conflict

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 29

Hint: What approach is best suited for a project to be optimized for speed of delivery?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Project leaders need to tailor projects based on context. Some projects need to be optimized for speed of delivery, as requested by the customer in the scenario described. In this case, each module represents a subset of the total solution. Since each module can be developed and shipped independently, the customer can derive value as soon as the first module is released. Further value can be derived with each subsequent release. To achieve these benefits, the project development approach can be tailored accordingly. For example, incremental life cycles are best suited for projects where speed of delivery is the main focus, such as the case depicted in the question. Hence, of the available choices, utilizing an incremental project life cycle with multiple deliveries would be the best strategy for the project manager to employ.

Details for Each Option:

A Utilize an incremental project life cycle with multiple deliveries

Correct. An incremental approach can be beneficial when the project needs to be optimized for the speed of delivery. In this case, each module would represent an increment of the total solution and can be released once it has been completed, allowing the customer to begin receiving value as soon as possible.

B Employ a predictive approach with a single-phase project

Incorrect. When using a predictive approach, the entire project is typically planned upfront, and the completed product is released in a single delivery at the end of the project. A phased approach would be a viable option where each module represents a separate phase, but a single-phase project would not support multiple deliveries.

C Select a hybrid approach and release all modules in a single delivery

Incorrect. A hybrid approach might be an option for this project. However, the customer is focused on the speed of delivery, and each module can be released individually. It would be better to release each module once it is complete rather than releasing all of the modules in a single delivery.

D Outsource the development of each module to a different vendor

Incorrect. Outsourcing the development of each module to a different vendor may or may not result in the fastest delivery. Having multiple vendors introduces other issues and may slow down rather than speed up the delivery. Hence, this course of action would not necessarily result in the desired outcome as requested by the customer.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.13 Determine appropriate project methodology/methods and practices

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 30

Hint: Hint: The answer is part of a phase of the Tuckman Development Ladder.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Before a conflict resolution meeting, the project manager would want to understand and assess any root causes of conflict or lack of communication. Conflict resolution meetings would be something to consider in another step in the process.

Suggesting a more integrated approach to creating a scalable and cost-effective setup is a logical step in resolving technical conflicts within a project team. Jumping straight to suggesting technical solutions without addressing the underlying interpersonal issues and conflicts can result in superficial resolutions that do not address the root causes of the discord.

Before exploring specific conflict resolution strategies, it is crucial to establish a foundation of shared purpose and mutual respect. By highlighting the importance of collaboration and shared goals, the PM creates a supportive atmosphere conducive to more effective conflict resolution later. This foundation helps ensure that subsequent conflict resolution efforts are viewed as achieving common objectives.

Regular updates and coordination meetings are more effective in maintaining alignment and ensuring communication when the team functions cohesively. Simply proposing regular meetings may address symptoms rather than the underlying issues, leading to inadequate engagement rather than meaningful resolution.

Details for Each Option:

A Organize a conflict resolution meeting encouraging each team member to discuss concerns and listen to each other's viewpoints.

Incorrect. Directly addressing conflicts without setting a positive, collaborative tone can sometimes exacerbate tensions. Team members might not be ready to engage constructively if they are still committed to their positions. They need to see the value of collaboration and shared goals before they can effectively resolve conflicts.

B Suggest a more integrated approach to create a scalable, cost-effective setup.

Incorrect. Team members are often more focused on asserting their ideas and perspectives than collaborating. Introducing an integrated approach right away might not get the necessary buy-in from all team members, as they might still be reluctant to compromise. Building consensus and collaboration is essential to ensure everyone agrees with the proposed approach.

C Address the team, stressing the importance of collaboration and reminding them of their common goal.

Correct. During the Storming phase of team development, the first things the P should address with the team are establishing a unified vision of goals, promoting collaboration, creating a positive team environment, aligning team efforts, and building trust.

D Propose regular updates and coordinate meetings, ensuring all team members are kept in the loop.

Incorrect. Proposing regular updates and coordination meetings addresses the logistical aspects of project management but does not directly tackle the interpersonal and collaborative challenges. Without resolving these human dynamics, the logistical measures may fall flat, as the team's underlying issues remain unaddressed.

Question 31

Hint: The instant messaging application is a mandatory communication tool.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

The scenario describes the use of a proprietary instant messaging application that, according to your organization, is a mandatory tool to be used for communications under certain circumstances, for example, when the employees perform project work in a noisy remote environment. While the use of the instant messaging application on the mobile phones may lead you to think the question is talking about communication technology, communication models, or communication methods, the word 'mandatory' should trigger the thought of enterprise environmental factors. Any condition, not under the immediate control of the team that influences, constraints, or directs the project, is an enterprise environmental factor (EEF). Established communication channels, tools, and systems are an example of the EEF. Since the instant messaging application is defined as 'mandatory' by your organization, meaning it is outside the project team's control, the requirement to install the application qualifies as an EEF, in particular as an established communication tool. Therefore, of the choices provided, enterprise environmental factors are the best answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A Pull communication

Incorrect. Pull communication is a type of communication method that requires recipients to access the content at their discretion. This method is typically used for large audiences or complex data sets. The requirement to install the application described in the scenario does not represent a pull communication method.

B Push communication

Incorrect. Push communication is a type of communication method where information is distributed to specific recipients. This method ensures the information is sent but does not guarantee the information was received or understood by the recipient. The requirement to install the application and a communication method are not the same.

C Enterprise environmental factors

Correct. The scenario implies you are carrying out the Plan Communications Management process. Enterprise environmental factors are input to that process. Enterprise environmental factors are conditions, not under the immediate control of the team, that influence, constrain, or direct the project. The scenario describes an instant messaging application that is mandated by your organization to be used for communication. Mandatory means the application is not under the immediate control of the team, making the requirement to install the application an enterprise environmental factor.

D Communication model

Incorrect. Communication models represent the communication process in general, rather than a specific communication application or the requirement to install it, as described in the scenario.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.12 Manage project artifacts

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 32

Hint: How are project tasks assigned in agile versus waterfall methodologies?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Every project team needs to clearly define how they will work together, which serves as the basis for their social contract. These team ground rules should be agreed upon and then documented in the form of a team charter. The rules can be revised as needed throughout the project. According to the scenario, the project will combine agile and waterfall methodologies, making the overall project management approach hybrid. When transitioning from agile to waterfall, the team's working agreements may need to be revised to reflect the differences in how the team members will interact. Agile teams are self-organizing and self-managing. Therefore, when parts of a project are executed with an agile methodology (as is the case with the development phase of this project), the entire team bears collective product ownership. However, when using a waterfall framework (as is the case with the rollout phase), the project manager is more likely to assign tasks to specific individuals, making them individually accountable for completing their assigned tasks. Therefore, the team charter should reflect these changes in group vs. individual ownership of the project deliverables as the team transitions from agile to waterfall.

Details for Each Option:

A The team charter will need to be updated to reflect collective ownership for the completion of project tasks.

Incorrect. With agile methodologies, the entire project team bears collective ownership over the project's deliverables. In this scenario, the project is transitioning from agile to waterfall. Therefore, it is more likely that the project's tasks will be assigned to specific individuals rather than collectively owned by the team.

B The project manager should institute a set of working agreements that worked well on previous waterfall projects.

Incorrect. A set of working agreements from past waterfall projects might be useful as a template for the team to create their own team charter. However, the team will need to customize the charter to suit their unique situation. The project manager might provide guidance for the charter, but should not dictate the team's working agreements.

C Each project team member will need to develop their own social contract to support the new framework.

Incorrect. Having each team member develop their own social contract would not be very helpful as the team needs a common set of values rather than individual values. The project team members need to develop a set of working agreements at the team level that everyone can support.

D The social contract should reflect a transition from collective to individual ownership for the project tasks.

Correct. When using an agile framework, the project team has collective ownership of the project's deliverables. With a waterfall model, project tasks are more likely to be assigned to specific individuals, and they will be accountable for completing their individual assignments.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.12 Define team ground rules

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 33

Hint: Which of the tools in the list are valid data analysis tools for monitoring & controlling project work, and what exactly is analyzed when using each of them?

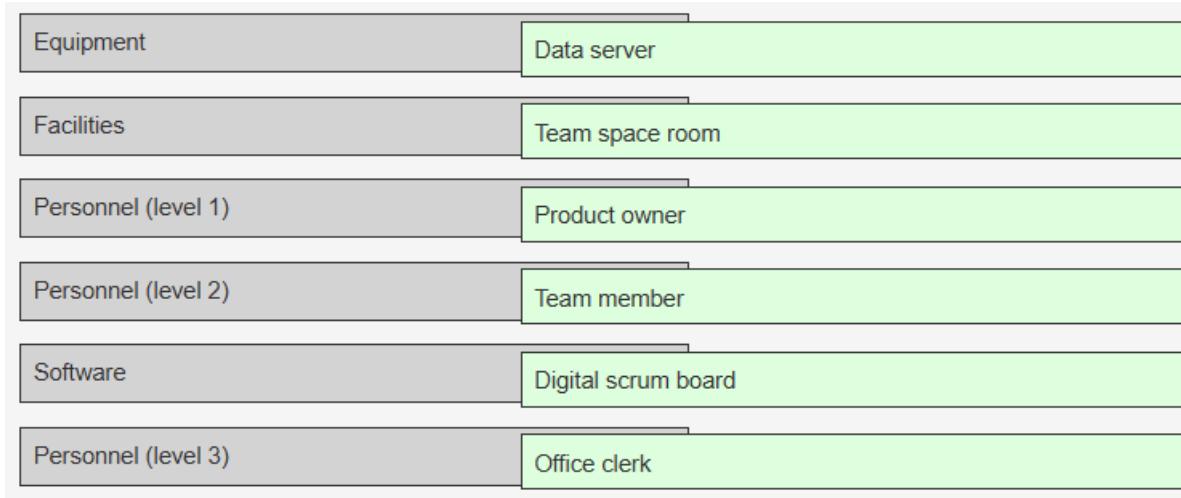
Corrective actions for better performance	Alternatives analysis
Corrective actions regarding the cost	Cost-benefit analysis
Integrated perspective on project performance	Earned value analysis
Identify the main reason for problems	Root cause analysis
Forecast performance based on results	Trend analysis
Compare planned and actual performance	Variance analysis
(Not applicable)	Business analysis

Explanation:

While alternatives analysis selects a corrective action or a combination of corrective and preventive actions to implement, cost-benefit analysis determines the best corrective action when it comes to cost factors in a project that deviates from the plan. With earned value analysis, project managers will have a more integrated perspective on scope, schedule, and cost performance. Root cause analysis helps identify the main cause or causes of a problem; with trend analysis, future performance can be forecasted based on past results. The differences between planned and actual performance are reviewed with variance analysis. In contrast, business analysis is not a technique that typically used as part of the Monitor and Control Project Work process implied by the scenario.

Question 34

Hint: What does a resource breakdown structure visualize, and which categories does it typically contain?



Explanation:

The scenario suggests that the project employs a hybrid project management approach. This means that the project manager and team will likely use a combination of agile as well as traditional tools and techniques while planning, executing, monitoring, controlling, and closing the project. A resource breakdown structure is a project document that is created as one of the outputs of the Estimate Activity Resources process implied by the scenario. This document can be graphically displayed as a hierarchical representation of resources by category and type and can help in project resource planning by providing a structured view of project resources.

A common way to decompose staff (personnel) entries in the resource breakdown structure is to categorize them according to their level of skills or authority. With level 1 indicating a project stakeholder in a leading role, such as the product owner, who is likely to be mapped to the "Personnel (level 1)" category. A team member best fits the "Personnel (level 2)" category, and so on. A data server best matches the equipment category, and the team space room reasonably falls under facilities. The remaining digital scrum board can be logically mapped as software.

Question 35

Hint: How might changes be allowed to be made to the adaptive scope without impacting the overall contract?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Larger projects may use an adaptive approach for some deliverables and a traditional project management approach for other parts. In these cases, a governing agreement such as a master services agreement (MSA) may be used for the overall engagement, with the adaptive work being placed in an appendix or supplement. This hybrid strategy allows changes to occur on the adaptive scope without impacting the overall contract. The incorrect answer choices represent actions that will not permit the selected vendor from using the best project management approach for each aspect of the project. Since both vendors are capable of delivering both the hardware and the software, and since there is not enough information in the question to determine which one of them is better at delivering projects using the waterfall or agile project management approach, among the available choices, utilizing a master services agreement (MSA) with either of the vendors provides the best answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A Contract with vendor X for hardware, with vendor Y for software and use the appropriate methodology for each

Incorrect. This approach represents a course of action that resolves the issue of which project management methodology to use. However, since both vendors are equally capable of producing both the hardware and the software, it is better to make appropriate arrangements to allow one vendor to deliver both. It may save project resources in managing one vendor instead of two.

B Contract with vendor X for both hardware and software and require an agile framework for the entire project

Incorrect. As stated by the scenario, it has been concluded that an agile framework is best for developing the software component of the project, but not the hardware. Limiting the vendor to use one approach over another would diminish the benefits of using the best project management approach for each aspect of the project

C Contract with vendor Y for both hardware and software and require a waterfall approach for the entire project

Incorrect. According to the question text, a traditional waterfall project management approach is best to develop the hardware for the project in this case, but not the software component. Limiting the vendor to use one approach over another would diminish the benefits of using the best project management approach for each aspect of the project.

D Contract with either vendor X or vendor Y for both hardware and software and utilize a master services agreement

Correct. In this case, a governing agreement such as a master services agreement (MSA) may be used with any of the vendors described in the scenario for the overall engagement, with the adaptive work being placed in an appendix or supplement.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.11 Plan and manage procurement

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 36

Hint: At the Shu level, the project team has little, if any, experience with the Scrum framework.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

The scenario states that the project team is at the Shu level of the Shu-Ha-Ri model with respect to the Scrum framework. The Shu-Ha-Ri model describes the progression of skills acquisition by an individual or group. The Shu level indicates, in this case, that the project team lacks proficiency with the Scrum framework, and they should follow the rules as set forth in Scrum. Once the project team has acquired sufficient expertise with the Scrum framework, they can progress beyond the Shu level and begin to customize the approach to better suit the needs of the project and project team. Therefore, of the available choices, the best approach for the project manager is to follow the scrum ceremonies as close as possible.

Note, the way the scenario is worded implies that the project at its higher level is managed using predictive/traditional methods, while the team is using (or will use) Scrum to develop the product of the project. This means the project as a whole is carried out using a hybrid project management approach.

Details for Each Option:

A Request project termination

Incorrect. Terminating the project is an overreaction. The Shu level of the Shu-Ha-Ri model indicates that the project team has little knowledge of the Scrum framework. Providing training to the team and/or following an established method is a better approach than terminating the project.

B Modify Scrum to fit the project needs

Incorrect. Once an Individual or team has progressed to the Ha level of the Shu-Ha-Ri model, it is appropriate to begin to consciously move away from the rules and begin tailoring the approach. However, the question states that the team is still at the Shu level, meaning that they should follow the rules until their Scrum skills have progressed.

C Develop a new agile method

Incorrect. Developing a new agile method would imply that the project team has reached the Ri level of the Shu-He-Ri model. However, the question states that the project team is still at the Shu level. Thus, the project team is not likely to possess the necessary skill set to develop a new agile approach that will better meet project needs.

D Closely follow Scrum ceremonies

Correct. The Shu level of the Shu-Ha-Ri model, as it pertains to this scenario, Indicates that the project team has little, if any, knowledge of the Scrum framework. At the Shu level, the Individual or team should follow the Scrum guidelines as close as possible.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.6 Build a team

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 37

Hint: Which data gathering technique is best to elicit confidential information?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The question suggests that the project manager is performing the Collect Requirements process, which is the process of determining, documenting, and managing stakeholder needs and requirements to meet project objectives. In support of this process, the project manager will need to employ data gathering techniques to elicit feedback from the stakeholders to determine their needs and requirements. The question suggests that the project manager needs to use a data gathering technique where the responses will remain confidential. An interview is a formal or informal approach to elicit information from stakeholders by talking to them directly. Of the available choices, conducting interviews is the best tool for the project manager to use to obtain confidential information.

Details for Each Option:

A Conduct interviews to elicit information from stakeholders by talking to them directly

Correct. An Interview is a formal or informal approach to elicit information from stakeholders by talking to them directly. Interviews can be useful for obtaining confidential information. Use brainstorming to generate and collect multiple ideas related to project requirements

B Incorrect. Brainstorming can be used during the Collect Requirements process to generate and collect multiple ideas related to project requirements. Brainstorming is conducted in a group setting; therefore, based on the sensitive nature of the project described in the scenario, the project manager will not likely gather candid feedback from the stakeholders in this situation.

C Hold a focus group to learn about stakeholder expectations and attitudes about the project

Incorrect. A focus group can be used to learn about stakeholder expectations and attitudes about a project. However, a focus group is conducted in a group setting which does not maintain the confidentiality of participant responses. Therefore, this is not the best answer choice of the available options.

D Use multicriteria decision analysis to provide a systematic analytical approach for establishing criteria

Incorrect. Multicriteria decision analysis is a decision-making technique that utilizes a decision matrix to provide a systematic analytical approach for establishing criteria, such as risk levels, uncertainty, and valuation, to evaluate and rank many ideas. Multicriteria decision analysis is not a data gathering technique and, therefore, is not a method of gathering requirements from stakeholders.

Question 38

Hint: There are five general techniques for resolving conflict withdrawal/avoiding, smoothing/accommodating, compromising/reconciling, forcing/directing, collaborating/problem-solving.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: Conflict is inevitable on any project. Therefore, conflict management is one of the most important interpersonal and team skills that project managers have to master. The success of project managers in managing their project teams often depends on their ability to resolve conflict. In the scenario described, the conflict is between the project manager and the team. The conflict is at the level that negatively impacts the team's morale and jeopardizes the project's goals. However, selecting the appropriate conflict resolution technique depends on the project manager and the circumstances surrounding the conflict. Under different circumstances, different project managers may use different conflict resolution methods. Factors that influence these methods include the importance and intensity of the conflict, time pressure for resolving the conflict, relative power of the people involved in the conflict, importance of maintaining a good relationship, motivation to resolve conflict on a long-term or short-term basis, etc.

There are five general techniques for resolving conflict: withdrawal/avoiding, smoothing/accommodating, compromising/reconciling, forcing/directing, collaborating/problem-solving. In the scenario, the project manager decides to solve the conflict. There is not enough information in the scenario to determine whether the project manager's decision was right or wrong. However, this information is not required to answer the question correctly. All that is needed to select the correct answer is to understand the various degrees of desire to satisfy the concerns of the parties involved in the conflict and map the desire to the technique described in the scenario, keeping in mind that the scenario is presented from the project manager's perspective.

Details for Each Option:

A **Incorrect**. Area A represents a low desire to satisfy team members' concerns but a high desire to satisfy the project manager's own concerns. From the project manager's perspective, this would be a force/direct technique, in which the project manager would push his/her viewpoint at the expense of the team, offering a win-lose solution. In the scenario described, the project manager decides to solve the conflict, making this an incorrect choice.

B **Correct**. Area B represents a high desire to satisfy team members' concerns as well as a high desire to satisfy the project manager's own concerns. From the project manager's perspective, this would be a collaborate/problem-solve technique, in which multiple viewpoints and insights from different perspectives are incorporated. This approach typically results in a win-win situation. In the scenario described, the project manager decides to solve the conflict, making this choice the best answer to the question asked.

D **Incorrect**. Area C represents a low desire to satisfy team members' concerns as well as a low desire to satisfy the project manager's own concerns. From the project manager's perspective, this would be an avoid/withdraw technique, in which parties retreat from an actual or potential conflict situation, postponing the issue to be better prepared or to be resolved by others. In the scenario described, the project manager decides to solve the conflict, making this choice an incorrect answer.

D **Incorrect**. Area D represents a high desire to satisfy team members' concerns but a low desire to satisfy the project manager's own concerns. From the project manager's perspective, this would be a smooth/accommodate technique in which one party concedes its position to the need of the other party to maintain harmony and relationships. In the scenario described, the project manager decides to solve the conflict, making this choice an incorrect answer.

E **Incorrect**. Area E represents a moderate desire to satisfy team members' concerns as well as a moderate desire to satisfy the project manager's own concerns. From the project manager's perspective, this would be a compromise/reconcile technique, in which parties search for solutions that bring some degree of satisfaction to all those involved in the conflict. Since each party moderately yields to the other side, this technique only temporarily or partially resolves the conflict and often results in a lose-lose situation. In the scenario described, the project manager decides to solve the conflict, making this choice an incorrect answer.

Exam Content Outline: Domain: 1. People / Task: 1.1 Manage conflict / PM Approach: Predictive

Question 39

Hint: What serves as an index that measures the willingness of customers to recommend a product or service to others?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

For the project to be successful and deliver the desired outcomes, project leaders must effectively engage with stakeholders, including customers and end-users. A net promoter score (NPS®) is an index that measures the willingness of customers to recommend a product or service to others. The score can also be used as a proxy for gauging the customer's overall satisfaction with the company's product or service and the customer's loyalty to the brand. Typically customers will be surveyed and asked how likely, on a scale from one to ten, they are to recommend a product or service to their family and friends. Scores of nine and ten are considered "promoters", scores of seven and eight are considered "passives", and scores of six or below are considered "detractors". A formula is then applied to all of the individual scores to determine the overall NPS®. In the scenario described, a beta version of the app is released to the market, and the project leader wants to measure overall satisfaction with the product and gauge the customer's loyalty to the brand. Therefore, of the choices provided, determining the net promoter score (NPS®) would be the best course of action for the project leader.

Details for Each Option:

A Determine the net promoter score (NPS®)

Correct. A net promoter score (NPS®) is an index that measures the willingness of customers to recommend a product or service to others. The score is often used as a proxy for gauging the customer's overall satisfaction with a company's product or service and the customer's loyalty to the brand, making this choice the best answer to the question asked.

B Develop a prioritization schema

Incorrect. Prioritization schema refers to methods used to prioritize portfolio, program, or project components, as well as requirements, risks, features, or other product information.

Prioritization schema might be used during product development but would not be helpful in determining customer satisfaction with a released product.

C Apply the Wideband Delphi technique

Incorrect. The Wideband Delphi technique is a consensus-based estimating method that is used to determine the level of effort involved. For example, Wideband Delphi might be used during a sprint planning session to assign story points to user stories in the backlog. However, this technique is not typically applied to customer satisfaction.

D Utilize impact mapping

Incorrect. Impact mapping is a strategic planning method that serves as a visual roadmap for the organization. Impact mapping is typically used during product development. Since the scenario describes a beta version of a product already released to the customer, utilizing impact mapping would not make sense.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.9 Collaborate with stakeholders

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 40

Hint: Agile teams are encouraged to be self-managing.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Demonstrating leadership behaviors is one of the core project management principles. Delegating authority when appropriate is an example of what a successful leader can do to empower the project team and achieve project goals. The scenario suggests that the project is utilizing an agile framework. Agile teams are encouraged to be self-managing, self-directing, and empowered to make decisions concerning the way they carry out their work. For example, the determination of how the work will be accomplished and by whom is made by the project team members without the need to involve heavy processes or bureaucratic procedures. However, it's the project manager's duty as a servant leader to listen to the stakeholder's suggestion and facilitate a discussion on the topic with the team while, at the same time, allowing the team to make the final decision as to whether to adopt the new approach or keep using the current one.

Details for Each Option:

A Review the suggestion with the team and allow them to determine the best approach

Correct. Successful agile teams are self-managing, self-directing, and empowered to make decisions concerning their work. As such, determining the best approach for how to carry out their work is made by the team members. The project manager might help facilitate a discussion on the topic, but it's up to the team to make the final decision.

B Ask the stakeholder to submit a change request to update the schedule baseline

Incorrect. In predictive projects, a change that affects any of the baselines (even if the change may improve the project schedule, as suggested by the scenario) would require an approved change request. An agile project, like the one described in the scenario, uses lighter processes and would not require a change request to make modifications.

C Reject the suggestion to ensure the team is shielded from stakeholder interruptions

Incorrect. Shielding the team from distractions is one of the project manager's responsibilities as a servant leader. However, this leadership behavior should not be taken to the extreme. Not all interruptions are harmful. Balancing the needs of the project, team, and stakeholders is a better approach. Rejecting the suggestion, especially if it can improve project performance, would be an overreaction.

D Use the daily standup meeting as a venue to discuss the suggested change

Incorrect. Discussing the suggested change with the team is the right approach. However, using the daily standup meeting as a venue for this discussion is inappropriate. The daily standup is a timeboxed agile event focused on three specific agenda items. Improvement suggestions are not part of them and are better to be discussed at retrospectives.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.2 Lead a team

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 41

Hint: Hint: An incremental approach might let the customer take a portion of the project to market early.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: Agile principles advocate for involving customers throughout the development process to ensure that the product meets their needs and expectations. By withholding the product until all features are fully developed, the team denies customers the chance to provide input early on, potentially leading to misalignment between the product and customer needs.

Releasing a product with a mix of features necessary for initial user validation might hinder the Agile principle of leveraging feedback to see a finished piece of the work. It may also risk errors between user expectations and product development efforts.

The agile methodology emphasizes iterative development, where the product evolves through continuous feedback and adaptation. By focusing solely on delivering all planned features upfront, the team misses out on opportunities to incorporate user feedback into the development process. This approach restricts the team's ability to iterate on the product based on real-world usage and evolving user needs.

The agile methodology advocates for iterative development, where the product evolves through incremental releases based on feedback. Delivering a single feature allows the team to focus on a specific aspect of the product, ensuring that it's well-designed, functional, and aligned with user needs before moving on to additional features. The final iterative approach enables continuous improvement and ensures that the final product meets the customer's expectations. This approach might also allow the customer to take a portion or all of the product to the marketplace sooner.

Details for Each Option:

A Delay the product launch until all the known and unknown feature requirements are understood, then share that with the customer.

Incorrect. Waiting to launch the product until all known and unknown feature requirements are understood prolongs the time to market. Agile principles prioritize delivering value to customers quickly and adapting to changing requirements and market conditions. Delaying the launch, the team misses opportunities to capture market share, respond to competitors, and generate revenue.

B Release a product with a mix of several features necessary for the initial user validation.

Incorrect. Releasing a product with a mix of several features increases the risk of scope creep, where additional features may be added beyond what is necessary for initial user validation. Agile methodology emphasizes delivering the minimum features required to provide value to customers and validate assumptions. Introducing too many features upfront may lead to unnecessary complexity and delay in delivering a functional product.

C Focus solely on delivering all planned features without considering user feedback.

Incorrect. Prioritizing the delivery of all planned features without considering user feedback increases the risk of over-engineering the product. Suppose the team does not validate the needs or relevance of each feature through user feedback. In that case, it is more likely to invest time and resources in developing features that may not effectively contribute to the product's value proposition or address user needs. This can result in unnecessary complexity and wasted effort.

D Let the team provide the customer with a feature that might help with any needed changes before delivering the final product.

Correct. The agile methodology of the Minimum Viable Product (MVP) emphasizes getting customer feedback and delivering value to customers quickly and iteratively. Providing the customer with a single feature allows the team to expedite the delivery process and get a product into the hands of users sooner. This speed of market is essential for gaining a competitive advantage and capturing market share, as customers can start benefiting from the product's value proposition sooner rather than later.

Exam Content Outline: Domain: 3. Business Environment / Task: 3.2 Evaluate and deliver project benefits and value / PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 42

Hint: What is the best way to gain the commitment of the team for the team's working agreements?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

The team charter is a document that records the team values, agreements, and operating guidelines, as well as establishing clear expectations regarding acceptable behavior by project team members. The team charter may be updated to reflect changes to the agreed-upon team operating guidelines that result from team development. The team charter works best when the team develops it or at least has an opportunity to contribute to it. Of the available options, discussing the issue with the team and updating the team charter accordingly is the best course of action in this situation.

Details for Each Option:

A Contact the human resources department to update the corporate policies to prohibit flextime

Incorrect. Although updating the corporate policies to prohibit flextime would likely resolve the issue described by the question, this action does not represent the best way to address the issue. Just because flextime has been found to be a roadblock for this particular project does not necessarily mean it will cause problems for other projects or project teams. Updating the corporate policies to ban flextime is an overreaction based on what has been presented by the question.

B Submit a change request to update the team charter based on the team's inputs

Incorrect. A change request must be submitted to update any baseline or the project management plan. Project documents may or not be placed under configuration control depending on the standard's outlined in the configuration management plan. Since the question does not state whether or not the team charter is a configuration element, we assume the project is using standard practices where the team charter is not a controlled document and therefore does not require a change request to be updated.

C Discuss the issue with the team and update the team charter accordingly

Correct. The team charter is a document that records the team values, agreements, and operating guidelines, as well as establishing clear expectations regarding acceptable behavior by project team members. The team charter may be updated to reflect changes to the agreed-upon team operating guidelines that result from team development. Working with the team to update the team charter is the best way for the project manager to address the issue described by the question.

D Do nothing as the team has already agreed to use flextime for personal emergencies only

Incorrect. The question states that the team feels they should set a standard that flextime is only to be used for personal emergencies. However, this feeling might just be the first impression of several team members. It is best when the issue is discussed by all team members, and an agreed-upon decision on the team values, agreements, operating guidelines, and expectations regarding acceptable behavior is made collectively and captured in the appropriate document such as the team charter. Therefore, doing nothing in this situation is not the best answer to the question asked.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.12 Define team ground rules

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 43

Hint: The chart indicates that the earned value (EV) is currently exceeding the actual costs (AC) and planned value (PV).

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

The earned value analysis chart indicates that the earned value (EV) is currently exceeding the actual costs (AC) and planned value (PV). Thus, the project is currently ahead of schedule and under budget. If the current trend is expected to continue, and there is no information presented to suggest that it will not, then the project should meet the project objectives without any corrective or preventive action. Therefore, no immediate action is necessary based on the information presented in this scenario.

It should be noted that any variance should be analyzed and understood. In this case, the project manager should gain an understanding of what caused the project cost and schedule plans to be so far off from actual performance. It is possible that the cost and schedule estimates were padded, which is against project management best practices. Regardless, analyzing and understanding the variances was not listed as an answer choice.

Details for Each Option:

A Submit a change request to increase funding for the project

Incorrect. The chart indicates that the earned value (EV) is currently exceeding the actual costs (AC). Thus, the project is running under budget and is trending to complete under budget.

Therefore, there is no reason to request additional funds for the project.

B Look for options to reduce costs and improve schedule performance to meet project objectives

Incorrect. Based on the chart, the earned value (EV) is exceeding the actual costs (AC) and the planned value (PV). Thus, the project is currently ahead of schedule and under budget. Although reducing costs and improving schedule performance is always a good thing, this action is not necessary to meet project objectives at this point.

C No immediate action is required in this case

Correct. It can be seen from the chart that the earned value (EV) is exceeding the actual costs (AC) and the planned value (PV). Thus, the project is currently ahead of schedule and under budget.

Therefore, no immediate action is necessary.

D Crash the schedule to bring it back into alignment with project objectives

Incorrect. Crashing is a technique used to shorten the schedule duration for the least incremental cost by adding resources. The chart indicates that the earned value (EV) is exceeding the planned value (PV). Thus, the project is currently running ahead of schedule. Therefore, there is no reason to incur the added cost and increase project risks by crashing the schedule to improve schedule performance.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.5 Plan and manage budget and resources

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 44

Hint: This technique uses a master services agreement (MSA) to document fixed items and a lightweight statement of work to capture items that will be elaborated as the project progresses.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The scenario implies the project is in the Plan Procurement Management process. When some aspects of the procurement are well-defined up-front but others are unknown, the parties to the contract may use a multi-tiered contract structure. This contracting technique allows for capturing various aspects of the procurement in different documents. For example, mostly fixed items, such as warranties and arbitration, can be locked in a master services agreement (MSA), while more dynamic items, such as scope, schedule, and budget, can be formalized in a lightweight statement of work. While the scenario does not provide specific details as to what items are fixed and what are variable, of the choices provided, the multi-tiered structure best addresses the question asked. This structure reflects a hybrid project management approach in which part of the procurement is managed using predictive methods, while the other part is addressed with agile contracting techniques.

Details for Each Option:

A Multi-tiered structure

Correct. A multi-tiered structure is an agile or hybrid contracting technique that best works for procurements in which some aspects are well-defined up-front while others are unknown. This technique uses a master services agreement (MSA) to document fixed items and a lightweight statement of work to capture those that are yet to be discovered

B Cost plus award fee

Incorrect. Cost plus award fee is an example of a cost-reimbursable contract in which the seller is reimbursed based on specific criteria. This choice is an incorrect answer for two reasons: first, cost plus award fee is a contract, not a contracting technique, as asked by the question. Second, it does not address the essence of the question, which focuses on how to contractually handle a procurement that has requirements of a various degree of clarity.

C Procurement audit

Incorrect. A procurement audit is one of the tools and techniques of the Control Procurements process. The audit is a structured review of the procurement process rather than a contracting technique used to address the uncertainty of requirements during the Plan Procurement Management process, as described by the scenario.

D Request for quotation

Incorrect. Request for quotation (RFQ) is an example of a procurement document that is used as part of the Plan Procurement Management process to request price quotations from prospective sellers of common or standard goods or services. In the scenario, some of the goods/services are unknown and, hence, are not considered common or standard.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.11 Plan and manage procurement

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 45

Hint: The project manager will need to begin each iteration with processes from the Project Scope Management Knowledge Area.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

In the scenario described, a hybrid life cycle is selected for the project. Hybrid (or adaptive) projects are intended to respond to high levels of change and require close and consistent stakeholder engagement. Often the full scope of the project is not understood at the beginning of the project, or it evolves during the project. Therefore, the deliverables are developed over multiple iterations where a detailed scope is defined and approved at the beginning of each iteration. In a hybrid or adaptive life cycle, a high-level vision for the project is decomposed into an ordered list of requirements and work items which is contained in the backlog list. At the beginning of each iteration, the team determines how many of the items on the backlog list can be delivered with the iteration. Additionally, as the project progresses, new requirements/changes may be identified/requested. These actions are associated with the Collect Requirements process. The chosen requirements and work items from the backlog list are then used to define a detailed scope for that iteration, which is equivalent to the Define Scope process.

Details for Each Option:

A Processes are not performed on a hybrid project

Incorrect. According to the scenario, the project manager selects a hybrid life cycle. Hybrid projects incorporate elements of predictive projects and adaptive (agile) projects. Predictive projects are typically managed using project management processes. Therefore, stating that processes are not performed on a hybrid project would be unsubstantiated.

B Collect Requirements and Create WBS

Incorrect. With an adaptive/hybrid life cycle, the deliverables are produced over multiple iterations, and a detailed scope is defined for each iteration when it begins. However, either a backlog or a WBS is used to capture the work items. In the scenario, the project manager uses a backlog, therefore, the Create WBS process would not be performed.

C Identify Stakeholders and Close Project or Phase

Incorrect. It is possible that each iteration new stakeholders will join the project and existing stakeholders will leave it, warranting the team to perform the Identify Stakeholders process. However, the Close Project or Phase process should only be performed once at the end of the project, which will likely coincide with the last iteration, not each iteration.

D Collect Requirements and Define Scope

Correct. In an adaptive/hybrid life cycle, the deliverables are developed over multiple iterations. At the beginning of each iteration, the team determines how many backlog items can be delivered in the iteration (an equivalent of the Collect Requirements process) and define the scope of the Iteration (an equivalent of the Define Scope process).

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.8 Plan and manage scope

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 46

Hint: What project artifact describes how a project will be closed?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Since the pen design is ready to transition to the next phase, you can infer the scenario is in the Close Project or Phase process. A key action when closing a phase is transferring the ownership of your phase's intermediary deliverables to the proper group or organization tasked with using the output from your phase to meet the project objectives in their phase. You would consult the project management plan, specifically the subsidiary project life cycle description because it describes the series of phases that a project passes through from its initiation to its closure. While the PMBOK Guide does not explicitly state that the project management plan specifies 'who' in the next phase takes ownership of the deliverables from the previous phase, it is reasonable to assume that, of the choices given, only the project management plan is likely to have this information and is, therefore, the best answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A The project management plan

Correct. The project management plan defines the basis of all project work and how the work will be performed. Transferring the ownership of deliverables to the assigned stakeholders is done in accordance with the project management plan to facilitate project closures. The project management plan would indicate who will manage the next phase (and subsequent phases) in the development of the new ergonomic pen and would also identify the recipient of the final product.

B The final report

Incorrect. The final report provides a summary of the project performance, such as a summary level description of the project or phase, and objectives for scope, quality, cost, and schedule as well as validation information for the output, a summary of risks/issues, and how the deliverable achieved business objectives. The final report does not include information on who will take ownership of the project or phase output.

C The scope statement

Incorrect. The project scope statement is created during project planning and includes the description of the project scope, major deliverables, and exclusions. The project scope does not indicate what group or organization the final pen design will transfer to at the completion of a project phase.

D The communications management plan

Incorrect. The communications management plan describes how, when, and by whom information about the project will be administered and distributed. The communications management plan may include communication protocols with the group(s) or organization(s) who will take ownership of the project deliverables, but it does not explicitly state the transfer of ownership from phase-to-phase or who the recipient of the final output would be at the end of the project.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.9 Integrate project planning activities

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 47

Hint: Effective negotiation involves finding mutual solutions within project constraints.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Proposing alternatives that balance project constraints and stakeholder objectives reflects a collaborative negotiation strategy and ensures project success.

The correct approach to resolving a conflict between a stakeholder's objective and project constraints is to propose alternative solutions that create a win-win situation. The project manager should act as a mediator, ensuring the stakeholder's concerns are addressed without compromising the project's success.

Why is this the best approach? A collaborative negotiation strategy fosters trust and encourages stakeholder engagement and buy-in. It ensures that project constraints (scope, schedule, budget, and quality) are respected while compromising where feasible. This approach mitigates risks associated with excessive stakeholder influence or rigid constraint adherence. A project manager must balance stakeholder expectations and project realities, focusing on mutual gains rather than unilateral decisions.

Details for Each Option:

A Propose alternative solutions that align with the project's constraints while partially addressing the stakeholder's objective.

Correct. This approach prioritizes collaboration and project constraints by proposing alternative solutions that align with the project's constraints while partially addressing the stakeholders objective. The project manager demonstrates leadership, adaptability, and problem-solving skills by negotiating alternatives. This maintains the stakeholder relationship while ensuring project feasibility. This is the best approach because it considers stakeholder needs and project constraints.

B Prioritize the stakeholder's objective over the project constraints to maintain the relationship.

Incorrect. Prioritizing the stakeholder's objective without considering constraints jeopardizes the project. While stakeholder relationships are essential, ignoring project constraints can lead to scope creep, cost overruns, and schedule delays. A project manager must balance stakeholder expectations with feasibility, not bindly accommodate requests.

C End the negotiation and escalate the issue to the project sponsor for resolution.

Incorrect. Escalation should be the last resort in negotiation. A competent project manager should attempt to resolve conflicts independently through effective communication and problem-solving. Unnecessarily escalating issues can reduce the project manager's credibility and burden higher-level management with avoidable issues.

D Accept the stakeholder's demands and revise the project plan accordingly.

Incorrect. Accepting demands without analysis can lead to unrealistic project commitments. Accepting demands without evaluating impacts on constraints, feasibility, and risks can lead to unrealistic commitments. This approach compromises project integrity and sets a precedent for stakeholder-driven scope changes. It can create conflicts with other stakeholders and Impact project performance and deliverables.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.8 Negotiate project agreements

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 48

Hint: ISO 9000 standards represent a set of industry standards, which are widely followed by organizations.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The question implies that the project manager is performing the Manage Quality process by implementing the quality management plan. Tailoring considerations for the quality management processes include standards and regulatory compliance, among others. The question states that an internal audit uncovered a discrepancy with International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9000 standards. ISO 9000 represents a set of industry standards, which are widely followed by organizations. Many organizations have policies requiring adherence to ISO quality standards as an ISO certified organization. The tailoring consideration of standards and regulatory compliance includes industry standards of which ISO 9000 is an example. The fact that the discrepancy was uncovered during an internal audit implies that the performing organization complies with ISO 9000 standards, otherwise there would be no reason to include this review in an audit.

Therefore, of the available choices, the project manager most likely neglected the tailoring consideration of standards and regulatory compliance earlier in the project.

Details for Each Option:

A Continuous improvement

Incorrect. Continuous improvement should be integrated into the quality management plan for any project. However, the question is asking about compliance with industry standards (ISO 9000 in this case), which is unrelated to continuous Improvement.

B Standards and regulatory compliance

Correct. ISO 9000 represents a set of Industry standards, which are widely followed by organizations. Although not required by law, many organizations have policies requiring adherence to ISO 9000 quality standards. The tailoring consideration of standards and regulatory compliance includes industry standards such as ISO 9000 standard's

C Project life cycle

Incorrect. Project life cycle addresses what phases, if any, should comprise the project. ISO 9000 represents Industry standards, which exist independently of project life cycle.

D Since the project meets all applicable government regulations, nothing was missed earlier in the project

Incorrect. Even if not required by law, following ISO 9000 standards may be required by company policy. Therefore, adhering to ISO 9000 standards may still be a project requirement. The fact that the discrepancy was uncovered during an internal audit implies that the performing organization compiles with ISO 9000 standards. Otherwise, there would be no reason to include this review in the audit.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 3. Business Environment

Task: 3.1 Plan and manage project compliance

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 49

Hint: Are the quality activities working?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

The scenario describes the Manage Quality process. This process is sometimes called quality assurance. Manage Quality is the process of translating the quality management plans into executable quality activities. These activities can ideally be performed by anyone on the team with the proper training, guidance, and tools. In this scenario, the tools and methods used by the quality assurance lead for the quality activities have been working well. Any data captured from the activities can be used and analyzed to report the status of the project quality and control the quality, as needed. It is important for the project to continue these activities as part of the Manage Quality process throughout the project. Unfortunately, the project can not use its current subject matter expert (SME) but should seek alternatives, such as reassigning another resource to the task(s). In any case, the quality activities should not cease or pause due to a resource change. Therefore, of the available options, assigning another team member to carry out the originally planned quality activities is the best answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A Submit a change request to adjust the cost baseline and the schedule baseline

Incorrect. While it is reasonable to assume that some of the project work will be impacted by the departure of the QA lead, there is not enough information in the question to determine if the cost or schedule baseline will need to be modified. It is possible that the project has contingency reserves allocated for this risk (if it was identified during project planning) or another QA specialist can be acquired to fulfill the role. Anyway, without having more information, one can only speculate about the need for the change request

B Request the team to develop replacement quality activities

Incorrect. The quality management has been working well. There is no indication that the quality activities need to change.

C Assign another team member to carry out the originally planned quality activities

Correct. The quality activities are working and should continue. Since the question does not indicate that the QA lead possesses unique knowledge, another project team member can take over conducting these activities; or if one on the team is not available or does not possess even basic quality assurance skills, the project manager may need to acquire an outside resource for this activity.

D Pause quality activities until the QA lead returns to the project

Incorrect. The QA lead has been reassigned to another project. The timeline for the QA lead's return is unknown or may not happen at all. Suspending quality activities does not assure the quality of the project continues.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.4 Empower team members and stakeholders

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 50

Hint: It is the document that justified the project.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

A business case contains a documented economic feasibility study used to establish the validity of the benefits of a selected component lacking sufficient definition, and that is used as a basis for the authorization of further project management activities. The business case has a complete cost-benefit analysis for the project. It can provide the project manager with all the initial information used to justify the project, allowing the project manager to re-run the cost-benefit analysis substituting the initial costs with the actual costs.

Details for Each Option:

A From the customer

Incorrect. The question is taken from the perspective of the supplier. The customer will be aware of the price charged by the supplier but will not likely have any relevant information on the vendor's costs and cost-benefit analysis for the project. The data for a cost-benefit analysis, including conditions that were known at the start of the project, are included in the vendors business documents.

B The project charter

Incorrect. The project charter defines success criteria and other measurable objectives but is not likely to have the complete cost-benefit analysis.

C The business case

Correct. The business case has the complete cost-benefit analysis for the project. It can provide the project manager with all the initial information used to justify the project.

D The benefits management plan

Incorrect. The benefits management plan explains the processes for creating, maximizing, and sustaining the benefits provided by a project or program. It outlines the benefits of all projects and how they are to be maintained beyond the completion of the project. It does not have the cost-benefit analysis.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 3. Business Environment

Task: 3.2 Evaluate and deliver project benefits and value

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 51

Hint: What would a servant leader most likely be doing?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Agile project management approach emphasizes servant leadership as a way to empower teams. Unlike traditional managers, agile leaders encourage their teams to be self-organizing, self-directing, and empowered to make their own decisions. In other words, agile leaders enable their team members to act upon decisions the teams are making. Managers in an agile environment practice servant leadership by supporting and encouraging others in their endeavors so that they can perform at their highest level and continue to improve.

Details for Each Option:

A

Enabling team members to act

Correct. Agile managers are servant leaders who lead through service to the team by focusing on understanding and addressing the needs and the development of team members in order to enable the highest possible team performance.

B

Solving problems for the team

Incorrect. Solving problems for the team is more typical of a traditional manager than an agile leader. Agile encourages its leaders to empower teams to solve problems for themselves. If the team members, after several attempts, are unable to find a solution, an agile leader may consider stepping in and help.

C

Creating working agreements

Incorrect. A working agreement is a set of rules by which team members operate. For example, the team can establish the criteria for what "done" means to judge the completeness of a product increment; the team can decide to use the work-in-progress (WIP) limits, respect the timebox, etc. The main point here is that it is the team members, not agile leaders, who create working agreements.

D

Handling uncertainties and risks

Incorrect. Both agile and traditional managers have to handle uncertainties and risks. Therefore, this choice does not describe how agile leaders differ from traditional managers.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.4 Empower team members and stakeholders

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 52

Hint: eXtreme Programming (XP) is known for the practice of pair programming.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The question describes a project that will use a hybrid approach by combining predictive and eXtreme Programming (XP) project management frameworks. XP is most commonly associated with software development but might be used for other types of deliverables, as well. One of the hallmarks of XP is the use of pair programming. With pair programming, two members of the development work in tandem, where one writes the code, and the other reviews each line of code as it is entered. The two programmers then switch roles frequently. Since there is a budgetary constraint that does not permit the development team members to be physically colocated, you, as the project manager, will need to provide accommodations to support XP practices, including pair programming. Additionally, the members of the predictive team will need to collaborate with each other, and both teams will likely need to coordinate their activities. Providing video conferencing capabilities will support the collaboration requirements in a virtual environment.

Details for Each Option:

A Documenting collaboration requirements of the XP team in the communications management plan

Incorrect. extreme Programming (XP) is one of the methodologies that falls under the agile umbrella. Agile teams do not typically require a communications management plan as the communication methods are inherent in the agile ceremonies. Although a communications management plan might or might not be helpful for the XP team, it is not the most critical element of the options provided that should be prioritized.

B Setting up remote pairing for the XP team and providing video conferencing capabilities for both teams

Correct. One of the primary practices associated with extreme Programming (XP) is pair programming. A project manager will need to replicate this practice in a virtual environment. Additionally, the predictive team members will need to collaborate with each other, and both teams will likely need to coordinate their activities. Providing video conferencing capabilities will support the collaboration requirements in a virtual environment.

C Allocating dedicated portions of the offices to support the caves and common practice for both teams

Incorrect. A caves and common approach is a method of delineating workspace, so a development team has a common area for close collaboration and private areas where team members can work without distractions. Although one might argue that caves and common can be recreated in a virtual environment, this approach is typically employed when teams are collocated, which is not the case in this scenario.

D No specific considerations are required as both teams can learn to collaborate as they do their job

Incorrect. It is possible that the teams will eventually collaborate. However, with all team members being geographically distributed and each team following different project management approaches, it is highly unlikely to count on this outcome.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.10 Ensure knowledge transfer for project continuity

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 53

Hint: What are the roles and responsibilities of a project manager on an agile team?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

When the intensity of an argument reaches a point where a positive outcome is unlikely, the project manager should use the opportunity to coach the team towards an effective and productive solution. An effective and skilled project manager can accomplish this without 'managing' the team. The project manager should help by using facilitation and coaching. This facilitation can involve getting the entire team together to come to a consensus on the most appropriate iteration length or helping to create a safe environment for the team members to have the discussion. For example, the project manager could suggest the team members discuss the pros and cons of each suggested iteration length to help the team reach a consensus.

Details for Each Option:

A Avoid being involved in the process and let the team work out toward a consensus

Incorrect. According to the scenario, the argument between the team members is intense, with little chance to reach a consensus, warranting the involvement of the project manager. Avoiding being involved in the process would unlikely help in achieving a positive outcome.

B Recommend evaluating the pros and cons of each one of the suggested iteration lengths

Correct. When an argument reaches an impasse, and a positive outcome is unlikely, the project manager should facilitate the discussion between the involved parties so they can reach an agreement. Providing the pros and cons of each one of the suggested iteration lengths would likely soften the tension and bring the discussion down to a reasonable level.

C Threaten the team with disciplinary actions if they are unable to come to an agreement

Incorrect. It is quite evident that threatening the team members with disciplinary actions if they are unable to come to an agreement is not the best course of action for any manager/leader, especially on agile projects. This answer choice can be eliminated as being unreasonable and seen as over-reaction.

D Break the impasse by making the decision for the team before relationships are damaged

Incorrect. Agile teams are self-organizing and self-directing and must be able to decide on the iteration length. At times, when the situation warrants so, an external "force" such as a project manager may step in and make the decision for the team. However, according to the scenario, the discussion has not (yet) reached the level of conflict where there is a risk of relationships to be damaged that would warrant the intervention of an outside party.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.1 Manage conflict

PM Approach: Agile / Hybrid

Question 54

Hint: How is the product scope decomposed on an agile project?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

The scenario suggests that the product owner is using a waterfall approach to decompose the product scope, whereas the question indicates that an agile project management framework is being used. In a traditional waterfall project, the project scope is decomposed down to the work package level to create the work breakdown structure (WBS). On agile projects, on the other hand, the product scope is captured in the product backlog, which evolves throughout the course of the project. Agile best practices recommend that teams allocate no more than one hour per week for backlog refinement. Such an approach would allow the team to maximize the time spent developing the product increment rather than creating a detailed plan. Instead of attempting to present an updated WBS every week, the product owner should just present the overall story concept to the team and then spend no more than an hour refining the stories. This approach will free up time for the team, thus improving velocity.

Details for Each Option:

A Ask the product owner to decompose the scope down to the task level and assign the tasks to the team members

Incorrect. With an agile project, the product owner prioritizes the backlog and sets the iteration goal. However, it is the development team, not the product owner, who determines the tasks that are required to complete the iteration goal.

B Advise the product owner to hold two five-hour backlog refinement meetings per week to gain further clarity on the scope

Incorrect. Agile best practices suggest that teams allocate no more than one hour per week for backlog refinement to maximize the time spent developing the product increment rather than doing the planning. Increasing the frequency of the meetings from once to twice a week would only further negatively impact the team's velocity.

C Coach the product owner on presenting the overall story concept with one-hour weekly backlog refinement meetings

Correct. Rather than attempting to present an updated WBS every week, the product owner should just present the overall story concept to the team and then spend no more than an hour refining the stories. Agile teams strive to maximize time for the actual development of the product increment rather than building detailed plans.

D Hold a team-building exercise with the team members and product owner to improve the communication between them

Incorrect. The scenario does not suggest that there is a communication issue between the team members and the product owner warranting a team-building exercise. The essence of the question lies with the scope management approach rather than stakeholder interactions and/or communication.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.1 Execute project with the urgency required to deliver business value

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 55

Hint: How might one best determine stakeholder expectations?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Project leaders should build quality into processes and deliverables. Quality is the degree to which a set of inherent characteristics of a product, service, or result, fulfills the requirements. Once the project charter has been approved, one of the first activities for an agile leader is to determine the project requirements and acceptance criteria. The project requirements will influence the remainder of project planning and the rest of the project. Requirements can be derived from stakeholders, contracts, organizational policies, standards, or regulatory bodies. A requirements gathering meeting among relevant stakeholders is one method of determining the project's requirements, from which quality activities can be derived. Hence, of the choices provided, conducting a requirements gathering meeting with the relevant stakeholders is the best answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A Determine the acceptance criteria by reviewing the detailed requirements outlined in the project charter
Incorrect. The project charter should contain high-level requirements but would not typically outline the project's 'detailed' requirements. The project charter alone would not likely have sufficiently detailed information regarding the project's requirements to properly determine the acceptance criteria and derive the appropriate quality standards.

B Create a work breakdown structure (WBS) by decomposing the work down to the work package level

Incorrect. A WBS is a hierarchical decomposition of the total work required to create the project's deliverables. A WBS is a common element associated with predictive projects but is not typically used on agile projects, like the one implied by the scenario. More importantly, the project requirements must be determined before a WBS can be created.

C Conduct a requirements gathering meeting with relevant stakeholders and determine acceptance criteria

Correct. Once the project charter has been approved, one of the first objectives of the agile leader is to determine the project requirements and document the acceptance criteria to derive quality needs. A requirements gathering meeting is one method of determining the requirements that, in turn, will influence the remainder of the project.

D Develop a graphical representation of the logical relationships among the various project activities

Incorrect. This answer choice describes the project schedule network diagram. A network diagram would typically be developed when employing a traditional waterfall project rather than an agile project, as is suggested in the scenario. Besides, the project requirements would need to be gathered before project activities can be determined.

Exam Content Outline:

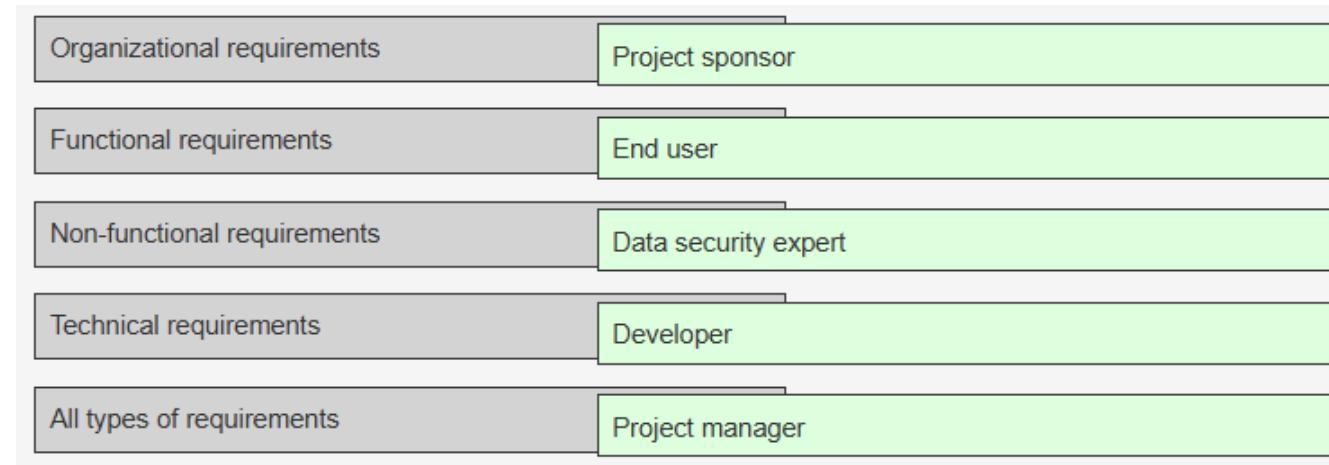
Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.7 Plan and manage quality of products/deliverables

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 56

Hint: Which stakeholders are interested in product-specific features? Who is mostly concerned with organizational interfaces? Who could help fulfilling security requirements?



Explanation:

Theoretically, any of the stakeholders can be interested in any of the various requirement types. While this can definitely be true in real-life situations, the idea, while taking the exam, is to find the 'best match' even if it does not look/sound to be a perfect/ideal combination.

For example, project sponsors are commonly high-ranking managers who endorse and provide political support for the completion of a project; therefore, a project sponsor would likely be interested in organizational requirements being met.

Those who will use the project deliverables (e.g., the software product developed by the project) are primarily interested in the product features; hence, the functional requirements are likely to be the central interest of the end users.

The foremost concern of data security experts is to make sure the product meets security requirements, policies, and regulations, making non-functional requirements the best match for their area of interest/expertise.

Project team members, such as developers, may be interested to see that the technical requirements are properly implemented.

For project managers, seeing the whole picture is their main focus.

Exam Content Outline: Domain: 2. Process / Task: 2.4 Engage stakeholders / PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 57

Hint: What becomes more challenging in a virtual environment?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Communication planning becomes increasingly important in a virtual team environment. Additional time may be needed to set clear expectations, facilitate communications, develop protocols for resolving conflict, include people in decision making, understand cultural differences, and share credit for success. When the project team is located in the same physical space, communication is much easier and more effective. Face-to-face communication is richer and is the most effective form of communication. Tone and non-verbal communication may be lost in a virtual environment. Additionally, virtual teams lack the intangible benefits of colocated teams who are able to bond more easily and become more cohesive. Therefore, communication planning will require special consideration while working with a virtual team.

Details for Each Option:

A Project expenses

Incorrect. One of the advantages of the team members working from their home offices as a virtual team is the expense savings associated with offices and physical equipment needed for employees if they were working in the company's offices. Therefore, project expenses are not a special consideration for a virtual team, making this choice an incorrect response.

B Communication planning

Correct. Communication planning becomes increasingly important in a virtual team environment. Additional time may be needed to set clear expectations, facilitate communications, develop protocols for resolving conflict, include people in decision making, understand cultural differences, and share credit for success. Therefore, communication planning should be specifically considered while the work is performed by a virtual team.

C Pre-assigned team members

Incorrect. When physical or team resources for a project are determined in advance, they are considered pre-assigned. Whether or not the project team members were pre-assigned has no bearing on the team operating in a virtual environment. Therefore, this answer can be eliminated.

D Team members with disabilities or mobility issues

Incorrect. The question states the team members will be allowed to work from their home offices. Therefore, individuals with disabilities or mobility issues will be able to work from home without a need to commute to their local office. Thus, no special considerations should be taken into account with the use of a virtual team when some of the team members have disabilities or mobility issues.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.11 Engage and support virtual teams

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 58

Hint: With incremental lifecycle, the product is reviewed as an increment is completed.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

The scenario indicates that the product development phase of the project will follow an incremental project lifecycle, and suggests that the dealer training and product rollout will take a predictive approach. This situation implies that the project, as a whole, will adopt a hybrid project management framework. With the product development phase following an incremental model, the product increments can be released as they are completed. In this situation, a product demonstration should be conducted once the product increment has been developed. Having the dealers attend the product demonstrations virtually will allow the dealers to view the product increment and provide their feedback while minimizing the impact on the dealer's regular responsibilities.

Details for Each Option:

A Suggest that the dealers attend the biweekly iteration retrospective meetings

Incorrect. An iteration retrospective is a meeting aimed to learn about, improve, and adapt the process the team uses to develop the product/service of the project. Those meetings are not used to obtain feedback for the product.

B Collect requirements upfront and develop a detailed WBS for product development

Incorrect. Collecting comprehensive requirements upfront and developing a detailed WBS for the product should be done when using a predictive project management framework. However, the scenario stipulates that the product will be developed using an incremental project lifecycle. Therefore, requirements and scope will be progressively elaborated rather than planned in advance.

C Invite the dealers to attend product demonstrations via video conference

Correct. Since the team is virtual and the dealers are dispersed nationwide, virtual tools will be needed for collaboration. Having the dealers attend the product demonstrations virtually would allow the dealers to provide feedback with minimal disruption to their regular duties.

D Colocate the dealers with some of the developers for the duration of the project

Incorrect. Colocating the dealers with the development team would certainly enhance collaboration and provide maximum opportunity for the dealers to provide feedback to the development team. However, it is unclear as to how realistic and beneficial would it be to remove the dealers from their locations for the duration of the project and colocate them with some of the development team members who are also not colocated as a team.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.11 Engage and support virtual teams

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 59

Hint: There is more knowledge about the product and the work needed to develop it. However, technology is new and evolving.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

The scenario covers the subject of estimating for projects that use an adaptive development approach, as evident by the existence of the backlog and the fact the product is being produced in a series of sprints. Estimates are a quantitative assessment of the likely amount or outcome of a variable, such as project costs, resources, effort, or duration. As the project unfolds, the estimates can change based on the knowledge the team gains about the product and the work involved in developing it. Range, accuracy, and confidence are some of the aspects of estimating. At the start of the project, when little information is available, the range of the estimates will be relatively broad. As the project unfolds and the team becomes more experienced, the range of estimates will become narrower. Accuracy refers to the correctness of an estimate and is linked to the range: the lower the accuracy, the larger the potential range. Therefore, an estimate developed halfway through the project, such as described by the scenario, will be more accurate than the one provided at the start of the project. Confidence is less intuitive than the range and/or accuracy. Generally, confidence increases with experience. Experience working on a previous, similar project can help with the level of confidence. For new and evolving technologies, the confidence in estimates is expected to remain similar or low. Since the scenario describes a project that will use new and evolving technology, the experience the team gains developing the product is "negated" by the evolving technology, thus keeping the team from providing a confident estimate. Therefore, under the circumstances provided in the scenario, the team will provide an estimate that will most likely have a narrower range, greater accuracy, but similar (low) confidence.

Details for Each Option:

A Wider range, greater accuracy, higher confidence

Incorrect. As the project unfolds and the team members gain more knowledge about the product, the team will be able to provide a more accurate estimate. However, greater accuracy means a narrower, not wider, range. For new and evolving technologies, like the one described in the scenario, the confidence is expected to stay low, not higher.

B Narrower range, poorer accuracy, lower confidence

Incorrect. With some work completed and more knowledge about the product gained, the accuracy of the team's estimates will be greater, not poorer. The range will be narrower. Since the team uses new and evolving technology to develop the product, the exact effect on the confidence of the estimate is unclear. It may remain the same or get lower.

C Same range, same accuracy, same confidence

Incorrect. It is unreasonable to assume that after completing several sprints and gaining knowledge about the product and work involved in developing the deliverables, all aspects of estimates will remain the same as they were at the start of the project when little information was available. Therefore, this choice is unlikely to represent a correct answer.

D Narrower range, greater accuracy, similar confidence

Correct. Estimates provided at the start of the project, when little is known about the product, tend to be broad and less accurate. As the project unfolds, the range of estimates narrows, and accuracy increases. However, confidence may remain low or similar since the team is using new technology that evolves as the project progresses.

Question 60

Hint: What should be adjusted with strict budget requirements and when?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

The scenario describes a software development project where the product will be delivered incrementally, but the scope, schedule, and cost will be managed using baselines in combination with agile release planning, implying the project as a whole is carried out using a hybrid project management approach. Agile release planning provides a high-level summary timeline of the release schedule. When a product is developed incrementally based on the release plan, iteration and release review meetings can be used by the team and stakeholders to inspect the completed product increments regularly. During these meetings, requirements are refined for future activities, and the release plan and key variables can be adjusted. In hybrid projects with strict budget constraints, like the project described in the scenario, these adjustments would be applied to scope and schedule, thus helping the project manager to determine the budget based on realistic plans. In other words, the information in the release plan will serve as an input to the review meetings with stakeholders, which, in turn, may help the project manager determine the project budget.

Details for Each Option:

A The release plan can become a part of the cost management plan.

Incorrect. The cost management plan describes how the project costs will be planned, structured, and controlled. Release plans are typically used on more agile or hybrid projects and are not part of the cost management plan.

B The velocity can be increased for the project to stay within budget constraints.

Incorrect. The velocity is the rate at which deliverables are produced, validated, and accepted per iteration. Increasing the velocity unreasonably can negatively affect the project team and eventually result in a drop in productivity. It's unclear how increasing velocity may help the project manager determine the project budget.

C Release burndown charts can be updated with cost trend lines.

Incorrect. Burndown charts are used to visualize the remaining effort towards a specific goal. In the case of a release burndown chart, the goal is the completion of a release. A trend line in a burndown chart projects a likely completion date for the effort remaining, based on current progress. The trendline shows the time by which remaining work is estimated to be done, rather than information related to costs.

D Review meetings with stakeholders can be used to discuss the scope and schedule.

Correct. The scenario describes a hybrid project. When agile or hybrid projects are subject to strict budgets, the scope and schedule are often adjusted to stay within cost constraints. Review meetings with stakeholders may expose additional information that can be used to refine requirements, resulting in updates to the release plan and adjustments to the key release-planning variables.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.5 Plan and manage budget and resources

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 61

Hint: Which document formally authorizes the existence of a project?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

The project charter is a document developed during the Initiating Process Group that formally authorizes the existence of a project and provides the project manager with the authority to apply organizational resources to project activities. In other words, the project charter is utilized as a catalyst for the project to move forward which is what is described in the scenario. The project charter is typically developed by an entity external to the project, such as the project initiator or sponsor, and is the primary output of the Develop Project Charter process. For these reasons, the project charter is the best answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A The business case

Incorrect. The business case is a feasibility study that determines whether the project is economically advantageous to the company. The business case lists the reasons and objectives for project initiation and is an input to the Develop Project Charter process. The development of the business case precedes the initiation process of a project and therefore cannot be an output of an initiation process.

B The scope statement

Incorrect. The scope statement is a detailed description of the project and the product the project will deliver. As an output of the Define Scope process, which is a planning process, the scope statement is developed by the project team and not someone external to the project

C The project charter

Correct. The project charter is a document developed during the Initiating Process Group that formally authorizes the existence of a project. An output of the Develop Project Charter process, the project charter is issued by someone external to the project and provides the project manager with the authority to apply organizational resources to project activities. Therefore, the project charter is the correct answer to the question asked.

D The approved project plan

Incorrect. The term 'approved project plan' typically refers to the project management plan which defines the way a project will be executed, monitored and controlled, and closed. The project management plan is developed during the Planning Process Group by the project manager and the project team and, therefore, does not describe the document mentioned in the scenario.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.4 Empower team members and stakeholders

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 62

Hint: Which characteristic is consistent with agile practices?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Project leaders should embrace adaptability and resiliency. Adaptability refers to the ability to respond to changing conditions, while resiliency is the ability to absorb impacts and recover quickly from a setback or failure. In the scenario, the organization operates in the high-tech industry with new technologies emerging every few months, and the project is expected to have unstable requirements for its entire duration. Adaptive (agile) methodologies are best suited to projects with unstable requirements. A predictive framework typically requires the project to be planned in detail upfront, and changes are tightly controlled. Thus, a predictive framework works well when the requirements are well understood up front and are not likely to change. Conversely, an iterative and incremental life cycle incorporates planning, execution, and feedback within each iteration permitting the requirements and deliverables to be progressively elaborated. Short feedback loops are a fundamental component of agile projects. Integrating short feedback loops into the project workflow enhances adaptability and resiliency by ensuring that the project team can collect fast and frequent feedback from relevant stakeholders and increases the opportunities to adapt to emerging technologies and changes.

Details for Each Option:

A Expediting decision making to occur at the first possible moment

Incorrect. Adaptability is enhanced by deferring decision-making to the last responsible moment. By deferring decision making, more information and alternatives to discuss will be available by the time a decision must be made. Making a decision too early could cause the team to pursue a less than optimal approach with an increased risk of rework

B Acquiring project team members with a highly specialized set of skills

Incorrect. Project teams with broad skill sets, rather than narrow, will enhance adaptability and resiliency. For example, a software development project would benefit from individuals with coding experience as well as knowledge in testing, integration, and business analysis. Having highly specialized team members may lead to bottlenecks.

C Limiting the exposure to tacit knowledge and leveraging explicit knowledge

Incorrect. Tacit knowledge is personal knowledge that can be difficult to articulate and share. Explicit knowledge is the type of knowledge that can be codified using symbols. Both types of knowledge are beneficial for projects. Limiting one type at the expense of another is unlikely to support the adaptability and resiliency of the project.

D Incorporating short feedback loops to adapt the product and process quickly

Correct. Incorporating short feedback loops into the team's workflow enables the team to adapt quickly. This approach ensures that the project team collects fast and frequent feedback from the relevant stakeholders and increases the opportunities to adapt to emerging technologies on a project that is expected to have unstable requirements.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.13 Determine appropriate project methodology/methods and practices

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 63

Hint: What is typically included in the first release of an agile project?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

The use of an extreme Programming (XP) method to develop the tool and waterfall to deploy it suggests that the project is managed using a hybrid project management approach. An MVP (minimum viable product, or sometimes called a minimal viable product) is a functioning product but contains the least development that will satisfy early adopters. An MVP might be used to gather feedback from a subset of customers that can then influence the development of the remainder of the fully functioning product. Additionally, an MVP allows the organization to get the product to market in the shortest timeframe to gain market share and start generating revenue. Although the deployment of the tool will be managed using waterfall, the best course of action in this scenario to obtain early customer feedback is to plan for the development of an MVP, which will be released to a subset of customers.

Details for Each Option:

A Develop the complete set of features and showcase it at a developer's conference

Incorrect. The question states that the team needs to gather customer feedback as soon as possible. Completing the entire feature set would delay the acquisition of customer feedback beyond what is necessary. Additionally, getting customer feedback after the product has been completed in its entirety would expose the project to unnecessary rework in order to incorporate the customers' feedback.

B Create a wireframe for the public to use and provide feedback

Incorrect. A wireframe is not an actual working product as requested by the question, not even a prototype. A wireframe is a basic visual representation of the product that has no functionality and, therefore, cannot be used by the target audience to provide feedback sought by the project manager in the scenario described.

C Plan for the development of an MVP for a release to a subset of customers

Correct. An MVP (minimum, or minimal, viable product) is a functioning product but contains the least development that will satisfy early adopters. An MVP might be used to gather feedback from a subset of customers that can then help direct and adjust the development of the remainder of the fully-functioning product

D Perform decomposition to create the work breakdown structure

Incorrect. Decomposition is used to create the work breakdown structure (WBS), which is a breakdown of the total scope of work required to produce the project's deliverables. A WBS is typically used on traditional projects where most of the requirements are known upfront. On agile projects, requirements are frequently defined a short time before the beginning of an iteration. Creating the WBS makes little sense if the product will be changed based on users' feedback

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.1 Execute project with the urgency required to deliver business value

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 64

Hint: How should the project manager compare actual results against targets?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Technical performance analysis compares technical accomplishments during project execution to the schedule of technical achievement. It requires the definition of objective, quantifiable measures of technical performance, which can be used to compare actual results against targets. Such technical performance measures may include weight, transaction times, number of delivered defects, storage capacity, etc. In this scenario, technical performance analysis should be used to compare actual results, such as delivered defects, against performance targets. The next logical step is to conduct technical performance analysis.

Details for Each Option:

A Schedule a release retrospective

Incorrect. A release retrospective is a scheduled review to record lessons learned from a release. Knowledge gained may include the effectiveness of a risk response to a realized risk. However, an analysis must first be performed on the data regarding delivered defects before any conclusions can be drawn regarding the effectiveness of the risk response.

B Complete a sensitivity analysis

Incorrect. Sensitivity analysis is an analysis technique to determine which individual project risks or other sources of uncertainty have the most potential impact on project outcomes, by correlating variations in project outcomes with variations in elements of a quantitative risk analysis model. A sensitivity analysis is not used to determine the effectiveness of a risk response.

C Conduct technical performance analysis

Correct. Technical performance analysis can be used to compare actual results, such as delivered defects, against targets. The results of the technical performance analysis can provide context for the raw data that has been collected.

D Perform a reserve analysis

Incorrect. Reserve analysis may be performed to determine if the remaining reserves are sufficient for the risk remaining in the project. The question is asking about the effectiveness of a risk response rather than an evaluation of the remaining reserves.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.3 Assess and manage risks

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 65

Hint: Hybrid projects combine elements of both predictive and agile methods.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Predictive project life cycles are characterized by an emphasis on the specification of requirements and detailed planning during the beginning phases of a project. Agile life cycles, on the other hand, are characterized by the progressive elaboration of requirements based on short iterative planning and executing cycles. Projects that are managed using hybrid methods combine elements of both approaches. Depending on how well or poorly the requirements are defined at the beginning of the project, the elaboration of requirements on hybrid projects will tend to either the predictive or agile side of the project life cycle continuum. In any case, requirements on hybrid projects will be elaborated at periodic intervals during delivery, with the time between the intervals being dependent on the level of detail of the requirements.

Details for Each Option:

A

Defined during the transition to the customer

Incorrect. Defining requirements during the transition to the customer make no sense. Requirements should be either defined up-front as it's done with traditionally managed projects or, at least, drafted at the beginning of the project and then progressively elaborated (with iterative projects) or at the beginning of each iteration (with agile projects).

B

Elaborated at periodic intervals during delivery

Correct. When a hybrid life cycle is selected for a project, requirements can be roughly defined up-front and then elaborated at periodic intervals during delivery. Depending on the way requirements are specified, the project hybrid life cycle may tend to be either more predictive or agile.

C

Defined up-front before development begins

Incorrect. Requirements are defined up-front before development begins in predictive, not hybrid, project life cycles. Such up-front planning is possible when requirements are stable and are unlikely to change significantly as the project progresses.

D

Elaborated as often as needed during delivery

Incorrect. Requirements are elaborated as often as needed during delivery in agile, not hybrid, project life cycles. Typically requirements on agile projects are vague, and only high-level knowledge about the product exists. Requirements are elaborated as often as needed as more information becomes available.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.13 Determine appropriate project methodology/methods and practices

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 66

Hint: What other information should be recorded in the issue log?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Based on the scenario described, the project is in the Monitor and Control Project Work process. The question implies that the project manager is reviewing the issue log, which is an input to this process. The question indicates a new issue has been recorded. The issue log is a project document where information about issues is captured and monitored. According to the scenario, the information already recorded in the issue log includes the name of the person who raised the issue, the date the issue was captured, and a description of the issue. Other information that should be documented in the issue log includes the name of the person assigned to the issue, priority of the issue, target resolution date, status, and final resolution. The question indicates that corrective action is required, therefore, of the available choices, the next logical step for the project manager is to assign a responsible party to follow up on the issue so it can be addressed and then record that information in the issue log.

Details for Each Option:

A Assign a responsible party to follow up on the problem

Correct. The question implies that the project manager is reviewing the issue log, and a new issue was documented. The next logical step for the project manager is to assign a responsible party to follow up on the issue and record that information in the issue log.

B Record the disposition of the change request

Incorrect. The disposition of all change requests is captured in the change log. The question is describing the issue log as opposed to the change log, and the disposition of change requests is not recorded in the issue log. Additionally, the question does not provide any information suggesting a change request has been submitted.

C Send the project progress report to the stakeholders

Incorrect. Typically, the communications management plan would define how project communications will be planned, structured, implemented, and monitored for effectiveness. There is not enough information in the question to determine if this plan requires to send of the project progress report to stakeholders under the circumstances described in the scenario.

D Update the lessons learned register

Incorrect. Knowledge gained during the project should be captured in the lessons learned register to improve future performance on the project. However, based on the limited information available to the project manager, there are no lessons learned to be documented at this point. Additionally, the project manager should first seek to resolve the problem at hand before being concerned about updating the lessons learned register.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.15 Manage project issues

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 67

Hint: Which answer choice represents a cause-and-effect diagram?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Cause-and-effect diagrams are also known as fishbone diagrams, why why diagrams, or Ishikawa diagrams. This type of diagram breaks down the causes of the problem statement identified into discrete branches, helping to identify the main or root cause of the problem. Of the available choices, only the why-why diagram breaks down the causes of an identified problem into discrete branches.

Details for Each Option:

A

Pareto diagram

Incorrect. A Pareto diagram is a type of histogram which shows how many results were generated by each identified cause. While a Pareto diagram displays the causes of the problems, it does not break the causes down into discrete branches.

B

Matrix diagram

Incorrect. A matrix diagram is a quality management and control tool used to perform data analysis within the organizational structure created in the matrix. Matrix diagrams are not used to identify the cause of a problem.

C Tornado diagram

Incorrect. Tomato diagram is a special type of bar chart used in sensitivity analysis for comparing the relative Importance of the variables. Tomato diagrams have nothing to do with the cause-and-effect diagrams described in the scenario.

D Why why diagram

Correct. Cause-and-effect diagrams are also known as fishbone diagrams, why-why diagrams, or Ishikawa diagrams. This type of diagram breaks down the causes of the problem statement Identified into discrete branches, helping to identify the main or root cause of the problem.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.9 Integrate project planning activities

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 68

Hint: Which answer choice represents an activity that can only occur later in the project?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

The question states that the project charter is being developed, which occurs during project initiation. Brainstorming is a data gathering technique which may be useful in the development of the project charter. Brainstorming is a specialized meeting led by a facilitator which can be used to gather data and solutions or ideas from stakeholders, subject matter experts, and team members when developing the project charter. Note, the question is asking for the activity which is least likely to be conducted during the development of the project charter. The communications management plan is not created until later in the project during the Plan Communications Management process. Therefore, the project manager would not be able to follow the communications management plan in determining the meeting attendees, making this the least likely activity to be conducted in this scenario.

Details for Each Option:

A Inviting relevant stakeholders to attend the meeting

Incorrect. A stakeholder is an individual, group, or organization that may affect, be affected by, or perceive itself to be affected by a decision, activity, or outcome of a project. Since stakeholders have a vested interest in the project, it may be beneficial to seek their feedback to incorporate into the project charter.

B Ensuring that a software engineer joins the meeting

Incorrect. A software engineer can be considered a subject matter expert. Since the project in this scenario involves software development, a software engineer will be able to provide technical insights that may influence the development of the project charter.

C Arranging for a facilitator to lead the meeting

Incorrect. A brainstorming session is conducted in a group environment. To ensure the meeting is run effectively and kept on track, arranging for a facilitator to lead the meeting is likely to be one of the actions taken by the project manager.

D Following the communications management plan to determine meeting attendees

Correct. The question states that the project charter is being developed which occurs during project initiation. The communications management plan is not created until later in the project during the Plan Communications Management process.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.11 Plan and manage procurement

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 69

Hint: How might the new developer be trained without incurring costs to the project?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The question describes a situation where a project team member lacks an important competency. One of the tools and techniques associated with the Develop Team process is training. Training the new developer in the lacking programming language will enhance the productivity of the project team. According to the scenario, the project CPI is 0.75 implying the project is over budget. therefore, absorbing the required training costs is problematic for the project. However, there is another alternative which will not affect the project budget. Training costs may be supported by the performing organization if the added skills will be useful for future projects which is the case in the situation presented. Therefore, the best course of action is to seek approval for the performing organization to absorb the training costs as it will help the current project and may benefit future projects.

Details for Each Option:

A Submit a change request to update the development approach

Incorrect. The development approach is a component of the project management plan that describes a development approach selected for the project, such as predictive, iterative, agile, or a hybrid model. The development approach is unlikely to change as a result of a developer being unable to code in a specific programming language

B Seek approval for the performing organization to absorb the training costs

Correct. The project manager should seek alternatives in addressing the gap in skillset, which will not affect the project budget. In this case, training costs may be supported by the performing organization if the added skills will be useful for future projects.

C Stop using this programming language on this project

Incorrect. If the programming language were becoming obsolete or does not fit in with the organization's technical strategy, then this choice might make sense. However, the question does not support such obsolescence or trend. It states that future projects are also expected to utilize this language. Just because a new developer lacks competence in a programming language, does not mean that the project should cease to use it.

D Terminate the employment of the new developer and find a replacement

Incorrect. This answer choice represents an extreme action, which should not be necessary. Although the rationale is unknown from the question, a decision was made to add the new developer to the project team. The project manager should devise a strategy to develop the new team member to enhance productivity.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.5 Ensure team members/stakeholders are adequately trained

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 70

Hint: Each of the project managers needs to adopt a holistic view.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Project leaders need to continually evaluate and navigate project complexity. One common source of complexity is system behavior, which is the result of dynamic interdependencies. The scenario describes a program comprised of five projects, each performed by a scrum team. Based on the information provided, various deliverables from each of the teams will serve as inputs to other teams, thus introducing interdependencies between the projects within the program. This, consequently, would increase the complexity of the projects. System thinking involves taking a holistic view of how the project and program elements interact with each other. Understanding how their project and its deliverables will impact the other projects and the program as a whole is crucial for each project manager. Applying systems thinking throughout the project life cycle is one way of navigating this increased complexity.

Details for Each Option:

A Seek the program manager's approval of the deliverables before they move from one team to another

Incorrect. Coordinating projects within a program is one of the program manager's responsibilities. However, the responsibility to approve deliverables typically lies with other project stakeholders. For example, on agile projects, like those described in the scenario, the approval of the deliverables is typically the product owner's responsibility.

B Apply systems thinking throughout the project life cycle

Correct. System thinking entails taking a holistic view of how project/program elements interact with each other. In this case, each project is interconnected with the other projects within the program. The project managers will need to apply systems thinking to understand how their project and its deliverables impact the other projects in the program.

C Request that the product owner prioritizes the least complex user stories in the program backlog

Incorrect. A project/program backlog is typically prioritized according to business value. Sometimes, the riskier or more complex user stories might be prioritized so the project or program can fall fast. If the failure is to occur, prioritizing the least complex user stories would only delay it. Hence, prioritizing the least complex user stories makes little sense.

D Enhance simplicity by minimizing the amount of work not done

Incorrect. One of the principles behind the Agile Manifesto states, "Simplicity-the art of maximizing the amount of work not done - is essential." This choice represents an incorrect answer because it calls for 'minimizing the amount of work not done, while the principle calls for maximizing the amount of work not done to enhance simplicity.'

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.0 Integrate project planning activities

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 71

Hint: Who is responsible for determining how many user stories will be developed during a sprint?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

When properly using a scrum framework, the product owner prioritizes the user stories in the product backlog. The product owner, however, should not determine how many user stories will be completed during the sprint. Instead, it is the development team members who decide how many user stories they can commit to completing. If the product owner overcommitted the development team, then the sprint will likely fail to meet some or all of its objectives. Additionally, if the product owner assigns the work to the development team, then the team is less likely to be fully committed to completing the sprint objectives. The incorrect answer choices represent the correct application of scrum best practices or are not relevant to scrum.

Details for Each Option:

A The product owner determined how many user stories were to be completed during the sprint

Correct. When a scrum framework is used properly, it is the development team and not the product owner who determines how many user stories will be completed during the sprint.

B The development team decided how many user stories were to be completed during the sprint

Incorrect. When using a scrum as a project management methodology, the development should determine how many stories will be completed during the sprint and they make a commitment to completing them. Since the approach described by this answer choice is consistent with scrum practices, it would not be a reason for a failed sprint.

C You, as the project manager, failed to assign user stories to the development team.

Incorrect. When a scrum project management framework is employed, the project manager should not assign user stories to the team. By failing" to assign user stories to the team you essentially acted in accordance with the Scrum frameworks and, therefore, were not the reason for the sprint to fall

D The Gantt chart did not include enough story points

Incorrect. A Gantt chart is an example of a tool that represents the project schedule. Gantt charts are typically used in predictive project management and have nothing to do with story points. Regardless, not including enough story points in the sprint, rather than adding too many, is unlikely to cause the sprint to fall

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.1 Manage conflict

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 72

Hint: Which data analysis technique might be useful in determining the reason for the stakeholder's resistance to the project?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

The question states that the stakeholder engagement plan is being created, which suggests that the Plan Stakeholder Engagement process is being performed. Root cause analysis, which typically utilizes Ishikawa diagrams, is a data analysis technique that is commonly used during the Plan Stakeholder Engagement process to identify underlying reasons for the level of support of project stakeholders in order to select the appropriate strategy to improve their level of engagement. Among the available choices, only an Ishikawa diagram can provide insight into the reason for the stakeholder's resistance to the project and is, therefore, the best answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A Escalate to the project sponsor

Incorrect. It is the project manager's responsibility to communicate with stakeholders, to identify the reason for the stakeholder being resistant, and make an effort to improve their level of support for the project. If the stakeholder continues to be resistant, then it may make sense for the issue to be escalated to the project sponsor.

B Update the stakeholder register

Incorrect. While it is true that the stakeholder register documents the identification, assessment, and classification of project stakeholders and that it should be kept up to date, it is not clear from the question whether the stakeholder register needs an update. In addition, merely updating the stakeholder register does not help identify the reason for the stakeholder being resistant.

C Use the mind mapping technique

Incorrect. Mind mapping is used to visually organize information about stakeholders, their relationships with each other, and the organization. Mind mapping does not provide insight into the reason for the stakeholder's resistance to the project. Therefore, this is not the best answer choice.

D Utilize an Ishikawa diagram

Correct. An Ishikawa diagram can be used for performing a root cause analysis. Root cause analysis is a data analysis technique, which identifies underlying reasons for the level of support of project stakeholders in order to select the appropriate strategy to improve their level of engagement.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.0 Collaborate with stakeholders

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 73

Hint: Some internal stakeholders will likely need some training to effectively support the project.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Agile leaders must effectively engage with stakeholders for the project to be successful. In this scenario, the question implies that the development team does not require additional training on agile methodologies. However, other internal stakeholders will likely need a high-level understanding of the project management framework to perform their role. For example, to provide proper support for the team, the stakeholders should be aware of the delivery cadence on agile projects, specifically the typical scrum 2-week sprint timebox. Having stakeholders provide feedback during sprint reviews is essential for the team to make the necessary changes and move forward. Therefore, the stakeholders will have to make themselves available accordingly. The stakeholders will also need to know that the daily scrum meetings are typically "reserved" for the team members. Etc. Thus, of the choices available, identifying the relevant internal stakeholders and providing introductory scrum training for them is the best course of action for the agile consultant.

Details for Each Option:

A No action is needed because the developers are all well-versed with scrum

Incorrect. Scrum training is not likely to be needed for the development team in this scenario. However, some stakeholders external to the project team will likely need a high-level understanding of the framework that will be used for the project. For example, a steering committee would require some scrum knowledge to support the project effectively.

B Have the stakeholders attend the daily scrum meetings and ask questions about scrum

Incorrect. Daily Scrum is a brief, daily collaboration meeting in which the team reports progress from the previous day, declares plans for the current day, and mentions any impediments to progress. Stakeholders do not typically attend these meetings, let alone ask questions about scrum, taking away from the precious team's time.

C Conduct a seminar with relevant stakeholders covering scrum at a high-level

Correct. In order to effectively support the project, it is reasonable to assume that some internal stakeholders outside of the development will need a high-level understanding of the project management approach. The project manager should make provisions to provide introductory scrum training for the relevant stakeholders.

D Submit a change request to access contingency reserves to cover scrum training costs

Incorrect. Contingency reserves are set aside to address identified risks. Although lack of training might have been identified and assigned contingency reserves, the scenario implies the project has not yet started; hence, a change request is not needed. Besides, agile projects, like the one described in the scenario, would not require a change request.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.5 Ensure team members/stakeholders are adequately trained

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 74

Hint: The correct answer represents a skill that is typically used during the Develop Team process rather than the Develop Project Management Plan process.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

The question is asking to select an answer choice that represents the interpersonal and team skill which is least likely to be useful to the project manager in gaining approval for the project management plan. Conflict management, facilitation, and meeting management are all skills which will be essential for the project manager to use when presenting the project management plan to the stakeholders to gain approval for the project management plan. Team building is among the interpersonal and team skills typically used during the Develop Team process. Team building refers to a set of activities that enhance the team's social relations and build a collaborative and cooperative working environment. Of the choices provided, team building is less beneficial for the project manager in gaining approval for the project management plan, and is, therefore, the best answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A Conflict management

Incorrect. Conflict management skills may be necessary to bring diverse stakeholders into alignment on all aspects of the project management plan making this choice an incorrect answer.

B Facilitation

Incorrect. Facilitation ensures that there is effective participation, that participants achieve a mutual understanding, that all contributions are considered, and that conclusions or results have full buy-in according to the decision process established for the project. Since this option is likely to be useful in obtaining approval, it can be eliminated as a correct response.

C Meeting management

Incorrect. Meeting management skills are necessary to ensure that the presentation of the project management plan is well run. Therefore, meeting management is an incorrect answer.

D Team building

Correct. Team building can be described as conducting activities that enhance the team's social relations and build a collaborative and cooperative working environment. Team building is typically used during the Develop Team process and is not likely to be beneficial in gaining approval for the project management plan, making team building the correct response.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.9 Collaborate with stakeholders

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 75

Hint: Agile Manifesto Principle #4 states, "Business people and developers must work together daily throughout the project."

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Agile Manifesto Principle # 4 states, "Business people and developers must work together daily throughout the project." Making product-related decisions without the product owner is not aligned with agile best practices. The absence of the product owner could cause issues, as team members may not adequately understand the needs of the business. The product owner is accountable for the product backlog prioritization as well as for the clarification of the backlog items for the development team. The product owner serves as the point of contact with the business and customers. Therefore, the project manager should contact the product owner and request them to meet with the team in order to clarify any questions the team members have about the product increment. While the correct answer is not elaborate enough as to why the project manager should contact the product owner on behalf of the team members, it implies the goal of such contact should be to ask the product owner to be more approachable. Therefore, of the choices provided, contacting the product owner on behalf of the team members represents the best answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A Let the senior developers make the product decisions

Incorrect. While empowered agile teams can make decisions regarding their work, product decisions should be made by business representatives, such as the product owner.

B Contact the product owner on behalf of the team members

Correct. The project manager should contact the product owner and inform them of the team's need for clarification. It would also be a good idea to remind the product owner that regular and consistent feedback is an integral part of agile project success.

C Mention the availability issue during the sprint review

Incorrect. A sprint review meeting is intended to demonstrate and get feedback for the product increment developed during the sprint, rather than resolve availability issues. Even if the issue is raised at the sprint review, waiting until the sprint review would be too late and do nothing to remove the roadblock that the team members are facing now.

D Discuss the availability issue at the sprint retrospective

Incorrect. Having the product owner unavailable or unresponsive to the team is a serious, high-risk issue that needs to be addressed immediately. A retrospective is held at the end of the sprint and is intended for the team to improve their processes, rather than resolve ongoing impediments. While there is nothing wrong with discussing the issue at the retrospective, the team cannot afford to wait until then.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.7 Address and remove impediments, obstacles, and blockers for the team

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 76

Hint: According to the Tuckman ladder, teams may go through five stages of development: forming, storming, norming, performing, adjourning.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The Tuckman ladder is one of the models used to describe stages of team development. This model is typically referred to by project management practitioners as part of the Develop Team process. The model includes five stages: forming, storming, norming, performing, and adjourning. While it is safe to say that most teams go through all five stages, some may get stuck in a particular stage or even regress (go back) to an earlier stage. On the other hand, projects with team members who worked together in the past might skip a stage. Each stage is distinguished by different dynamics among the team members resulting in various levels of team effectiveness. Team effectiveness is at its lowest level during the storming stage as the environment is characterized by a high degree of conflict and a lack of collaboration among the team members. As the team members begin to work together and trust each other, in other words, the relationships between the team members normalize (thus the name of the next stage, norming), the degree of team effectiveness increases. Teams that successfully go through the norming stage would eventually reach the performing stage, which is the highest level of team development. In the performing stage, the team function as a well-organized unit, and the team effectiveness is at its highest.

Details for Each Option:

- A Incorrect. Area A represents the forming phase of the team development model. In this phase, the team members meet and learn about the project and their formal roles and responsibilities. Team members tend to be independent and not as open. The scenario describes disagreements and conflicts, making this choice an incorrect answer.
- B Correct. Area B represents the storming phase of team development. During this phase, the team begins to address the project work, technical decisions, and the project management approach. If team members are not collaborative, the environment can become counterproductive, resulting in low team effectiveness. The scenario closely matches this description, making storming the best answer to the question asked.
- C Incorrect. Area C represents the norming stage of the team development model. In this phase, team members begin to work together and adjust their work habits and behavior to support the team. The team members learn to trust each other. The scenario describes disagreements and conflicts, making norming an incorrect answer.
- D Incorrect. Area D represents the performing stage of the team development model, where the team's performance is at its highest level. Teams that reach this level of development, function as well-organized units. The team members are interdependent and work through issues smoothly and effectively. The scenario describes disagreements and conflicts, making this choice an incorrect answer.
- E Incorrect. Area E represents the adjourning stage of the team development model. This is the last stage of the Tuckman ladder, in which the team completes the work and moves on from the project. The scenario implies the team is still working together (although not in harmony), suggesting adjourning is an incorrect answer.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.3 Support team performance

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 77

Hint: Which answer choice represents the application of systems thinking?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Project leaders need to recognize, evaluate, and respond to system interactions. When interdependencies exist, project leaders need to adopt systems thinking. Systems thinking entails taking a holistic view of how projects and project parts interact with each other. Systems thinking is critical in dealing with complex projects with interdependencies so the organization can maximize the delivery of business value through the various value streams. When agile teams need to coordinate their activities to address interdependencies between various projects, as in the scenario provided, a scaling approach is often used. One scaling approach is to incorporate a scrum of scrums. A scrum of scrums is a meeting where representatives from each scrum team meet to coordinate their activities between the projects. Under the circumstances described in the scenario, where three complex agile projects with interdependencies between them are planned to be carried out, suggesting that the project managers establish a scrum of scrums between the projects is the best course of action for the program manager.

Details for Each Option:

A Suggest that the project managers establish a scrum of scrums between the projects

Correct. Often, interdependencies exist between projects and project teams. A scrum of scrums is a meeting where representatives from each scrum team meet to coordinate their activities between the projects. This approach will help ensure that the project work is completed in a coordinated manner to maximize the delivery of value for the organization.

B Allow the project teams to work independently to expedite the delivery of value

Incorrect. The question states that interdependencies exist between the three projects. Allowing the project teams to work in isolation would make it hard to impossible for the teams to coordinate their work. This lack of coordination would cause impediments between the projects and would likely delay the delivery of value rather than expedite it.

C Combine the project teams into one large scrum team led by a project manager

Incorrect. Scrum teams typically consist of three to nine project team members. Large projects often require that the project be broken up into separate projects and project teams. In this case, combining the project teams would result in a team with 18 team members, which is significantly larger than what is recommended by agile best practices.

D Ensure that all project activities are scheduled during initial project planning

Incorrect. When requirements are known upfront, a predictive project management approach is used. This allows the development of a schedule for all project activities during initial project planning. However, the scenario describes agile projects, implying the requirements are vague and won't allow scheduling of 'all' activities early in the project.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.13 Determine appropriate project methodology/methods and practices

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 78

Hint: What technique uses variables (e.g., units of output) to calculate estimates?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Since the project manager has duration data from a similar project with definitive parameters, he can extrapolate the rate of producing the guardrails from the previous project to arrive at an estimate for the new project. This estimation technique is called parametric estimating. Parametric estimating can be used during the Estimate Activity Durations process, which is what is described in the question scenario. For example, since the previous project was able to install one mile of guardrail over 10 days, he could estimate that five miles of guardrail will take 50 days to install.

Details for Each Option:

A Parametric estimating

Correct. Parametric estimating uses an algorithm to calculate duration based on historical data and project parameters. Since the project manager has the duration parameters from previous projects, he can use them to calculate a duration estimate for this project. Parametric estimating can provide high levels of accuracy depending on the complexity of the variables.

B Analogous estimating

Incorrect. A good option, but parametric estimating is a better choice because the project manager has comparable parameters to more accurately calculate the estimate. Analogous estimating is a gross-level estimating technique which relies on the actual duration of previous, similar projects. Also, analogous estimating is generally less accurate than other estimating techniques.

C Bottom-up estimating

Incorrect. Bottom-up estimating is a method of estimating duration by aggregating the estimates of the lower level components of the work breakdown structure. Bottom-up estimating is typically used when estimates cannot be made with a high degree of confidence. Since the project manager has duration data from a similar project with definitive parameters that allow him to provide estimates with a high degree of confidence, bottom-up estimating is not the best answer in this scenario.

D Three-point estimating

Incorrect. Three-point estimating helps determine an estimated range using most likely, optimistic and pessimistic values. This method is usually used when there is insufficient historical data or when using judgmental data. Parametric estimating is a better choice because the project manager does have definitive parameters that allow him to provide an estimate with a high degree of confidence.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.6 Plan and manage schedule

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 79

Hint: What could prove detrimental to the successful implementation of the change? Keep in mind, the question is asking to select the least likely answer choice.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

The scenario describes a project with elements of both predictive and agile project management approaches. This means the project, as a whole, is lead using hybrid methods. The project manager wants to introduce a process change towards more direct interaction with stakeholders; thus, making the project even more hybrid. When changing processes, it is essential to clarify new roles and responsibilities and update the project artifacts accordingly. It also helps to show how changes to the cost baseline could have been measured in past projects if they used variance analysis iteratively as opposed to the traditional earned value analysis. Connecting with other agile or hybrid practitioners in the organization is another constructive way to exchange knowledge and support the transformation. However, leaving change requests affecting the cost baseline out of the discussion could negate the whole idea of changing the process. Therefore, of the choices provided, excluding those requests from the discussion would 'least likely to convince the stakeholders of the benefits of the new process, making this choice the best answer to the question asked. Note, according to agile best practices, daily standup meetings are not used to discuss changes. They are intended to answer three questions, such as, "What did I do since the last standup?", "What is my plan for today?", and, "Are there any impediments to my progress?" However, first, the question is describing a hybrid project where agile and traditional practices converge, and, second, the parking lot of a daily standup meeting is the time allocated to discuss impediments and other issues after the three main questions have been addressed.

Details for Each Option:

A The cost management and change management plans will be updated to reflect the new process.

Incorrect. The cost management plan describes how the project costs will be planned, structured, and controlled. The change management plan describes how the changes to the project will be managed. When a process that involves changes to project costs is also changing, both plans should be updated. This may help get buy-in for the new process from those stakeholders who are accustomed to the traditional project management approach.

B Earned value analysis data from a previous project will be compared to iterative data accumulation.

Incorrect. When a hybrid project management approach is used, like the one suggested by the scenario, trend and variance analysis data is accumulated and assessed every iteration. This iterative assessment enables project managers to monitor and respond to budget variations in a timely manner. Demonstrating how a predictive project could have benefited from the Iterative analysis can be a powerful way to show to stakeholders why their direct Involvement can help manage project changes more effectively.

C Only those budget change requests that do not affect the project cost baseline will be discussed.

Correct. With an iterative approach described by the scenario, the Interaction with stakeholders for a discussion of changes should happen on a regular and direct basis. Discussing only minor changes could water down the effect and diminish the desired benefits of a more lightweight change request process. Therefore, this answer choice is least likely to support the process change effectively.

D Other project managers in the organization going through similar process changes will be consulted.

Incorrect. Directly and regularly involving stakeholders in change requests' discussions, as suggested by the project manager, would lead to a more hybrid project management approach than the one currently used. In such a situation, connecting with other agile or hybrid practitioners in the organization is a powerful way to exchange knowledge and work towards transformations together. This action may help the project manager persuading the stakeholders in favor of the process change.

Exam Content Outline: Domain: 2. Process / Task: 2.5 Plan and manage budget and resources / PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 80

Hint: The diagram presented by the question is a graph that shows the relationship between two variables.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

A scatter diagram is a data representation technique that may be used as part of quality assurance. A scatter diagram, as presented in the question, is a graph that shows the relationship between two variables. The diagram shown in the question demonstrates very close proximity between the data points and the trendline, which indicates a strong correlation between the two variables. Therefore, we can surmise that the defect rate (lane departures) increases as speed increases.

Details for Each Option:

A Affinity diagram, which shows a weak correlation between the speed and lane departures

Incorrect. An affinity diagram organizes potential causes of defects into groups showing areas that should be focused on the most. The diagram presented by the question shows the relationship between two variables. Therefore, this answer choice can be eliminated.

B Scatter diagram, which shows a strong correlation between the speed and lane departures

Correct. The diagram presented by the question is a scatter diagram. This diagram demonstrates very close proximity between the data points and the trendline, which indicates a strong correlation between the two variables.

C Affinity diagram, which shows a strong correlation between the speed and lane departures

Incorrect. The diagram from the question shows the relationship between two variables. An affinity diagram organizes potential causes of defects into groups showing areas that should be focused on the most, making this an incorrect response.

D Scatter diagram, which shows a weak correlation between the speed and lane departures

Incorrect. The diagram demonstrates very close proximity between the data points and the trendline, which indicates a strong, not weak, correlation between the two variables. Therefore, this response is incorrect.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.7 Plan and manage quality of products/deliverables

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 81

Hint: Where is the best place to find corporate policies for the use of social media?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Communicating and working with stakeholders to meet their needs and expectations, address issues, and foster appropriate stakeholder involvement is essentially the definition of the Stakeholder Engagement process. According to the scenario, you want to determine what your company says about the use of social media tools to communicate and work with the stakeholders to meet their needs and expectations. This implies you are looking for inputs to the Manage Stakeholder Engagement process. Organizational process assets (OPAs) are one of the inputs to this process. Corporate policies and procedures for social media are an example of OPAs. It is typical for organizations to prohibit or provide guidelines on the use of social media when done on behalf of the business. You should first check the corporate policies and procedures before encouraging employees to use social media as a business tool.

Note, the scenario describes a hybrid project which involves an agile team developing the software and a traditional engineering team designing the hardware. This information, however, does not change the correct answer. Regardless of whether the project is predictive, agile, or hybrid, organizational process assets are the best place to find the corporate policies and procedures for the use of social media on projects performed by the organization.

Details for Each Option:

A Review the stakeholder register

Incorrect. The stakeholder register is a project document that captures the identification, assessment, and classification of project stakeholders. While the stakeholder register may mention communication preferences of some of the stakeholders, this document does not include information about the company's guideline about the use of social media tools to communicate and work with the stakeholders.

B Check the organizational process assets

Correct. Organizational process assets include corporate policies and procedures for social media. You should review the company's social media policy before using social media as a business tool.

C Consult with the project sponsor

Incorrect. The project sponsor may or may not be aware of policies for social media. The sponsor is neither the first point of contact nor is the best source for this information.

D Check the lessons learned repository

Incorrect. Checking the lessons learned repository is a good idea but is not the first thing you should do. Any information that can be gleaned from past projects regarding social media is irrelevant if corporate policies prohibit the use of social media or if allowed its use in the past but have been changed since then.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 3. Business Environment

Task: 3.4 Support organizational change

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 82

Hint: To calculate the SPI, one should divide the number of completed story points by the number of planned story points.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Earned value management (EVM) is typically associated with the predictive (traditional) project management approaches. However, applying EVM metrics to projects carried out using agile methods can be done similarly and serve as an effective tool to measure team performance. For example, the schedule performance index (SPI) is the number of story points (features) completed divided by the number of the story points (features) planned. The cost performance index (CPI) is the earned value (EV, which is the value of the completed story points or features) divided by the actual costs incurred during the period under measurement.

The interpretation of the SPI and CPI values in agile projects are made similarly to the interpretation of those values in traditional projects. For example, an SPI less than 1.0 means the project (or iteration) is behind schedule, or, in other words, the team is working at a rate lower than planned. An SPI greater than 1.0 means the project (iteration) is ahead of schedule, i.e., the team is working at a rate higher than planned. A CPI less than 1.0 means the project (iteration) is over budget, or, in other words, the team earns less than a dollar on each dollar planned. A CPI greater than 1.0 indicates the project (iteration) is under budget, i.e., the team earns more than a dollar compared to each dollar planned.

The question asks to determine the SPI. Based on the explanation above, the $SPI = 60/80 = 0.750$. In other words, the team worked at only 75% of the rate planned. Note, the reason the result is shown with 3 digits after the decimal place (0.750 instead of just 0.75) is to make sure that all answer choices are displayed consistently. Obviously, 0.750 is the same value as 0.75.

Details for Each Option:

A 1.333

Incorrect. This value, 1.333, could have resulted from the following calculation: $80/60 = 1.333$. However, to calculate the SPI, one should divide the number of completed story points by the number of planned. In the scenario, the team planned 80 story points but only completed 60. Therefore, $SPI = 60/80 = 0.750$.

B 0.750

Correct. In agile, the schedule performance index (SPI) can be calculated using the following formula: $SPI = [\text{number of completed story points}]/[\text{number of planned story points}]$. Based on the values provided in the scenario, $SPI = 60/80 = 0.750$.

C 1.143

Incorrect. This value, 1.143, could have resulted from the following calculation: $\$80,000/\$70,000 = 1.143$, where \$80,000 is the planned value (PV) and \$70,000 is the actual cost (AC). However, the SPI is calculated differently: $SPI = 60/80 = 0.750$, where 60 is the number of the completed story points and 80 is the number of those that were planned.

D 0.857

Incorrect. This answer choice represents the cost performance indicator (CPI), which is the earned value (EV, the value of completed story points or features) divided by the actual costs (AC). The EV is 60 story points multiplied by \$1,000, resulting in \$60,000. The AC is given in the scenario: \$70,000. Therefore, $CPI = \$60,000/\$70,000 = 0.857$.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.6 Plan and manage schedule

PM Approach: Agile / Hybrid

Question 83

Hint: Each team will define their own units of measure, which cannot be compared with each other or combined.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The question indicates that the project has a schedule baseline, and the development teams are using Kanban, which suggests that the project is undertaken using a hybrid method. According to the scenario, the project end date is fixed, but the scope is variable, which makes scheduling and progress reporting with typical waterfall methods problematic. Additionally, the question indicates that each of the three project teams is working independently. Both of these factors introduce complications for measuring the overall project's progress.

One way of addressing the progress reporting issues associated with a project with variable scope and independent project teams is to use a feature chart. A feature chart uses the number of features rather than story points, so there is a commonality between the project teams. The individual teams might use burn charts to measure their progress, but since it's likely that each team will define their units of measure differently, the burn charts cannot be combined into a meaningful project burn chart. A feature chart can provide a visual aid for understanding the number of features that have been completed as well as the rate of feature development over time across the project teams. Therefore, a feature chart would be an ideal tool to use in the circumstances outlined in the scenario.

Details for Each Option:

A Feature chart

Correct. A feature chart can provide information about the features that have been completed, the features remaining, and the total number of features. Additionally, the feature chart can provide a visualization for the rate at which features are being developed.

B Burndown chart

Incorrect. Since each of the three teams is working independently, they will each perform their own relative sizing exercises and definitions for the units of measure. As a result, it will not be possible to compare teams or add velocity across teams. A burndown chart may be helpful to measure progress at the team level but not at the project level in this case.

C Burnup chart

Incorrect. A burnup chart might be helpful for each of the teams to use to measure their progress but will not be useful to measure the progress of the project. Since each team will likely define their units of measure differently, you, as the project manager, will not be able to build a meaningful project level burnup chart.

D Cumulative flow diagram

Incorrect. Although the cumulative flow diagram could provide some useful information about the progress of the project, the cumulative flow diagram is designed to break down work in progress across a Kanban board rather than measure the project's progress.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.6 Plan and manage schedule

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 84

Hint: What do high-performing teams need from the project manager the most?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

The question is in reference to the Tuckman ladder, which is one of the models used to describe team development. This model includes five stages of development that teams may go through including forming, storming, norming, performing, and adjourning. The question suggests that the project team had reached the performing stage of team development. Teams that reach the performing stage function as a well-organized unit, and the team members are interdependent and work through issues smoothly and effectively. This makes the life of project managers relatively easy and requires from them to mostly serve as a gateway between the project team and the stakeholders and delegate decision making to the team members.

Details for Each Option:

A Provide clear direction on the project objectives and the behavior expected from the team members

Incorrect. This answer choice describes the role of the project manager when the team is in the forming stage of their development. During the forming stage, the project team members meet and learn about the project and their formal roles and responsibilities. The project manager should provide clear direction on the project objectives and the behavior expected from the team members.

B Help the team to get through their struggle by ensuring they listen to each other and understand their differences

Incorrect. This answer choice represents the role of the project manager when the team is in the storming stage of team development. During this phase, the team begins to address the project work, technical decision, and the project management approach. If the team members are not collaborative or open to differing ideas and perspectives, the environment can become counterproductive. The team needs help from the project manager to get through their struggle, listen to each other, and understand their differences.

C Ensure the team resolves conflicts quickly and continues to work collaboratively and step in only when needed

Incorrect. This answer choice describes the role of the project manager when the team is in the norming stage of their development. During the norming stage, the team members begin to work together and adjust their work habits and behaviors to support the team. The team members begin to trust each other. In this phase, the best course of action for the project manager is to ensure the team resolves conflicts quickly and continues to work collaboratively. The project manager will step in only when needed.

D Serve as a gateway between the project team and the stakeholders and delegate decision making to the team members

Correct. This answer choice describes the role of the project manager when the team reaches its performing stage when they function as a well-organized unit, and the team members are interdependent and work through issues smoothly and effectively. This is the ideal stage of team development that requires from the project manager to be a gateway between the project team and the stakeholders and delegate decision making to the team members.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People Task: 1.2 Lead a team

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 85

Hint: What area represents the low degree of both technical uncertainty and uncertainty of requirements?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

A project life cycle is the series of phases that a project passes through from its start to its completion. (Note, the word "phase" in this context is used differently from how it's used in multi-phase projects). The project life cycle provides the basic framework for managing the project. Predictive, iterative, incremental, adaptive, hybrid are examples of a project life cycle. The selection of the life cycle depends on project characteristics. There are various models that can be used to describe project characteristics. One of them is the Stacey Complexity Model. The model addresses the degree of uncertainty as it relates to the project requirements on the one hand and how to fulfill those requirements using current knowledge and technology on the other hand. The technical degree of uncertainty is mapped on the horizontal axis, and the uncertainty of requirements is on the vertical axis. According to the model, as project uncertainty increases along any of those dimensions, so too does the risk of rework and the need to use a different project management approach.

When project requirements, as well as the technology to implement these requirements, are clear, the predictive project life cycle is typically the way to go. As the degree of uncertainty increases, the likelihood of changes, risk, and rework increases as well. Such projects would benefit from either iterative, incremental, adaptive, or hybrid life cycles. When both the technical degree of uncertainty and the degree of uncertainty in project requirements is very high, a project is considered chaos (or anarchy). Managing such a project is very hard to impossible. In the scenario, the project team selects a predictive life cycle, implying the project has been mapped within area A, which represents the low degree of both technical uncertainty and requirements uncertainty.

Details for Each Option:

A Correct. Area A represents a low degree of both technical uncertainty and requirements uncertainty. Projects that are mapped within this area are referred to as simple projects and would benefit from a predictive life cycle. In the scenario, the team selects the predictive life cycle, making this choice the best answer to the question asked.

B Incorrect. Area B represents a low-to-medium degree of both technical uncertainty and requirements uncertainty. Projects that are mapped within this area are referred to as complicated projects and would benefit from one of the adaptive life cycles. In the scenario, the team selects the predictive life cycle, making this choice an incorrect answer.

C Incorrect. Area C represents projects with one uncertainty aspect being high and the other uncertainty aspect being low-to-medium. Projects that are mapped within this area are referred to as complex projects and would benefit from an adaptive life cycle. In the scenario, the team selects the predictive life cycle, making this choice an incorrect answer.

D Incorrect. Area D represents a high degree of both technical uncertainty and requirements uncertainty. Projects that are mapped within this area are referred to as chaotic (or anarchy) projects and are unlikely to be even selected as feasible. In the scenario, the project has already been selected. Therefore, this answer choice can be eliminated.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.13 Determine appropriate project methodology/methods and practices

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 86

Hint: An antipattern is an ineffective or counterproductive response to address an issue.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

An antipattern can be described as an action that is taken to resolve an issue but is ineffective and may even prove counterproductive. Since the question is asking for an antipattern, the incorrect answer choices represent actions that are consistent with best practices or techniques associated with root cause analysis. In this case, attempting to maximize the number of action items is considered an antipattern. Assigning too many action items aimed to resolve a problem may cause a distraction from performing the most important actions that may produce the best results. It is better to pick the top one or two actions and focus efforts on those that are most likely to be effective.

Note, the scenario describes a hybrid project that involves elements from both the traditional/predictive project management approach and agile. The fact the project manager is involved in the project who schedules and leads a meeting with the team, product owner, and other stakeholders indicate that the project is using a predictive project management approach. The use of iterations, the fact a product owner is involved in the acceptance of the product increments developed by the team are an indication that this part of the project is managed using the agile project management approach. While this information does not change the correct answer, it is important to understand that projects can be managed using various approaches, including predictive (sometimes called traditional or waterfall), agile (Scrum, Kanban, etc.), or hybrid which is a combination of both.

Details for Each Option:

A Drawing a fishbone diagram

Incorrect. A fishbone diagram is a common type of cause-and-effect diagram that is used for root cause analysis. Utilizing a fishbone diagram would not be considered an antipattern.

B Using the five whys method

Incorrect. The five whys method is a technique where repeatedly asking "why?" breaks down the identified problem to identify the root cause. Convention suggests that five iterations are required to drill down to the root cause of the problem. The five whys method is a common form of root cause analysis and would not be considered an antipattern.

C Maximizing the number of action items

Correct. Maximizing the number of action items may not be an effective method of resolving the identified problem. For the greatest effectiveness, the meeting participants should focus on the most important action items rather than on the number of action items.

D Defining the problem statement

Incorrect. Defining the problem statement is one of the first steps for conducting a root cause analysis. Once the problem has been defined, it can be decomposed to help identify the main cause(s). Asking the team to define the problem statement is consistent with best practices and not considered an antipattern.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.10 Build shared understanding

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 87

Hint: How can you best identify the skills needed for the project before the project is formally chartered?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

According to the scenario, the business case has not been approved, suggesting that the project has not yet been initiated. You are leading an initiative that, if successful, may result in the approval to go ahead with the project. Since past projects show that the organization did not plan resources properly, necessitating some of the work to be contracted out, thus resulting in cost overruns, you want to ensure that this time the lessons are learned and proper planning is done. To understand what resources are needed for your current (potential) project, a proof of concept cycle can be undertaken. The proof of concept could involve prototyping, feasibility study, storyboarding, development of use cases or user stories, or any other activity that can demonstrate potential business value helping to get the business case approved and the project initiated. By undertaking one of the proof-of-concept activities, the project manager can determine if the skills needed to develop the product are available in the organization, thus ensuring that the project budget is estimated realistically and the risk of cost overruns is reduced.

Details for Each Option:

A Start with a proof of concept

Correct. In hybrid projects, a proof-of-concept cycle can be used to explore product features and map the skills needed to develop them. Mapping the skills helps identify gaps in the organization and plan resources accordingly. These actions, in turn, allow the project manager to create a more realistic budget estimate and reduce the risk of cost overrun.

B Use burndown charts for reporting

Incorrect. Burndown charts are typically used on agile projects to report work remaining in the iteration or release backlog. A burndown chart would unlikely help with the task requested in the scenario, which is estimating a realistic project budget based on features to be delivered and the skills required to develop them.

C Develop a project charter

Incorrect. The project charter is the document providing the project manager with the authority to apply organizational resources to project activities. While having a charter is important for any project, the scenario states that the business case, which is one of the inputs to the Develop Project Charter process, is insufficiently built, preventing the development of the project charter at this point.

D Encourage team knowledge sharing

Incorrect. Knowledge-sharing is an essential part of every successful project. However, the scenario implies the skills and knowledge necessary to develop the product are likely unavailable in the organization. Therefore, it is premature, and possibly even futile, to share something that is not yet available.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.5 Plan and manage budget and resources

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 88

Hint: What are inconsistencies?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Inconsistencies are also known as issues. An issue log is a record of problems, gaps, inconsistencies, and conflicts that require action, so they do not impact project performance. In this scenario, the project manager would have logged the inconsistencies in the issue log, which she would then review to perform corrective action. The other answer choices can be eliminated because inconsistencies are not changes or assumptions, and a quality report is an output of the Manage Quality process, while the scenario states the project manager is performing monitoring and controlling activities.

Details for Each Option:

A Stakeholder register

Incorrect. The stakeholder register is a project document that includes the identification, assessment, and classification of project stakeholders. This project document does not contain information project performance issues. Therefore, this answer choice can be eliminated.

B Change log

Incorrect. A change log is a comprehensive list of change requests submitted during the project and their current status. The disposition of all change requests is recorded in the change log as a project document update. The scenario describes inconsistencies (or 'issues') and not change requests, and therefore the change log is an incorrect answer.

C Assumption log

Incorrect. An assumption log is first created during project initiation as a project document used to record all assumptions and constraints throughout the project life cycle. Inconsistencies are not assumptions, making this answer choice incorrect.

D Issue log

Correct. The issue log is a project document where all the issues are recorded and tracked. The issue log will help the project manager effectively track and manage issues, ensuring that they are investigated and resolved. The issue log is updated throughout the project's life cycle. Therefore, the issue log is the document where the project manager would have documented the inconsistencies (or 'issues') and would look at to review them, making this choice the best answer to the question asked.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.12 Manage project artifacts

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 89

Hint: How might you take learnings from the construction of one home and apply to the other homes?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The scenario describes a project with aspects of low uncertainty and risk, along with other aspects that have high uncertainty and risk. Since the performing organization has a great deal of experience with traditional construction methods, these aspects of the project represent little uncertainty and risk. However, the organization does not have experience with solar shingles and energy storage, making these aspects of the project high uncertainty and risk. One method of managing the uncertainty and risk is to combine a predictive project management framework with an incremental approach, resulting in a hybrid project. The construction of each home can follow the traditional waterfall framework, but also incorporate an incremental approach by building one home at a time (sequentially). Using the incremental approach and conducting a retrospective after the completion of each deliverable (similarly to how this process is carried out on agile projects) will provide the opportunity for lessons learned to be applied to each subsequent deliverable (home), thus providing opportunities for continuous improvement throughout project execution.

Details for Each Option:

A Construct the homes sequentially using a predictive model and hold a retrospective after the completion of each home

Correct. Adopting an incremental approach by constructing the homes sequentially and, after each consecutive home is built, learning what went well and what should be improved will allow the project team to gain valuable information that can be applied to the construction of the subsequent homes in the development.

B Review the lessons learned repository during project planning and apply the knowledge gained during project execution

Incorrect. Reviewing the organization's lessons learned repository might yield some useful information regarding home construction. However, the question indicates that this will be the organization's first project incorporating solar panels and energy storage. Thus, it is highly unlikely that the lessons learned repository will have information regarding energy generation and storage, which represents the highest risk and uncertainty for the project.

C Build all of the homes concurrently using a predictive approach and update the lessons learned register continuously

Incorrect. Updating the lessons learned register continuously is a proper project management practice. However, building all of the homes concurrently would not provide an opportunity for lessons learned to be applied to the current project. For example, if the solar shingles are installed on all of the homes at the same time, any mistakes or poor practices would likely be duplicated across all of the homes.

D Utilize an incremental project management approach for the development of the homes and hold a project retrospective

Incorrect. Utilizing an incremental approach is a good idea for this project. However, the project retrospective is held at the end of the project. While the project retrospective might be helpful in improving performance with future projects, it will not be helpful with improving performance throughout the current project as requested by the scenario.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.13 Determine appropriate project methodology/methods and practices

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 90

Hint: What best answer allows progressive elaboration in the sprint planning process?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Prototyping comes after the steps that involve detailed design and user interface considerations. Focusing on features and deliverables is a step to plan first to ensure thorough planning and accommodating continuous feedback and evolving requirements.

Setting up initial deliverables, milestones, and the priority of feature development priority provides clarity that helps the team understand the sequence of tasks along the critical path and establishes a clear roadmap and structure for the project.

Sprint kick-off and coding would start after the primary planning steps are completed. Critical project components, like milestones and feature priorities, make planning and organizing crucial earlier steps.

Revising and updating the project plan based on feedback would not be the next step. At this stage, user feedback from development will not be available. Updating the project plan comes later after initial development has started and feedback has been gathered.

Details for Each Option:

A Develop prototypes of the online store to visualize the layout and functionality of the tool.

Incorrect. Prototyping is a later step that benefits from having a clear priority and plan. Without prioritization and a roadmap, prototyping might lead to unnecessary iterations and changes, wasting time and resources. Planning and feature development would precede this to allow for an organized and efficient development process.

B Set up each phase's initial milestones and deliverables and determine the feature development priority.

Correct. The question asks what the next step is. In sprint planning, high-level requirements and scope are determined. The next item would be to set up milestones and deliverables and determine the priority of features. This establishes a structured framework, effective sprint planning, continuous feedback, and a clear roadmap. Identifying milestones and deliverables early helps the team anticipate potential risks.

C Begin the development sprints that kick off the process of coding the online store.

Incorrect. The team needs to establish a detailed plan and structure for the sprints. Sprint planning and creating a backlog must be completed first before jumping into the development sprints.

D The team would risk doing unnecessary work that is not well-defined.

Revise and update the project plan based on the feedback received during development.

Incorrect. The team needs first to establish what they aim to achieve in the initial sprints, and only then can they gather and incorporate feedback to make iterative improvements. Part of the prioritization of features requires estimating tasks and organizing them based on priority and dependencies.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.8 Plan and manage scope

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 91

Hint: What order should each of the choices be performed? Which of the choices best covers understanding the business goals and objectives, issues, and opportunities and recommending proposals to address them?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

In this scenario, the skepticism of the other executives suggests that the proposed solution only partially, if at all, addresses the need to increase profit margins. The executive team thinks other alternatives and additional solutions should be considered to increase margins. In other words, the needs assessment should be performed first. The needs assessment involves understanding business goals and objectives, issues, and opportunities and recommending proposals to address them. Therefore, the first thing for the company to do in this situation before taking any action is to perform a needs assessment to evaluate options to address the competitive issues faced by the company, and only then provide recommendations.

Details for Each Option:

A

Performing a needs assessment

Correct. A needs assessment involves understanding business goals and objectives, issues, and opportunities and recommending proposals to address them. A needs assessment is typically the first step of the pre-project work for a new project.

B

Consulting with the project management office

Incorrect. A project management office (PMO) is a management structure that standardizes the project-related governance processes and facilitates the sharing of resources, methodologies, tools and techniques. While the PMO may be able to make some suggestions, there is another choice that is more immediate and should be attempted first prior to consulting with the PMO.

C

Appointing a project sponsor to create a project charter

Incorrect. Creating the project charter is the first step when starting a project, but based on the scenario, there is no agreement that automating the product line is the best way to increase profit margins. Pre-project work should be completed before a project sponsor can create the project charter.

D

Providing a project manager with the authority to apply organizational resources

Incorrect. The project charter authorizes the project manager to apply organizational resources to the project. The pre-project work should be completed before the project charter is created and a project manager is provided the authority to apply organizational resources to the project.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 3. Business Environment

Task: 3.2 Evaluate and deliver project benefits and value

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 92

Hint: Where is knowledge gained during a project recorded?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Daily standup meetings can be used by teams and stakeholders, often on agile projects, to share and discuss achievements and issues of the previous day as well as plans for the current day's work. The question suggests that you, as the project manager, have discovered that using daily standup meetings is beneficial in controlling the project scope. This hybrid project management practice, traditional scope control approach using agile methods, can be documented in the lessons learned register, which is a project document used to record knowledge gained during a project so that it can be used in the current project. At the end of the project or phase, the information in the lessons learned register is transferred into the lessons learned repository as an organizational process asset, where it can be used to improve the performance of future projects. Therefore, of the available choices, capturing the best practice in the lessons learned register is the best way to prevent gold plating for the remainder of the current project and on future projects.

Details for Each Option:

A Bring up the topic during the project retrospective

Incorrect. A project retrospective is a review scheduled at the end of a project to record lessons learned in the lessons learned register. While bringing up any best practices during a project retrospective is a good idea, there is no reason to wait until the end of the project to capture the best practice in the lessons learned register. Best practices should be captured in the lessons learned register at the time the knowledge is gained to ensure performance can be improved for the remainder of the project and then transferred to the lessons learned repository for use on future projects. Additionally, merely bringing up the topic during the project retrospective does not guarantee the best practice would be captured in the lessons learned register.

B Capture the best practice in the lessons learned register

Correct. The lessons learned register is a project document used to record knowledge gained during a project so that it can be used in the current project and entered into the lessons learned repository, where it can be used to improve the performance of future projects. Capturing the best practice in the lessons learned register is the best course of action to prevent gold plating on future projects.

C Gold plating adds customer value and should not be prevented

Incorrect. Gold plating refers to the practice of adding features or functionalities that the customer did not request. Gold plating is considered a bad practice for project management and should be avoided as it adds unnecessary risk to the project and uncontrollably spends project resources.

D Ensure that the scope management plan includes daily stand-up meetings

Incorrect. The scope management plan may or may not be updated to include daily stand-up meetings as a strategy for controlling the project scope. However, this action is effective in helping to control scope for the current project but is unlikely to prevent gold plating on future projects as the scope management plan is specific to the current project.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.3 Support team performance

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 93

Hint: How might a development team comprised of internal and external resources best collaborate?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The scenario implies the project, as a whole, is managed in a hybrid project management approach: waterfall and Scrum. Scrum is one of the agile methods. Agile methods place a great emphasis on collaboration, a sentiment reflected in the Agile Manifesto that values customer collaboration over contract negotiation. Agile methods are typically selected for projects where the project scope cannot be well-defined at the start of the project and will be progressively elaborated as the project progresses. As a result, collaboration becomes a critical factor in the project's success. In this scenario, the question is asking for the contracting technique that will maximize collaboration with the vendor. With a team augmentation approach, the supplier's services are embedded directly into the customer's organization. Having the development team comprised of internal and external resources, working as a cohesive unit, best supports the collaborative efforts.

Details for Each Option:

A Team augmentation

Correct. Team augmentation is an approach where the supplier's services are embedded directly into the customer's organization. Colocating the supplier's services with the customer will enhance collaboration.

B Early cancellation option

Incorrect. Including an early cancellation option in the contract could be a good idea for a project where the software is developed in short iterations, as in the scenario described. However, the question is specifically asking about how to maximize collaboration with the vendor. An early cancellation option has nothing to do with enhancing collaboration.

C Fixed-price increments

Incorrect. A fixed-price Increments contracting technique allows the buyer to decompose the project scope into fixed-price micro-deliverables. This technique provides benefits to both the buyer and the seller/vendor, such as control over how the money is spent (for the buyer) and limiting the financial risk (for the seller). Maximizing collaboration with the seller/vendor, however, is not the main goal of this technique.

D Not-to-exceed time and materials

Incorrect. The main advantage of the not-to-exceed time and materials contracting technique is to provide the buyer with room for new ideas and Innovations that were not planned initially rather than increase collaboration with the seller/vendor.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.8 Negotiate project agreements

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 94

Hint: How might one determine the appropriate amount of time and money to invest in compliance activities?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

In this scenario, the project manager has just learned about a new potential threat to regulatory compliance. This potential threat will likely require the project team to carry out additional tasks to comply with the regulations. Compliance activities typically do not add value and are often considered overhead for a project. Agile best practices strive to minimize overhead so resources can be focused on producing value. This view is summarized in one of the Agile Manifesto principles that states, "Simplicity - the art of maximizing the amount of work not done - is essential." Even though overhead does not directly deliver value, some overhead, like compliance with regulations, is just mandatory. In order to understand the appropriate amount of time and money to invest in compliance activities, the project manager should analyze the consequences of non-compliance. If the consequences of non-compliance are minimal, then fewer resources can be allocated for compliance and vice-versa.

Details for Each Option:

A Review the risks during the project retrospective

Incorrect. The project retrospective is held at the end of the project. Waiting until the end of the project to analyze the newly identified threat would be too late as and not allow the results of the analysis to be incorporated in the development of the project's deliverables.

B Analyze the consequences of non-compliance

Correct. Agile practitioners often view compliance as unnecessary overhead that does not deliver value to the customer. Therefore, the project manager may consider minimizing resources (time, money, team members) allocated for compliance. However, to understand the appropriate amount of resources to invest in compliance activities, the project manager should first analyze the consequences of non-compliance.

C Submit a change request to update the risk management plan

Incorrect. If the circumstances described in this scenario were applied to a predictive project management framework, then submitting a change request to update the risk management plan would be a plausible answer choice. However, the scenario describes an agile project. Change requests are not typically used on agile projects.

D Develop a cumulative flow diagram

Incorrect. A cumulative flow diagram is a tool that depicts the stages of work-in-progress. A cumulative flow diagram might be helpful in identifying bottlenecks, but it would not be helpful with analyzing the newly identified threat to regulatory compliance.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 3. Business Environment

Task: 3.1 Plan and manage project compliance

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 95

Hint: What role does leadership play in organizational change?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Transitioning an organization from traditional project management to an agile approach can be very challenging as it will likely involve significant organizational and cultural change and may take years to accomplish. For example, a functional organizational type that is structured in silos may need to undergo a major restructuring to adopt a matrix organizational structure to support cross-functional teams. The organization may at first opt to gradually transition from waterfall to hybrid and finally to an agile approach. Alternatively, the organization may want to stop at the hybrid stage, thus benefitting from both worlds, assuming the hybrid project management approach will meet the needs of the future projects undertaken by the organization. In any case, executive management's willingness to change will be a significant factor in the transition from waterfall to hybrid to agile. Visible and active executive sponsorship will be crucial to support the significant changes that will be required for the transition to successful. The incorrect answer choices all represent agile antipatterns.

Details for Each Option:

A Provide training to ensure the employees are more highly specialized

Incorrect. Agile encourages the use of generalizing specialists over narrowly trained specialists for greater redundancy in skillsets and flexibility. Highly specialized employees will be an impediment to transforming an organization from waterfall to agile.

B Transition all projects to agile at the same time

Incorrect. Transitioning all projects to agile at the same time would not likely be successful. Projects currently underway would experience severe disruption with a change in project management framework. A more effective strategy would be to introduce agile practices to the team incrementally

C Seek a high-level executive willing to champion the cause

Correct. Executive management's willingness to change will be a significant factor in the transition from waterfall to agile. Visible and active executive sponsorship will be crucial in supporting the change.

D Ensure the work is decomposed into silos

Incorrect. Having work decomposed into silos will make the transition to agile more difficult. Instead, the focus should be on creating cross-functional teams, which will better support agility.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 3. Business Environment

Task: 3.4 Support organizational change

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 96

Hint: Delivering value incrementally requires careful assessment to align with project objectives.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The correct answer is B. Assessing opportunities to deliver incremental value ensures that the project team aligns with stakeholder expectations while focusing on the project goals. Incremental delivery should not compromise the overall objective or introduce inefficiencies.

Details for Each Option:

A

Approve the smaller deliverables and schedule immediate delivery.

Incorrect. Immediate approval without assessment risks misalignment with project objectives.

B

Assess opportunities to deliver incremental value while aligning with project objectives.

Correct. Incremental delivery of value aligns with stakeholder needs and project success.

C

Escalate the stakeholder request to the sponsor for approval.

Incorrect. Escalation is unnecessary unless the situation exceeds the project manager's authority.

D

Maintain the original scope to ensure completeness before delivery.

Incorrect. Maintaining the original scope without flexibility delays potential value delivery.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.1 Execute project with the urgency required to deliver business value

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 97

Hint: What type of power is derived from the ability to provide monetary or other desired items?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

There are numerous forms of power at the project manager's disposal that can be used to achieve project objectives. The question describes a situation where a reward is offered as an incentive for team members to work extra hours. Reward-oriented power is derived from the ability to provide monetary or other desired items.

Details for Each Option:

A

Managerial

Incorrect. Managerial is a personality characteristic rather than a type of power.

B

Charismatic

Incorrect. Charismatic or personal is a form of power characterized by having charm and/or attraction that inspires devotion in others. While in the scenario, the project manager is trying to inspire devotion in the team members to work over a weekend, the project manager does it using tangible rewards rather than personal virtues.

C

Persuasive

Incorrect. Persuasive power is the ability to provide arguments that move people to a desired course of action. The question describes a situation where a reward is being used rather than the power of persuasion.

D

Reward-oriented

Correct. Reward-oriented power is derived from the ability to provide monetary or other desired items. In the scenario described by the question, reward-oriented power is being used to motivate team members to work a weekend shift.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.2 Lead a team

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 98

Hint: What is being reviewed?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Validate Scope is the process of formalizing acceptance of the completed project deliverables. This process can be carried out at the end of an iteration (sprint), phase, project, or any other point where the product work can be reviewed and inspected. Inspections are among the tools and techniques of the Validate Scope process. In the Validate Scope process, stakeholders are determining whether or not the scope completed is acceptable. In a project utilizing agile practices, there is a product review at some point or points in the iteration. Since most of the iteration is to get to a workable version for review, that often is at or near the end of the iteration. Whenever such a review happens, it is a tool and technique to examine and validate the project work and product deliverables.

Inspections are sometimes called reviews, product reviews, and walkthroughs.

Details for Each Option:

A Validate the product scope

Correct. The purpose of the product reviews is to examine the product to see if meets requirements and can be accepted. This is the Validate Scope process.

B Manage product quality

Incorrect. Managing product quality is part of the Manage Quality process. This process is concerned with translating the quality management plan into executable quality activities. According to the scenario, the team is going to lead a product review with the product manager rather than translate the quality management plan into executable quality activities.

C Control the product scope

Incorrect. Control Scope is the process of monitoring the status of the project and product scope and managing changes to the scope baseline. There is nothing in the scenario to suggest the team is involved in the Control Scope process. The product review described in the scenario may lead to changes. However, the main purpose of the product review is to validate, rather than control, the product scope.

D Close the project or phase

Incorrect. Close Project or Phase is the process of finalizing all activities for the project, phase, or contract. The question suggests the team is going to review the product with the product manager rather than finalize all activities for the project, phase, or contract.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.8 Plan and manage scope

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 99

Hint: What is the main reason for demonstrating the deliverable to the stakeholders at the iteration review?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The type and number of project phases in a project life cycle depend upon many variables, with the delivery cadence and development approach being the most important ones. The development approach, in turn, can be predictive, agile, or a combination of the two, hybrid. With the adaptive development approach, the product is typically developed using timeboxed iterations. Each iteration results in a working product increment - a functional deliverable. At the end of each iteration, the project team demonstrates the deliverable to the relevant stakeholders. The whole idea of the demonstration is to get feedback from the stakeholders and use it to prioritize the backlog and plan for the next iteration. Without the feedback, going ahead with the product development makes no sense because the team risks building something that won't meet the stakeholders' expectations. The scenario presents project attributes that are aligned with the adaptive development approach described above. However, the scenario is missing an important step - getting stakeholder feedback.

Details for Each Option:

A Predictive; sponsor approves the deliverable.

Incorrect. With the predictive approach, most of the planning is done at the beginning of the project, and a deliverable is released at its end. While any approach can use a sponsor as one of the stakeholders who approve deliverables, project characteristics described in the scenario are typical of adaptive or hybrid approaches rather than predictive ones.

B Adaptive; stakeholders provide feedback.

Correct. Producing a deliverable at the end of each iteration, demonstrating it to the stakeholders at the iteration review, and prioritizing the backlog for the next iteration are activities associated with an adaptive approach. However, prioritizing the backlog cannot be done without getting stakeholder feedback, which is the step missing in the scenario.

C Hybrid; team holds an iteration retrospective.

Incorrect. Project attributes shown in the scenario are typical for adaptive approaches and, in some cases, hybrid ones (assuming there are predictive aspects not described by the scenario). It is also true that an iteration retrospective takes place after the review and before planning. However, another answer choice better addresses the question asked.

D Adaptive; no steps are missing.

Incorrect. Producing a deliverable at the end of each iteration, demonstrating it to the stakeholders, and prioritizing the backlog for the next iteration are aspects of an adaptive approach. However, prioritizing the backlog cannot be done without getting stakeholder feedback. Also, a retrospective is typically held before the next iteration is planned.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.8 Plan and manage scope

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 100

Hint: Whether the routine work of the team should be accounted for in the iteration/release plans is the key to answering this question

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

In the reference provided, the author writes, "In addition to making progress on a project, many teams are responsible for support and maintenance of another system. It may be a prior version of the product they are working on, or it may be an unrelated system. When a team makes a commitment to complete a set of stories during an iteration, they need to do so with their maintenance and support load in mind." In the scenario provided, it seems as the team knew that they were responsible for supporting products that were not associated with completing the work on the current project. However, the team most likely missed to account for this work during the iteration/release planning. Therefore, the failure to complete and deliver the planned work lies with the team. However, this does not mean the project manager should remove support work from the next iteration onward. While the situation is not ideal, the project manager should explain that routine work of supporting prior releases may be included in project plans and try to come to a reasonable solution with the stakeholders, solution that would allow the team to complete the current project and, at the same time, support the prior releases, without too much overtime work.

One approach to account for work not directly related to the current project is first to allocate a percentage or an average amount of time typically required to accomplish these routine tasks. Once this is done, the time left in the iteration can be used to estimate the number of user stories (or story points, features, etc.) of the current project that can be reasonably completed in the time remaining. Another alternative would be to place a user story of a size equivalent to the estimated size of the support work in the iteration backlog.

Details for Each Option:

A Agree with the stakeholders and remove all further support work from the next iterations

Incorrect. Even though the support duties seem to be negatively impacting the current project, removing all further support work from the next iterations without consulting with the stakeholders that were involved in the prior projects/releases and were likely those who requested the support, would be an overreaction. While removing the support work would likely help the current project, it would harm the customers who use the prior releases, which, in turn, may have a negative impact on the performing organization.

B Ignore the stakeholders' complain and instruct the team to continue supporting the prior releases

Incorrect. With some rare exceptions, statements that suggest ignoring stakeholders typically constitute incorrect answers.

C Explain that routine work of supporting prior releases may be included in project plans

Correct. Routine work of supporting prior releases may be included as part of the current project/release/iteration. However, this routine work should be planned ahead and discussed at release and iteration planning meetings. Relevant stakeholders from the current and previous projects should be invited to ensure the plans are agreed upon by all parties involved.

D Request that from now on the team work overtime to complete both the planned work and support

Incorrect. It seems as if the team failed to account for the support work in the current release and did not provide a realistic estimation of what could be accomplished in the current project, thus resulting in unrealistic stakeholder expectations. However, requesting the team to work overtime to cover for this gap would be unfair and likely negatively impact the overall team performance.

Agile promotes sustainable development, one that allows teams and stakeholders to maintain a constant pace indefinitely.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.6 Plan and manage schedule

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 101

Hint: What stage of team development is characterized by team members learning to trust each other?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

The question describes the Tuckman ladder of team development, which includes forming, storming, norming, performing, and adjourning as the stages of development. The norming stage of team development is characterized by team members adjusting their work habits and behaviors to support the team, and they learn to trust each other. The question states that the team is adjusting their work habits by making accommodations for team members in different time zones, and they are learning to trust each other. Of the available options, the norming stage is aligned the best with the description provided by the question.

Details for Each Option:

A Forming

Incorrect. The forming stage of team development is where team members meet and learn about the project and their formal roles and responsibilities. The question describes a team that is already working together and therefore has moved past the forming stage.

B Storming

Incorrect. During the storming phase of team development, the team begins to address the project work, technical decisions, and the project management approach. Of the available choices, this is not the best description of the development stage outlined in the question.

C Performing

Incorrect. Teams that reach the performing stage of team development function as a well-organized unit and work through issues smoothly and effectively. There is not enough information in the question to conclude that the team is already well-organized and works through issues smoothly and effectively. Another answer choice, norming, more accurately describes the current stage of the team.

D Norming

Correct. The norming stage of team development is characterized by team members adjusting their work habits and behaviors to support the team, and they learn to trust each other.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.11 Engage and support virtual teams

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 102

Hint: What should the project manager do to let the team know how to implement the company's policies on the project?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

It is typical to think of an adaptive (agile) project as a software development project that does not require any physical resources. However, an adaptive development approach can be applied to other industries, e.g., those that rely on physical resources to produce their deliverables. The scenario describes a project to develop a robotic arm that will require rare materials. Planning, ordering, transporting, storing, tracking, and controlling these physical resources can take a large amount of time and effort. Companies that deal with physical resources would typically have a policy in place that addresses those aspects. Each project that the company undertakes would have to implement the policy accordingly. A logistics plan is what connects the organizational policy with the project. The plan outlines how the company's policy of managing physical resources will be implemented on the project. The logistics plan often includes supporting documents, such as estimates for the type of material, basis of estimates, expected usage over time, etc. Having the proper logistics plan in place with appropriate supporting documentation helps ensure the effective and efficient use of physical resources, including minimizing scrap and waste, as asked by the question.

Details for Each Option:

A Develop a logistics plan including supporting documentation

Correct. It's a common misconception to think that adaptive projects, like the one implied by the scenario, do not require any documentation or plans. The number of planning artifacts depends on and should be tailored for the project's needs. With the dependence on rare materials, going ahead with the project without any plan is irresponsible.

B Suggest increasing the sprint length to deliver more value in each sprint

Incorrect. Increasing the sprint length will likely result in more value delivered in each sprint. However, it's unclear if this course of action will help minimize scrap and waste. Besides, it's reasonable to assume that the sprint length of one month has been established for a reason. Therefore, modifying it without sufficient proof would be unwarranted.

C Remove the most wasteful user stories from the project backlog

Incorrect. Items in the backlog are typically prioritized based on their business value and, sometimes, other criteria, such as risk. If a user story brings no value, it's considered wasteful and should not have been in the backlog in the first place. There is not enough information in the scenario to determine if the backlog includes such user stories.

D Hold a bidder conference to procure the materials needed for the project

Incorrect. A project that requires materials to produce its deliverables may (or may not) require reaching out to prospective bidders. There is not enough information in the scenario to determine if the company already possesses the materials or needs to procure them externally. Therefore, holding a bidder conference is premature.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.5 Plan and manage budget and resources

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 103

Hint: Which engagement level suggests that the stakeholder is vital to the project success?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

A stakeholder engagement assessment matrix supports a comparison between the current (C) engagement levels of stakeholders and the desired (D) engagement levels required for successful project delivery. Tonya Stewart has been identified as currently resistant to the project with the goal of having this stakeholder be a project leader. This stakeholder has the widest gap between the current state and desired state. Additionally, the fact that the desired state is to have this person with a leading engagement level suggests her commitment to the success of the project is vital. Therefore, of the available choices, the most important element to include in the stakeholder engagement plan is a strategy to improve the engagement level of Tonya Stewart.

Details for Each Option:

A A plan to improve Marie Smith's engagement level

Incorrect. The stakeholder engagement assessment matrix indicates that the engagement level of Marie Smith is currently at the desired level. Therefore, it is not necessary to include a plan to improve this stakeholder's engagement level.

B An engagement level improvement plan for Todd Young

Incorrect. Todd Young is currently supportive of the project with the desired level of neutral. Therefore, there is no reason to develop a plan to improve this stakeholder's level of engagement at this point in the project.

C A strategy to address the engagement level of John Snow

Incorrect. John Snow is currently unaware of the project with the goal of having him at least neutral on the project. Although the stakeholder engagement plan should address this stakeholder's engagement level, the fact that the project only needs him to be neutral suggests that his involvement will not be a critical factor in the success of the project. Therefore, of the available choices, this is not the best answer.

D A strategy to improve the engagement level of Tonya Stewart

Correct. Tonya Stewart has been identified as currently resistant to the project with the desired engagement level with a goal of having this stakeholder be a project leader. This stakeholder has the widest gap between the current state and the desired state. Additionally, the fact that the desired state is to have this person with a leading engagement level suggests her commitment to the success of the project is vital.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.4 Engage stakeholders PM Approach: Predictive

Question 104

Hint: Ensuring stakeholder understanding and receiving feedback are crucial for effective communication.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Scheduling a follow-up meeting allows the project manager to clarify points and ensure stakeholder understanding. It also provides an opportunity to gather feedback in a structured manner. Effective communication is a two-way process that requires confirmation that the intended message has been received and understood. If stakeholders appear disengaged or confused, it signals that they may not have fully grasped the information presented. Since they did not provide feedback, the project manager cannot assume their understanding. Scheduling a follow-up meeting allows one to clarify key points, address questions, and ensure alignment with stakeholder expectations. This proactive approach helps prevent misunderstandings leading to issues later in the project.

Details for Each Option:

A Assume the stakeholders understood the presentation and move forward.

Incorrect. Assuming understanding without confirmation is risky and may lead to misalignment. Assuming stakeholders understood the presentation without confirmation is a poor communication practice. Lack of engagement and confusion indicate potential misunderstandings, which, if left unaddressed, could lead to misalignment and project risks.

B Send an email asking stakeholders for feedback and questions.

Incorrect. Sending an email may not ensure stakeholder engagement or clear feedback. Sending an email for feedback is passive and does not ensure stakeholder engagement. Stakeholders may ignore the email, misunderstand the request, or hesitate to provide feedback in writing. A more interactive approach, like a meeting, is better suited to clarify doubts.

C Schedule a follow-up meeting to clarify and confirm stakeholder understanding.

Correct. A follow-up meeting addresses confusion and ensures alignment. Scheduling a follow-up meeting ensures an interactive discussion where the project manager can address concerns, clarify any confusion, and confirm stakeholder understanding. This aligns with best practices in communication management and stakeholder engagement.

D Revise the project documentation and resend it to stakeholders for review.

Incorrect. Revising and resending documentation may not resolve the disengagement issue. Revising and resending project documentation does not guarantee that stakeholders will review it or understand it better. The issue is not necessarily with the documentation but the communication and engagement process.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.2 Manage communications

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 105

Hint: The roles in managing quality for the project may differ in size and effort.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

It is not uncommon to hear opinions that quality is the responsibility of the quality assurance department in an organization. However, project management practitioners should understand that managing quality is considered the work of everybody, including the project manager, project team, project sponsor, management of the performing organization, and even the customer. All of these have roles in managing quality in the project, though the roles differ in size and effort.

Details for Each Option:

A The project manager, project team, and management of the performing organization

Incorrect. The project manager, project team, and management of the performing organization all play a role in managing quality. However, the role of managing quality is not limited to these individuals; therefore, this is not the best answer of the available choices.

B The project sponsor along with the project manager and project team

Incorrect. The project sponsor, project manager, and project team do have roles in managing quality. However, the management of the performing organization and even the customer have roles in managing quality as well. Thus, of the available choices, there is a better answer to the question asked.

C The project manager along with the project team

Incorrect. The project manager along with the project team may have the most significant and leading role in managing quality, but other individuals and groups play a role as well. Therefore, this is not the best answer to the question asked.

D The project manager, project team, project sponsor, management of the performing organization, and the customer

Correct. The project manager, project team, project sponsor, management of the performing organization, and even the customer have roles in managing quality in the project, though the roles differ in size and effort. Of the answer choices provided, this choice more completely covers those individuals and groups who play a role in managing quality for the project and is, therefore, the best answer to the question asked.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.16 Ensure knowledge transfer for project continuity

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 106

Hint: Which level of agile planning establishes the number of iterations?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Agile release planning provides a high-level summary timeline of the release schedule based on the product roadmap and the product vision. In the scenario, the project manager needs to develop a schedule for the first release, which will establish the number of iterations required. Since there is a potential impact on the schedule from another project, the project manager should analyze the impact and take the findings into account when developing the release plan for the current project. The assessment and evaluation of this impact could be done using the what-if scenario analysis, which is an example of the data analysis technique that can be used as part of the Develop Schedule process implied by the scenario. The what-if scenario analysis may typically help assess the feasibility of the project schedule under different conditions, thus allowing the project manager to make an informed decision as to the number of iterations required before the rollout.

Details for Each Option:

A Release planning

Correct. Agile release planning determines the number of iterations in the release and helps decide how much needs to be developed and how long it will take to have a releasable product based on business goals, dependencies, and impediments. A company-wide operating system upgrade described by the scenario represents a dependency, thus requiring the project manager to analyze its impact on the release planning of the ERP project

B Product roadmap

Incorrect. A product roadmap shows the anticipated sequence of deliverables over time. In agile release planning, the product roadmap drives the release plans. While it may be important to evaluate the overall feasibility of the roadmap in the scenario described, the number of iterations, as requested by the question, is determined at the release level, not the product roadmap level.

C Iteration backlogs

Incorrect. An Iteration backlog is a prioritized list of items (requirements, features, user stories) to be developed in an Iteration. The iteration length is typically fixed and not determined by its content. The number of iterations in a release is determined by the iteration length and the time available until the rollout, rather than the content of iteration backlogs. Therefore, assessing the impact of the upgrade project on the iteration backlogs of the current project would not help determine the number of the iterations until rollout.

D Project charter

Incorrect. A project charter is a document that authorizes the existence of a project and provides the project manager with the authority to apply organizational resources to project activities. The information captured in the project charter is typically presented at a high-level and does not specify the number of iterations planned for a project, whether the project is managed using a traditional or agile approach.

Question 107

Hint: How do agile teams collaborate to produce the project's deliverables?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The scenario indicates that a project team will be transitioning from a waterfall approach to an agile framework with elements of an eXtreme Programming (XP) method. Sometimes it is advantageous to use different project management frameworks for different phases of a project, meaning the project is taking a hybrid approach. Project teams typically collaborate in a different way when using predictive versus agile methodologies. Thus, it is likely that the project team will need to revise their working agreements to be tailored to the project management framework. Agile teams are known for being self-organizing, and, as a result, have collective ownership for delivering the project's deliverables. With a waterfall project, the project team members are more likely to be assigned specific tasks and are individually accountable for completing their assignments. Agile, on the other hand, and XP specifically, stresses the importance of collective code ownership (as it applies to software development). This collective responsibility and team accountability may need to be included as part of the social contract, as reflected by the ground rules in the team charter.

Details for Each Option:

A Acceptance of collective responsibility for the project's deliverables

Correct. Teams that utilize an extreme Programming (XP) method to develop the product (typically a software product) are bound by collective responsibility for delivering the project's deliverables.

B Addition of agreements for working in a virtual environment

Incorrect. There is no indication from the question that the project team will be transitioning to a virtual environment. Additionally, agile best practices encourage the use of colocated teams. Therefore, transitioning to an agile framework, all else being equal, is more likely to move away from a virtual environment in favor of face-to-face communication.

C The ground rules will no longer be needed as the team will use XP

Incorrect. The ground rules can be useful regardless of the project management framework being employed. The ground rules may need to be revised for use in an agile environment but are not likely to be discarded.

D Accountability for the creation of highly detailed documentation

Incorrect. The Agile Manifesto values the development of working software (or completed deliverables) over comprehensive documentation. The creation of documentation should be reduced to the barely sufficient minimum. Thus, the creation of highly detailed documentation should be avoided unless it is a project requirement, which is not suggested by the scenario.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.12 Define team ground rules

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 108

Hint: There are three main types of PMOs in organizations: supportive, controlling, directive. What would make the most sense for a controlling PMO to enforce?

Correct Answer: A,B,D

Explanation:

There are several types of PMOs in an organization, with varying degrees of influence: supportive, controlling, and directive. A controlling PMO provides support, but also require compliance. Compliance may involve the adoption of project management frameworks or methodologies; the use of specific templates, forms, and tools; and conformance to governance frameworks. However, neither a controlling PMO nor any other type of PMO for that matter enforces local health regulations. A controlling PMO does not decide on the use of management reserves either. It is the directive, not controlling PMO, that assigns project managers and take control of the projects by directly managing them.

Details for Each Option:

A Use of particular project management methodologies

Correct. A project management office with controlling influence in an organization can enforce the adoption of project management frameworks or methodologies for project teams in order to streamline and coordinate the application of project management processes in the organization.

B Adoption of specific templates, forms, and tools

Correct. A controlling project management office can enforce the use of specific templates, forms, and tools for project teams in order to standardize the way the projects are managed in the organization. Having these artifacts streamlined across the organization may reduce the administrative burden for the project managers.

C Adherence to local health regulations

Incorrect. While project compliance with local health regulations, if applicable, is likely to be mandatory, a project management office is typically not the governing body responsible for enforcing these regulations. Such a responsibility would rest with the appropriate law-making and enforcing authorities.

D Conformance to governance frameworks

Correct. A project management office with controlling Influence in an organization can enforce conformance to governance frameworks. Such frameworks may define project status reporting requirements, decision-making flows, ways to provide control, direction, and coordination through people, policies, and processes, to name but a few.

E Assignment of project managers by the PMO

Incorrect. This answer choice describes an organization with a directive PMO. Directive PMOS have a high degree of control over projects in the organizations they operate. For example, directive PMOs may take control of the projects by directly managing them. Project managers in such organizations are assigned by and report to the PMMO.

F Release of management reserves

Incorrect. The decision whether management reserves should be released for a project as part of its cost or schedule management is made by the managers with authority over these reserves, not by the project management office with controlling influence in the organization.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 3. Business Environment

Task: 3.1 Plan and manage project compliance

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 109

Hint: Agile projects thrive on regular, informal communications.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Open, frequent, and informal communication is the cornerstone of agile managed projects. The best form of communication is face to face conversations. Agile teams working in a collocated space that supports communication is ideal. Planning communications management that hinders or places boundaries on those conversations is counterproductive. A project manager needs to encourage more communication, not less. A project manager also needs to support the capturing and flow of communication between stakeholders. Scheduling more communication checkpoints, such as daily standup meetings, increases the communication exchanges. And, when possible, posting and distributing information to the team aids communication flow-whether in physical locations, digitized, or both. Withholding conversations or enforcing extended quiet times is the antithesis of good communication flow.

Details for Each Option:

A Schedule frequent team checkpoints and post project artifacts in a transparent fashion

Correct. Frequent and flexible information exchanges are good for agile management projects. An open work arrangement supports that Offering checkpoint times, posting information, and other ways to support the sharing and access to information extends the free flow of project knowledge and communications.

B Request team members to hold off their conversations until formal meeting times

Incorrect. Agile managed projects thrive on open, constant face to face conversations amongst stakeholders. Holding conversations to designated meeting times hinders the free flow of Information and the Informal exchanges that occur regularly in agile projects

C Record the conversations and past them in a shared repository

Incorrect. With so many conversations occurring daily, capturing them all, storing them, and distributing them in a manner that would be relevant, useful, and not out of date would be highly unlikely and counterproductive.

D Designate afternoons as quiet work times

Incorrect. Team members in an agile managed project collocated in an open arrangement thrive on constant communication and ease of face-to-face conversation. Enforcing long quiet periods is counterproductive.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.2 Manage communications

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 110

Hint: What do agile methodologies promote as the most efficient and effective method of communicating?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

With agile methodologies, formal documentation of a communication plan is typically not required because much of the communication is inherent in the agile ceremonies. Since a hybrid approach is being employed in this scenario, a communications management plan will likely be needed, but agile aspects of the project will require little formal documented planning. However, one consideration which needs to be accounted for is the increased number of face-to-face interactions that typically result from agile practices. For example, the project manager may need to ensure facilities are available for a war room, video conferencing, the common part of the "caves and common", meeting rooms, etc.

Details for Each Option:

A Account for an increased exchange of documentation

Incorrect. Agile methodologies prioritize face-to-face communication, whereas traditional project management is more focused on the exchange of documentation. Therefore, there will likely be a decreased, not increased, exchange of documentation associated with the agile aspects of the project.

B Specify the exact number of communication channels

Incorrect. When the number of stakeholders that will communicate on a project is known upfront, it is theoretically possible to calculate the number of communication channels. However, neither it's likely that the exact number of stakeholders is known upfront, nor is it clear what benefit will the knowledge of the exact number of communication channels bring to the project, specifically, to its agile aspects.

C Secure facilities to support face-to-face interactions

Correct. Agile principles favor face-to-face communication as the most efficient and effective method of conveying information. Therefore, of the available choices, securing facilities to support face-to-face interactions is the best answer to the question asked.

D Deploy the project management information systems (PMIS)

Incorrect. The project management information systems (PMS) provide a set of standard tools for the project manager to capture, store, and distribute information to project stakeholders according to their needs captured in the communications management plan. The PMIS applies to the project as a whole and can be equally beneficial for any project management approach, either traditional, agile, or hybrid.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.2 Manage communications

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 111

Hint: The probability of a project manager successfully managing their project teams often depends on their ability to find resolutions when differences arise within the team using this tool or technique.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Managing a project team requires various management and leadership skills to promote teamwork and maintain a cohesive and productive environment. Conflict management, a component of the interpersonal and team skills grouping, is one of the skills needed. Conflict is inevitable in a project environment, as such conflict should be addressed in a timely manner. The success of a project will often depend on how well the project manager manages conflict.

Details for Each Option:

A Networking

Incorrect. Networking is interacting with others to exchange information and establish contacts. Networking may provide a means to solve problems, influence stakeholders or garner support for a project. Networking is a tool or technique used in several project processes. However, it would not be the appropriate option to address the situation described in this question.

B Recognition and rewards

Incorrect. Recognition and rewards can be used to award desirable behavior. The question describes a disagreement creating performance issues versus desirable behavior. Recognizing and rewarding would not be a reasonable approach to this situation.

C Training

Incorrect. Training is a tool that includes all activities utilized to increase the project team's competency. Though training may be identified as a needed element as you move forward, it is not a viable option to address the immediate situation.

D Conflict management

Correct. Conflict management is the most appropriate answer to the question asked. When conflict is managed properly, it can lead to improved productivity and working relationships. Conflict should be addressed early and privately using a collaborative approach.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People Task: 1.1 Manage conflict PM Approach: Predictive

Question 112

Hint: What are the responsibilities of agile servant leaders?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Agile project management approach emphasizes servant leadership as a way to empower teams. Servant leaders manage relationships to build communication and coordination within the team and across the organization. Servant leaders can have many possible titles, but the most important thing is what they do. One of the agile servant leaders' responsibilities is to support the team through mentoring, encouragement, and support. A vital role of the servant leader is to nurture and grow team members through and beyond their current roles, even if that means losing them from the team, which is what described in the scenario.

Details for Each Option:

A No, agile leaders must ensure the team members never leave their teams

Incorrect. With some exceptions, answer choices with absolute statements such as "always", "never, etc. are typically incorrect answers. While it is beneficial for the teams to maintain their composition, ensuring that team members never leave their teams is unlikely to be the correct answer. Sometimes, new team members who replace veterans can bring views that may eventually advantageous for the team.

B Yes, agile leaders should develop team members even if that means losing them

Correct. Through support, encouragement, and professional development, team members gain confidence, take on more significant roles, and contribute at higher levels within their organizations. Sometimes, team members that outgrew their roles would seek opportunities outside the organization. This can be considered a negative result of the approach described in the scenario. Smart organizations, however, know to retain their star employees.

C No, agile leaders may develop team members but not beyond their current roles

Incorrect. Limiting the development of team members would have a negative effect on the personal performance of the individuals as well as the overall team performance. This may retain the people for the short term. However, in the long run, it is reasonable to assume that the team members would feel the lack of their personal and professional development and eventually leave.

D Yes, agile leaders have to make sure team members eventually leave the team

Incorrect. Leaving the team should not be the ultimate goal of servant leaders. The goal is to develop the team members so that they perform better as individuals, as a team, and an organization. If the team members leave eventually, this could be seen as "collateral damage. The hope, however, is that speaking in financial language, return on investment in developing the team members would be higher than the cost.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.3 Support team performance

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 113

Hint: Which tool might be used to bring both teams together in a virtual environment?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The scenario describes a project that is being managed using a hybrid approach by combining agile and predictive frameworks within the same project. Specifically, in this case, the software development team will use an agile framework, and the hardware development team will use a predictive approach. Regardless of the project management frameworks, the two teams will need to coordinate their efforts to build the final product closely. The ideal approach would be to colocate both teams in the same physical location, but the scenario stipulates that this is not an option. Therefore, the project manager can recreate physical colocation in a virtual environment with the use of a fishbowl window. This approach will allow the project teams to gain most of the benefits of colocation even though they are physically dispersed. The incorrect answer choices represent actions that would not likely enhance collaboration between the two groups.

Details for Each Option:

A Use a blended agile approach

Incorrect. Blended agile is structured by combining two or more agile frameworks, elements, or practices. In this scenario, the software team, which is using an agile framework, might or might not use a blended agile approach, but there is not enough information presented to make this determination. More importantly, using a blended agile approach for software development would not likely enhance collaboration with the hardware development team.

B Create a fishbowl window

Correct. A fishbowl window is created by setting up long-lived video conferencing links to connect dispersed teams in a virtual environment. Using a fishbowl window will bring the two development teams together in a virtual environment to enhance collaboration.

C Transition the hardware team to agile

Incorrect. According to the scenario, the hardware team will use a predictive project management approach. While theoretically transitioning the team to agile is possible, it is unclear if this action would improve the collaboration between the two teams. The two teams will still need to coordinate their efforts regardless of the project management framework used by each.

D Implement caves and common

Incorrect. Caves and common can be set up by creating a common area for development work and also providing offices when individual team members need to work privately. This approach might be used by a colocated team to enhance collaboration and productivity. However, this strategy would not likely enhance collaboration between the two geographically separated development teams.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.11 Engage and support virtual teams

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 114

Hint: How can the team be proactive?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Projects typically encounter challenges and obstacles. Those may lead to schedule delays and cost overruns, as depicted in the scenario provided. Project leaders should embrace adaptability and resiliency to improve project outcomes. Resiliency refers to the project's ability to absorb negative impacts and the ability to recover quickly from a setback or failure. One strategy that can improve resiliency is anticipating multiple potential scenarios and preparing for multiple eventualities. There are various tools that may help simulate scenarios and suggest potential solutions. However, the question does not require the knowledge of any specific approach. The idea is to be more proactive in avoiding setbacks or, at least, mitigating their impact.

Details for Each Option:

A Improve resiliency by anticipating numerous potential scenarios and preparing for multiple eventualities

Correct. Resiliency refers to the project's ability to absorb impacts and recover quickly from a setback or failure. One strategy that can improve resiliency is anticipating multiple potential scenarios and preparing for various negative or positive events. The next step would be to mitigate the adverse outcomes and exploit the positive ones.

B Develop the project deliverables using an iterative and incremental project development approach

Incorrect. In the scenario, the team members hold a sprint retrospective and are looking for ways to improve the performance of the upcoming sprints. The usage of sprints suggests that the project is already using an incremental and Iterative development approach, making this choice an incorrect answer.

C Starting from the next sprint planning, help the team envision deliverables rather than outcomes

Incorrect. In the scenario described, the project team members are looking to improve the project's resiliency. Envisioning outcomes over deliverables (rather than deliverables over outcomes) can improve adaptability and resiliency by providing an opportunity to harness a better result than what was originally planned.

D Report the impediments to all project stakeholders and request improvement suggestions

Incorrect. There is nothing wrong with asking for improvement suggestions. However, reporting the Impediments to all project stakeholders would be inappropriate and overreacting. The team should first try to resolve the issues (that are under the team's control) on their own. Reaching out to the project leader would be the next step.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.3 Assess and manage risks

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 115

Hint: What are the responsibilities of a servant leader within an agile project management framework?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The scenario describes a hybrid project in which some of the elements are managed using a predictive/traditional project management approach (the performance measurement baseline) while others are managed using agile (the product is developed over the course of several iterations). According to the scenario, the project manager feels that one team member is less productive than the others. But this is likely just based on one's subjective perception, which may or may not be reflective of reality. With agile methodologies, it is the development team members, not the project manager, who are the experts on the project work. The project manager may lack in-depth knowledge of the work requirements compared to the team members themselves. For example, the identified team member might be taking on the most difficult tasks, which make it appear that their productivity is lacking. The project team members are in a much better position to determine if a team member holds back the team. The project manager should allow the project team members the latitude to collaborate and address relatively minor issues among themselves. In some cases, such as the one described in the scenario, providing direct feedback to the individual is not the best approach.

On a side note, this does not mean to imply that there is no action that should be taken by the project manager. The project manager might ensure that the team has developed and documented their team agreements. The project manager might dig deeper to see if there are any training needs that can be addressed. However, of the available answer choices, the best course of action for the project manager is to allow the project team members to address the issue if they deem necessary.

Details for Each Option:

A Allow the project team members to address the issue if they deem necessary

Correct. Agile teams are self-organizing and self-managing. The project manager may provide servant leadership and guidance with agile best practices, but the team should collaborate to complete the work rather than being directed by the project manager.

B Direct the underperforming team member to work extra hours to bridge the gap

Incorrect. A project manager should perform the role of a servant leader. An agile leader supports the project team rather than directs its activities. It would be inconsistent with agile best practices to direct any team member to work extra hours.

C Call out the team member's low productivity at the upcoming iteration retrospective

Incorrect. Calling out a perceived performance issue with a particular team member in a group setting would not be appropriate. This action will likely cause friction within the group and between the team member and the project manager. Performance issues should be addressed in private to respect the privacy of the individuals involved. If the project was not meeting objectives, it might be appropriate to discuss team productivity but not place blame on a particular individual.

D From the next iteration onward, assign the team member the easiest user stories

Incorrect. With agile methodologies, the project team collaborates to determine what user stories are assigned to which individuals. It would be inconsistent with agile best practices for the project manager to assign user stories to a particular team member.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.3 Support team performance

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 116

Hint: An audit should be an independent review.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

An audit is a structured, independent process used to determine if project activities comply with organizational and project policies, processes, and procedures. A quality audit is usually conducted by a team external to the project, such as the organization's internal audit department, project management office (PMO), or by an auditor external to the organization. Having a project team member perform the audit negates the benefits of an independent review and might introduce bias. For example, if the project team member conducting the audit is not aware or misinterprets a particular procedure during project execution, then that same individual will not identify the problem during the audit. Thus, it is best to have an audit performed by an entity external to the project. Therefore, of the choices provided, the most likely reason these compliance gaps were not found during the audits was that the audits were conducted by a project team member.

Details for Each Option:

A The audits were conducted by the company's internal audit department

Incorrect. It is entirely appropriate for an audit to be performed by an internal audit department. Therefore, this action is unlikely to be the cause of the problem identified in the scenario, making this choice an incorrect answer.

B The audits were conducted by one of the project team members

Correct. An audit is usually performed by an entity external to the team. Having a project team member perform the audit negates the benefits of an independent review making this choice the best answer to the question asked.

C The audits were conducted by the project management office (PMO)

Incorrect. Performing audits is a typical function for a PMO and is not a likely cause for missing the compliance issues.

D The audits were conducted by an auditor external to the organization

Incorrect. External auditors are commonly used to ensure compliance with policies, procedures, and best practices. There is no reason to believe that using an external auditor could cause the problem outlined in this scenario.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 3. Business Environment

Task: 3.1 Plan and manage project compliance

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 117

Hint: In which type of organization does a project manager have no authority over resources?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Organizational structure can affect the availability of resources and influence how projects are conducted. In a functional organization, the project manager's authority over resources is little to none, the project budget is managed by the functional managers, and the project manager works on project tasks part-time. Other project characteristics in a functional organization include little to no resource availability and part-time project management administrative staff.

Details for Each Option:

A Weak matrix

Incorrect. Even though in a weak matrix organization a project manager has low authority over resources, it is still considered an authority that the project manager can use. The scenario, however, describes no authority at all, making weak matrix an incorrect answer choice.

B Functional

Correct. In a functional organization, the project manager's authority over resources is little to none, the project budget is managed by the functional manager, and the project manager is working on project tasks part-time. Based on the scenario described, you are working in a functional organization.

C Balanced matrix

Incorrect. In a balanced matrix organization, the project manager's authority over resources is low to moderate, and the project budget is managed by both the functional manager and the project manager. The scenario describes no authority over resources and the budget is managed by the functional manager.

D Projectized

Incorrect. In a projectized organization, the project manager's authority over resources is high to almost total, the project budget is managed by the project manager, and the project manager is working on project tasks full-time. The scenario describes no authority over resources, a budget that is managed by the functional manager, and the project manager works on project tasks part-time.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.4 Empower team members and stakeholders

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 118

Hint: How much help is the project manager in this debate?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

As the project team is working on the project, there are going to be situations where an answer must be worked out. Sometimes these situations are complex, requiring a lot of debate and discussion; other times these are very simple decisions. These minor conflicts are commonplace in almost every project. A project environment that supports the decision making and trust among team members, so they can resolve issues and find beneficial solutions are hallmarks of high-performing teams. A project manager must assist in creating and developing such an environment and the team. That sometimes means backing away from situations where the project manager is not a value-add and allowing the project team to problem solve and decide. While this option sounds counter-intuitive, under the circumstances described in the scenario, withdrawing from the conflict and not making the decision is the best course of action for the project manager.

Details for Each Option:

A Abide by the decision of the most senior team member

Incorrect. Although experience or tenure at a company may provide one with more knowledge and leverage a certain advantage, requiring the team members to go with the decision of the most senior person is most likely not the best way to resolve a technical issue. Sometimes, junior team members have innovative ideas that are better than the old tested approaches.

B Avoid being involved in the discussion and decision making

Correct. The project manager does not have the information and insight to help the team members come to a resolution. The inclusion of the project manager is not of benefit.

C Stop the discussion and direct the team members to get back to work

Incorrect. The scenario suggests the team members are arguing over technical detail. Stopping the discussion would not resolve the issue.

D Request the human resource department's representative to step in

Incorrect. There is nothing in the scenario to suggest the issue is personal warranting the representative of the human resource department to step in.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People Task: 1.1 Manage conflict

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 119

Hint: What are the raw observations and measurements identified during project activities?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Work performance data are the raw observations and measurements identified during activities performed to carry out the project work. In the scenario, the project manager collects all of the costs, which have been authorized, incurred, invoiced, and paid. Those are best described as the work performance data. Only after these raw data have been analyzed, will it become work performance information. Therefore, what the project manager has gathered was the work performance data.

Details for Each Option:

A

Planned value

Incorrect. Planned value is the authorized budget assigned to scheduled work. The question describes costs that are incurred rather than the budget.

B

Earned value

Incorrect. Earned value is the measure of work performed expressed in terms of the budget authorized for that work. The question is asking about costs and not earned value.

C

Work performance information

Incorrect. Work performance data, once analyzed, becomes work performance information. The question indicates that the cost analysis has yet to be performed. Therefore, this choice can be eliminated as a correct response.

D

Work performance data

Correct. Work performance data contains data on project status such as which costs have been authorized, incurred, invoiced, and paid.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.9 Integrate project planning activities

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 120

Hint:

Which one is a product demonstration technique that allows teams to show how the early version of the product works?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Prototyping is a method of obtaining early feedback on requirements by providing a model of the expected product before actually building it. Examples of prototypes are small-scale products, computer-generated 2D and 3D models, mock-ups, or simulations. Prototypes allow stakeholders to experiment with a model of the final product rather than being limited to discussing abstract representations of their requirements. Of the choices provided, prototyping best addresses the need of the project manager to ensure that before the actual robot is built, the team receives early feedback on requirements and adapts the design accordingly. Prototyping can be used on any type of project, traditional, agile, or hybrid.

Details for Each Option:

A

Prototyping

Correct. Prototyping supports the concept of progressive elaboration in iterative cycles, such as those used on agile projects described in the scenario. When enough feedback cycles have been performed, the requirements obtained from the prototype are sufficiently complete to move to the design or build phase.

B

Design review

Incorrect. Although a design review meeting helps the team gain early feedback from a customer, design reviews are limited to discussing abstract representations of stakeholders' requirements.

Another answer choice better addresses the question asked.

C

Checklists

Incorrect. A checklist is a document that contains a list of items, actions, or points to be considered. Checklists can be used for various purposes in various project management processes, on both agile and traditional projects. However, checklists are not used for getting early feedback on requirements.

D

Business case

Incorrect. A business case is used to support the feasibility of the effort and to describe why the organization should undertake the project rather than get early feedback on requirements and adapt the design accordingly.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.9 Collaborate with stakeholders

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 121

Hint: Determine how many story points are remaining in the project and multiply them by the cost per story point.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The scenario describes a hybrid project in which the costs are controlled using predictive methods while the team carries out their work using agile. Under these circumstances and with the information provided in the scenario, the traditional formulas to calculate the earned value parameters would not work. The way to calculate the ETC, in this case, is to multiply the remaining number of story points by the average cost per story point. The team has completed 100 story points (4 sprints with 25 story points each), which is 1/3 of the total amount of story points for the project. If 100 story points represent 1/3 of the total scope, then the total scope is 300 story points, leaving 200 story points remaining to be completed. Using the remaining number of story points on the project, 200, you need to multiply it by the average cost per story point, \$575, to determine the expected cost for completing the remainder of the project. Following are the detailed calculations in this situation:

Total Story Points Completed = 100

Total Story Points Remaining = 200

Average Cost Per Story Point = \$575

Remaining Cost for Project Completion=200* \$575 = \$115,000

Please note, the question is asking about the cost to complete the 'remaining' story points on the project, not the 'total' of the story points on the project.

Details for Each Option:

A \$57,500

Incorrect. \$57,500 represents the cost of the story points earned rather than the expected remaining cost.

B \$115,000

Correct. The expected cost remaining for the project is \$115,000, which is the product of the story points remaining, 200, and the cost per story point, 575. \$14,375

Incorrect.

C \$14,375 is the product of the average velocity (25 points) and the average cost per story point (\$575), which represents the average cost per sprint rather than the estimated cost to complete the project.

D \$172,500

Incorrect. This answer choice represents the estimated cost for the entire project rather than just the remaining cost.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.5 Plan and manage budget and resources

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 122

Hint: As a rule of thumb, choices with absolute statements such as 'never, 'always', 'must, etc., typically constitute incorrect answers. Which of the remaining two choices makes more sense?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Be suspicious when you see answer choices with absolute statements such as 'never, 'always', 'must', etc. With some exceptions, choices containing these words represent incorrect answers. It's not a MUST to follow the PMBOK Guide process while developing a project charter on an agile project. On the other hand, there is nothing that stops you from following the PMBOK® Guide process to develop a charter on an agile project. Agile is paperless is a made-up statement. Theoretically, you can go paperless on agile, but it is hard to see how this would be implemented in real-life situations.

While not ideal, the only correct choice is the one that states that agile projects do not necessarily require a formal document that represents a project charter. As stated by the authors in one of the references provided, "There are two ways to develop a project charter in an agile environment. One is to continue along the traditional route of preparing the paperwork needed in order to obtain approval. The other way presumes that either provisional funding has been awarded or that tacit approval has already occurred without the need for internal paperwork."

Details for Each Option:

A Must follow the PMBOK® Guide processes

Incorrect. Developing a project charter on an agile project may or may not follow the PMBOKS Guide processes. It depends on the organization's policies and procedures as well as the approach chosen for the specific project. Even traditional projects are not supposed blindly follow the processes specified in the PMBOK® Guide.

B Must not follow the PMBOK® Guide processes

Incorrect. Developing a project charter on an agile project may or may not follow the PMBOKS Guide processes. It depends on the organization's policies and procedures as well as the approach chosen for the specific project. If the organization decides to follow the PMBOK Guide, then saying that developing a project charter on an agile project must not follow the PMBOK Guide processes would be an incorrect statement.

C is not required because Agile is paperless

Incorrect. While it's true that agile projects typically have less documentation than traditional projects (whether actual documents or digital ones), agile is not paperless. This is a made-up statement.

D Does not necessarily require a formal document

Correct. In some instances, agile projects do not require formal documents when it comes to project charters. Examples include, but are not limited to, teams that accept contracts from outside sources, teams that are working on special projects, teams that are working in smaller organizations.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.12 Manage project artifacts

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 123

Hint: What is the best way to create a team atmosphere without bringing everyone together in the same physical space?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

The question suggests that the Develop Team process is being performed, and virtual teams is a tool that may be used during this process. A virtual team can use technology to create an online team environment to build team cohesion. In this way, the project manager can take advantage of a broader pool of candidates without paying travel expenses. The use of a virtual team is the best tool that the project manager can use under the circumstances provided in the question.

Details for Each Option:

A Sensitivity analysis

Incorrect. Sensitivity analysis is an analysis technique to determine which individual project risks have the most potential impact on project outcomes. The question is asking about building team cohesion and not project risks.

B Recognition and rewards

Incorrect. Recognition and rewards can be helpful in team development by recognizing and rewarding desirable behavior. However, recognition and rewards are not the best tools for building team cohesion.

C Virtual teams

Correct. A virtual team can use technology to create an online team environment to build team cohesion. In this way, the project manager can take advantage of a broader pool of candidates without paying travel expenses.

D Colocation

Incorrect. Colocation involves placing the project team members in the same physical location to enhance their ability to perform as a team. Although this may be the best way to build team cohesion, the question states that budget constraints prohibit this option.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.11 Engage and support virtual teams

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 124

Hint: What scrum ceremony would provide the shortest feedback loop?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

In this scenario, a scrum team and a predictive team are working on the same project. A project team that uses a traditional waterfall approach does not typically require short feedback loops compared to an agile team since the predictive approach has team tasks planned in advance. According to the scenario, the predictive team needs to be kept apprised of the scrum team's activities due to dependencies between the teams' deliverables. One of the ceremonies associated with scrum is the daily standup meeting (also known as the daily scrum). During a daily standup meeting, each project team member describes what they accomplished since the previous daily scrum (typically, from yesterday), what they plan to accomplish today, and informs if there are any impediments to progress. Having the predictive team members attend the daily scrum will allow them to be apprised of the scrum teams activities and help with the coordination of dependent activities.

Details for Each Option:

A Include a project retrospective into the project schedule

Incorrect. A project retrospective provides the project teams with an opportunity to inspect and adapt their processes to improve future performance. Typically, the retrospective takes place at the end of the project, making the collaboration during project execution hardly achievable.

B Request that the scrum team use information radiators

Incorrect. An information radiator is a highly visible physical display that provides information to the rest of the organization. Information radiators are a form of one-way communication. The use of feedback loops implies the need for two-way communication. With an information radiator, there is no way to close the loop.

C Incorporate the use of periodic customer feedback loops

Incorrect. Customer feedback loops may very well be an essential aspect of the project. However, the scenario is specifically asking about how the two project teams will coordinate their efforts, rather than gathering feedback from customers.

D Have the predictive team attend the daily scrum meetings

Correct. Having the predictive team attend the scrum team's daily standup will provide a daily opportunity for the predictive team to be apprised of what the scrum team has accomplished and is planning to accomplish.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.2 Manage communications

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 125

Hint: Which of the following includes information on the composition of the team?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Using existing knowledge and creating new knowledge for a project is essentially the definition of the Manage Project Knowledge process. When the knowledge that the project has is compared to its knowledge needs, then the gaps in knowledge can be identified and addressed. Specifically, the resource breakdown structure, as it pertains to the Manage Project Knowledge process, includes information on the composition of the team and may help to understand what knowledge is available as a group and what knowledge may be missing.

Details for Each Option:

A Bid documents

Incorrect. Bid documents are used to solicit information, quotations, or proposal from prospective sellers. First, it is not clear from the scenario if the project involves sellers. Second, even if it does, the information included in the bid documents is limited to the work outsourced to the sellers.

B Resource breakdown structure

Correct. The resource breakdown structure is a hierarchical representation of resources by category and type. The resource breakdown structure is one of the project documents that serve as an input for the Manage Project Knowledge process described in the scenario. The resource breakdown structure includes information on the composition of the team and may help to understand what knowledge is available as a group and what knowledge is missing

C Quality metrics

Incorrect. A quality metric is a description of a project or product attribute and the way the Control Quality process will verify compliance to it. Quality metrics have little to do with using and preservice knowledge on a project.

D To-complete performance index

Incorrect. The to-complete performance index (TCPI) is a measure of the cost performance that is required to be achieved with the remaining resources in order to meet a specified management goal. The TCPI is just one piece of information, while the goal of the project manager in the scenario provided is to use existing knowledge and create new knowledge for the project. It does not seem reasonable that the TCPI can help in accomplishing this goal.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.5 Ensure team members/stakeholders are adequately trained

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 126

Hint: This tool/technique is also called an inspection.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The question suggests that the Control Procurements process is underway. An inspection, as it relates to the Control Procurements process, is a structured review of the work being performed by the vendor. The inspection may involve a simple review of the deliverables or an actual physical review of the work itself. On a construction project, inspections may involve walkthroughs of the site by both the buyer and the vendor to ensure a mutual understanding of the work in progress.

One may argue that the team member has the figures of the work in progress, allowing the implementation of the earned value analysis (EVA), and, hence, making the EVA a better answer choice. This is not the case, since, according to the scenario, the team member has only a 'rough' assessment of the vendor's current work in progress, and she 'suspects' that the vendor will be unable to complete the work on time. Project managers should not act on suspicions. Facts should be checked, making a walkthrough a better answer.

Details for Each Option:

A Conduct a walkthrough

Correct. An inspection is a structured review of the work being performed by the vendor. On a construction project, inspections may involve walkthroughs of the site by both the buyer and the vendor to ensure a mutual understanding of the work in progress.

B Perform an earned value analysis (EVA)

Incorrect. In order to perform an earned value analysis (EVA), you, as the project manager, must first have a clear understanding of the progress which has been completed. In this scenario, the status of the work in progress is in dispute and, therefore, is unknown.

C Conduct an audit

Incorrect. As they pertain to procurements, audits are a structured review of the procurement process. According to the scenario, you are concerned with the work in progress carried out by the vendor rather than with how well the procurement process has been managed on your project.

D Resort to alternative dispute resolution (ADR)

Incorrect. ADR is aimed to address contested changes on projects where the buyer and seller cannot reach an agreement on compensation for the change or cannot agree that a change has occurred. Based on the scenario described, resorting to ADR is premature at this point.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.10 Build shared understanding

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 127

Hint: What conflict resolution technique usually results in a win-win situation for the involved parties?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The project manager is using the force/direct conflict resolution technique, which involves pushing one's viewpoint at the expense of others and offering only a win-lose solution. While force/direct is a legitimate conflict resolution technique, it should be used only when other conflict resolution techniques fail or when the situation warrants this approach. The scenario described in the question does not suggest that other conflict resolution techniques have been used or that the situation is so acute that the project manager was left with no option except to use the force/direct technique. Since it appears the project manager did have other options, she should have pursued a win-win outcome, which the collaborative/problem-solving technique often creates. Discussing the stakeholder's idea with other stakeholders is the only conflict resolution technique offering the possibility of a win-win situation, and therefore is the best answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A No. The project manager has the formal authority to make the final decision.

Incorrect. Unless the situation is an emergency (which is not the case in the scenario described), the project manager should not push her viewpoint onto others from a stance of power, known as a force/direct conflict resolution technique. This approach usually ends with a win-lose situation and therefore is not the best course of action in this situation. The project manager should have responded differently.

B Yes. The project manager should have discussed the idea with other stakeholders.

Correct. The project manager should have used a collaborative/problem-solving approach to address the conflict, such as discussing the idea with other project stakeholders and/or the team. Such a discussion would have allowed both sides to incorporate multiple viewpoints and insights from differing perspectives and hopefully lead to a win-win outcome with consensus and commitment.

C No. The project manager demonstrated the culture in which the company works.

Incorrect. The project manager may well have been demonstrating the culture of the company (raising another issue, which is outside the scope of this question) but using a force/direct technique is still not the best way to resolve a conflict.

D Yes. The project manager should have compromised with the stakeholder.

Incorrect. Compromising often leads to a lose-lose outcome because this technique searches for a resolution to the conflict in order to appease both parties, but the decision may not be the best for the project. While compromising could have been a better approach than forcing, a collaborative/problem-solving approach is preferred. Therefore, this answer is not the best choice.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People Task: 1.1 Manage conflict PM Approach: Predictive

Question 128

Hint: What is the backlog of an agile project comprised of?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

A software development project that will use an iterative and incremental approach to produce its deliverables implies the project will be using agile methods and artifacts. The reason for selecting an iterative and incremental approach in the first place is typically the extent to which project requirements are known (unknown) upfront. When there is ambiguity surrounding requirements in a project's early stages, teams can take high-level themes or epics provided to them by the customer or product owner and decompose them into features. Further decomposition may lead to user stories and other items added to the backlog and prioritized for the nearest iteration (sprint). As the project unfolds, the team would take the next set of epics and apply the same decomposition process. The cycle repeats itself until all project objectives are met or if a decision to stop the project (for whatever reason) is made.

Details for Each Option:

A Decomposing epics into features and further into user stories

Correct. The scenario describes a software development project that will use an iterative and incremental approach to produce project deliverables. This type of project would benefit from planning in which high-level themes (or epics) are decomposed into features, which are then further decomposed into user stories and other backlog items.

B Outsourcing project planning to an external subject matter expert

Incorrect. There is nothing wrong with outsourcing project planning (or any other project activity) to an external vendor who specializes in planning. However, the question asks about a planning strategy that would work best for this project. There is not enough information in the scenario to determine if outsourcing planning will be the best strategy.

C Breaking down high-level deliverables into work packages

Incorrect. Unlike an agile project implied by the scenario, predictive projects with most requirements known early in the project life cycle can rely on detailed up-front planning. It starts with breaking down high-level deliverables into more detailed scope elements and further decomposing them down to the work package level of the WBS.

D Planning product scope and refraining from planning project scope

Incorrect. Product scope is the features and functions that characterize the product, service, or result. Project scope is the 'work' performed to deliver the product, service, or result with the specified features and functions. Only planning product scope without planning the work that should be performed to deliver the product will likely result in project failure.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.9 Integrate project planning activities

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 129

Hint: "Done drift" is a phenomenon typically associated with adaptive projects that are forced to continuously change their goals due to the frequently changing market conditions.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

In the scenario, the project operates in an uncertain and rapidly changing environment, and competitors releasing new products with features more advanced than those planned by the project. Such a project will often face a situation where the definition of a "good enough for release" goal may be subject to change. For example, if the project planned to release the product to the market within 12 months, but in the meanwhile, a competitor released a similar product with more advanced features, a decision of whether to release now with the current set of features or add features to be on par with the competitor and delay the release should be made. It is not uncommon that while the decision to add features and delay the release is made, another competitor releases an even more advanced product. When this happens, the performing organization will have to re-evaluate the situation and make the next decision accordingly. This can go on and on forever, which is why in the scenario, the project manager is concerned that the project is in danger due to "done drift". Therefore, of the choices provided, whether to release the product as-is or continue updating the features prior to launch is the decision that the project manager (and the performing organization) will have to make, making that choice the best answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A How to keep the team motivated despite more advanced features developed by competitors

Incorrect. It is possible that in the uncertain and rapidly changing environment and stiff competition described by the scenario, the team's motivation may suffer. However, there is nothing in the question to suggest this is the case. Rather, the question focuses on the project manager's concern with "done drift", which is the moving target of completion.

B When to switch from the adaptive to predictive development approach to prevent further changes

Incorrect. The scenario implies the project is carried out using the adaptive development approach. In the uncertain and rapidly changing environment, switching from the adaptive to predictive approach to prevent further changes would do more harm than good to the project and even further hinder the project's ability to respond to market conditions.

C What to do with the knowledge gained during the sprint retrospective meetings

Incorrect. A sprint retrospective is a meeting where participants explore their work and results to improve both process and product. Nothing in the scenario suggests that there is uncertainty surrounding the knowledge gained during retrospectives. The knowledge gained at the sprint retrospective should be applied to future sprints, releases, and projects.

D Whether to release the product as-is or continue updating the features prior to launch

Correct. "Done drift" refers to the situation in which the project is forced to continuously change its objectives due to the frequently changing market conditions. When this happens, the main concern is whether to release the product as-is or continue updating the features prior to launch, making this choice the best answer to the question asked

Question 130

Hint: CPI = EV/AC and SPI = EV/PV

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

A CPI less than 1.0 indicates that more money was spent than planned for work completed at this point in the project. An SPI greater than 1.0 indicates that more project work was completed than planned at this point. The question states that the CPI is 0.9 and the SPI is 1.1, so the project is over budget and ahead of schedule.

Details for Each Option:

A

Over budget and ahead of schedule

Correct. A CPI less than 1.0 indicates that more money was spent than planned for project work completed at this point, meaning the project is over budget. An SPI greater than 1.0 indicates that more project work was completed than planned at this point, meaning the project is ahead of schedule.

B

Under budget and behind schedule

Incorrect. A CPI of less than 1.0 indicates that the project is over budget. Therefore, this answer choice can be eliminated.

C

Over budget and behind schedule

Incorrect. An SPI of greater than 1.0 indicates that the project is ahead of schedule, so this is not a correct answer.

D

Under budget and ahead of schedule

Incorrect. A CPI of less than 1.0 indicates that the project is over budget, and an SPI of greater than 1.0 indicates that the project is ahead of schedule. Therefore, this answer choice is incorrect.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.5 Plan and manage budget and resources

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 131

Hint: Which tailoring consideration may have led you, as the project manager, to select a different development approach?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The question describes a situation where the client is continually changing the project requirements as the product under development evolves. This situation is driving the client to submit change requests, which must be reviewed by the change control board (CCB). Projects, where the product under development is expected to evolve throughout the project, can be said to have unstable requirements. The stability of requirements should be considered to determine the appropriate development approach. In this case, it is apparent that the strict change control processes and procedures of a traditional waterfall approach are not well suited to the needs of the client who is forced to submit change requests as the product changes and evolves. In this circumstance, an agile approach may have been more appropriate for the project. An agile approach welcomes change and harnesses it for the customer's benefit. Had you, as the project manager, considered the stability (or, in this case, instability) of the product requirements, you may have selected an approach more appropriate for the project. For example, the project, at a high level, could have still been lead using waterfall, but the actual development of the product performed by the team could have been carried out using agile, thus making the whole project hybrid.

Note, the development approach is also a tailoring consideration for the scope management processes, but it was not offered as an answer choice. Therefore, of the available options, the stability of requirements is the best answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A Diversity

Incorrect. The diverse background of the team is an important consideration in resource management, but it is not very relevant to controlling scope. Additionally, there is no information presented by the question to suggest that a diversity issue exists in the project.

B Stability of requirements

Correct. The stability of requirements should be considered to determine the appropriate development approach. In this case, it is apparent that the change control requirements of a traditional waterfall approach are not well suited to the needs of the client who is forced to submit change requests as the product changes and evolves.

C Physical location

Incorrect. Physical location is a tailoring consideration associated with the resource management processes rather than the scope management processes. Additionally, the physical location of team members and resources is not likely to create the problem of excessive change requests.

D Validation and control

Incorrect. There is no indication from the question of an issue with proper validation and control procedures. The use of a change control board (CCB) in a waterfall approach is an appropriate method of controlling the project's scope. In this case, the problem involves the selected development approach driving excessive change requests rather than how those change requests are being processed.

Exam Content Outline: Domain: 2. Process / Task: 2.13 Determine appropriate project methodology/methods and practices / PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 132

Hint: You, as the project manager, are developing the project charter.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The scenario describes a project manager who is developing a draft of the project charter, implying the Develop Project Charter process is carried out. One of the typical activities performed while developing the charter is to review organizational process assets (OPAS), which may influence this process. One of the OPAS is the project governance framework which often provides information about the governance functions, processes, that are important when making decisions that are relevant to the project charter.

One may argue that a stakeholder register can be created at the same time the project charter is developed and approved. While it's true, the question is asking to select the answer choice that represents an action performed 'during this process'. Since the scenario describes the Develop Project Charter process, any action that is associated with 'this process' would be a better option than an action associated with 'another process', even if that process can be done in parallel with the one described in the scenario. Therefore, as we always recommend selecting the best answer of those provided, studying the governance functions and processes to provide guidance and decision making is a better answer choice than identifying stakeholders and preparing the stakeholder register since the former is associated with the inputs to the Develop Project Charter process while the latter is not even part of this process.

Details for Each Option:

A Identify stakeholders and prepare the stakeholder register

Incorrect. The question implies that you, as the project manager, are conducting the Develop Project Charter process. The stakeholder register is developed during the Identify Stakeholders process and not the Develop Project Charter process.

B Study the governance functions and processes to provide guidance and decision making

Correct. The project governance framework is part of the organizational process assets (OPA), which serve as an input into the Develop Project Charter process.

C Update the business documents to correct any errors

Incorrect. The project manager may make recommendations but does not update or modify the business documents since they are not project documents.

D Review the benefits management plan

Incorrect. The benefits management plan and business case comprise the business documents, and the question states that these documents have already been reviewed.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.14 Establish project governance structure

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 133

Hint: One of the answer choices is done during the Monitoring and Controlling Process Group and not during the Close Project or Phase process.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The scenario implies the project manager is performing the Close Project or Phase process which involves finalizing all activities for the project or phase. During this process information is archived, organizational resources are released, and the final deliverable is transferred to operations for ongoing support and maintenance. The administrative closure of a project includes the activities necessary to satisfy the completion or exit criteria for the project. All of the answer choices except closing seller contracts are involved in the administrative closure of a project. Closing seller contracts is performed during the Control Procurements process, not Close Project or Phase. Since the question asks which answer is 'not' included in the administrative closure of a project, closing the seller contracts is the correct answer.

Details for Each Option:

A Closing seller contracts

Correct. Closing seller contracts is performed during the Control Procurements process, not as part of the Close Project or Phase process, making this choice the correct answer.

B Handing over the project deliverables to operations

Incorrect. Once delivered by a project, the final deliverable may be handed over to a different group or organization that will support, operate, and maintain it throughout its lifecycle. This process is included in the administrative closure of a project and therefore is an incorrect answer.

C Transferring the knowledge gained to the lessons learned repository

Incorrect. Lessons learned and knowledge gained throughout the project are gathered and transferred to the lessons learned repository at the end of a project and are therefore part of the Close Project or Phase process.

D Measuring stakeholder satisfaction

Incorrect. Soliciting feedback from stakeholders about both the project and the product is highly beneficial to a project manager and is an important part of project closure. Therefore, this answer is incorrect.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.17 Plan and manage project/phase closure or transitions

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 134

Hint: How might you evaluate the new developer's current skill set?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Individual and team assessments are tools that may be useful in the Develop Team process. Individual and team assessment tools give the project manager and the project team insight into areas of strengths and weaknesses. These tools help project managers assess team members' preferences, aspirations, how they process and organize information, how they make decisions, and how they interact with people. Various tools are available such as attitudinal surveys, specific assessments, structured interviews, ability tests, and focus groups. An ability test would provide an assessment of the new developer's existing competencies in order to determine what, if any, gaps in skill set exist and how they might be addressed. The incorrect answer choices represent actions which are premature without understanding the new developer's existing competencies. Of the available options, providing the new developer with an ability test to evaluate the developer's existing competencies is what you, as the project manager should do first.

Details for Each Option:

A Provide the new developer with an ability test

Correct. An ability test would provide an assessment of the new developer's existing competencies in order to determine what, if any, gaps in skill set exist and how they might be addressed.

B Introduce the new developer to the project sponsor

Incorrect. It is unlikely that introducing the new developer to the project sponsor should be your first step in this situation. Bringing the new developer up to speed to perform the project work is more important. The developer's skills should be assessed to understand what training, if any, is required.

C Schedule training for the new developer

Incorrect. The new developer may or may not need additional training for the current project. You, as the project manager, should perform an individual assessment of the new developer's existing skillset to determine if training is necessary, and, if so, which training options would be the most beneficial in closing any knowledge gaps.

D Assign the developer the next user story in the backlog

Incorrect. The new developer may or may not have the required competencies to complete the next user story successfully. You, as the project manager, should first gain an understanding of the new developer's skill set to determine if the next user story is an appropriate assignment for the developer. Failing to take this step, may set the new developer up for failure.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.5 Ensure team members/stakeholders are adequately trained

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 135

Hint: How do agile practitioners maximize the work not done?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

As a servant leader, an agile project manager should pave the way for the project team to do their best work. Whenever possible, the agile project manager should focus on eliminating any non-value added work. However, sometimes, activities such as compliance reporting are just a requirement that cannot be eliminated. In such hybrid environments, working with the auditors to streamline the process and eliminate any unnecessary work would minimize the non-value added activities in order to maximize the delivery of value while still addressing and balancing the compliance needs.

Details for Each Option:

A Work with the auditors to streamline the process

Correct. Working with the auditors to streamline the process and eliminate any unnecessary work would minimize the non-value added activities in order to maximize the delivery of value.

B Task one of the team members to complete the compliance reporting

Incorrect. Agile leaders should avoid assigning non-value added tasks to the team members. When possible, the developers on the project team should be focused on delivering value rather than performing overhead tasks.

C Transfer the responsibility of compliance reporting to the legal department

Incorrect. It is unlikely that a project manager would have the authority to assign responsibility for compliance report to another department. Additionally, It is not likely that the legal department would have sufficient insight into the project to complete the compliance reporting for the project.

D Avoid agile as it not suitable for projects that operate in a regulatory environment

Incorrect. Agile best practices stress the importance of maximizing the work not done. However, sometimes, activities that do not add value to the project are still required. In cases where non-value added activities are required, the agile project manager should work to eliminate any unnecessary work and streamline the process as much as possible. An organization should not avoid agile due to compliance reporting.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 3. Business Environment

Task: 3.1 Plan and manage project compliance

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 136

Hint: What is the proper escalation path in this scenario?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Project team members are initially responsible for resolving their own conflicts. If the conflict escalates, the project manager should help facilitate a satisfactory resolution. If the disruptive conflict persists, formal procedures may be used, including disciplinary action. In this scenario, the project manager has already given the team members the opportunity to resolve their own issues and attempted to facilitate a resolution. The project manager should not allow conflict to put the success of the project at risk. The project manager should use formal procedures including disciplinary actions to resolve the issue.

Details for Each Option:

A Use formal procedures including disciplinary actions

Correct. Formal procedures may be used including disciplinary actions in order to prevent the project from being put at risk.

B Allow the team members to resolve their differences on their own

Incorrect. The first step is to allow the team members to resolve the conflict on their own. However, that has failed to resolve the issue, and the project is at risk.

C Facilitate another meeting between the two team members

Incorrect. The second step is for the project manager to facilitate a resolution between the parties. However, that has failed to resolve the issue, and the project is at risk.

D Request that the other project team members intercede as a form of peer pressure

Incorrect. Conflict should be addressed privately and confidentially. It is inappropriate to involve the other team members in conflict resolution.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.1 Manage conflict

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 137

Hint: Which role has direct responsibility for projects, programs, and operations?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The question describes a situation where a problem needs to be addressed by someone that is responsible for projects, programs, and operations being managed as a group. A portfolio is a collection of projects, programs, and operations managed as a group to achieve strategic objectives. Only a portfolio manager has direct responsibility for projects, programs, and operations. Therefore, discussing the problem with the portfolio manager is the best course of action in this scenario.

Details for Each Option:

A Discuss the problem with the portfolio manager

Correct. The question suggests that the conflict needs to be addressed by someone that is responsible for projects, programs, and operations. Only a portfolio manager has direct responsibility for all three of these areas.

B Escalate the issue to the operations manager

Incorrect. Based on the scenario, the conflict has reached an impasse, which implies that further discussion with the operations manager will not resolve the issue. Additionally, the question indicates that the conflict will need to be escalated to someone with authority over projects and operations, and an operations manager is not likely to have authority for project execution.

C Raise the issue with the other project manager

Incorrect. The question states that the conflict is at an impasse, which suggests that further discussion with the other project manager is futile. Additionally, the question implies that the issue needs to be escalated to someone with authority over projects, programs, and operations being managed as a group. A project manager is not likely to oversee programs and operations as part of their regular duties.

D Request help from the project management office

Incorrect. The project management office (PMO) is a management structure that standardizes the project-related governance processes and facilitates the sharing of resources, methodologies, tools, and techniques. While the PMO may help (depending on its role in the organization) with settling the conflict between the projects, the PMO would unlikely have the authority over operations.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.6 Plan and manage schedule

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 138

Hint: What must the project manager do first to control her own emotions?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Emotional intelligence is the ability to identify, assess, and manage the personal emotions of oneself and other people, as well as the collective emotions of groups of people. The first step in developing emotional intelligence is self-awareness, which can then lead to self-management. Only when the project manager learns to exercise self-control as part of self-management will she be able to deal with the emotions and behaviors of others effectively. Since the scenario describes a project manager who has difficulty controlling her own temper, the best advice you can give her is to develop her emotional intelligence skills.

Details for Each Option:

A Improve leadership skills

Incorrect. Leadership is the ability to lead a team and inspire them to do their jobs well. There is not enough information in the question to determine if the team member is not doing their job well requiring the mentee to improve her leadership skills. Based on the scenario described, the issue is related to the self-control of the mentee rather than her leadership skills. It is unlikely that a project manager can be a good leader without being able to control her own emotions.

B Develop emotional intelligence

Correct. In the scenario described, your mentee is having troubles controlling her temper. Emotional intelligence is the ability to identify, assess, and manage the personal emotions of oneself and other people, as well as the collective emotions of groups of people. Emotional Intelligence skills can be taught and developed. You, as a mentor, can help your mentee in achieving this goal. Therefore, of the choices provided, the best advice you can give her is to develop her emotional Intelligence.

C Study conflict management

Incorrect. Conflict management may seem like a plausible answer, but it is not the best answer among the choices given. Conflict management skills will certainly be beneficial in dealing with conflict among the team members. However, the new project manager must first develop self-awareness of how her own behavior is contributing to the problem. The project manager must first control her own emotions before coaching others on controlling theirs.

D Introduce recognition and rewards

Incorrect. Recognition and rewards are used to reinforce desired behavior among the project team members. However, the scenario does not describe any behavior that should be reinforced. Rather, the team member who participates in the shouting matches described by the scenario, regardless of who triggers them, demonstrates behavior that is unlikely to meet standards of recognition and rewards.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.14 Promote team performance through the application of emotional intelligence

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 139

Hint: During which agile ceremony does the project team discuss what went well and what improvements can be made?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

The question is being asked from an agile perspective. Iteration (or sprint) planning, reviews, and retrospectives are all ceremonies which are associated with an agile framework. The iteration retrospective is a specialized meeting that is held by the project team at the end of an iteration. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss what went well during the iteration as well as what improvements can be made for future iterations. Of the available choices, the iteration retrospective is the best way to capture and analyze lessons learned during the project.

Details for Each Option:

A Perform a sprint review

Incorrect. An iteration (or sprint) review is a meeting where the project team demonstrates the product increment that has been built during the iteration in order to get feedback from stakeholders and gain the approval of the product owner. The iteration review is not a meeting that is focused on process improvement.

B Schedule a sprint planning meeting

Incorrect. A sprint planning meeting is a meeting where the project team determines what will be accomplished during the upcoming sprint (iteration) and how the results will be achieved. Process improvement is not a subject of the sprint planning meeting.

C Conduct an iteration retrospective

Correct. An iteration retrospective is a specialized meeting that is held by the project team at the end of an iteration. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss what went well during the iteration as well as what improvements can be made for future iterations. In other words, based on the lessons learned so far in the project, the team tries to improve the process going forward which is what was asked by the question, making this choice the best answer of those provided.

D Lessons learned are not utilized on agile projects

Incorrect. Lessons learned or knowledge gained should be used for continuous improvement on all projects regardless of the framework that is being employed. Without the benefit of learning from past experience, an organization will likely experience the same problems on a recurring basis.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.6 Plan and manage schedule

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 140

Hint: What role typically approves or rejects the product increment from a sprint?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The scenario describes a hybrid project where the scope is managed using a predictive project management approach (scope baseline), while the procurement portion of work is outsourced to a vendor who will use agile methods to develop the scope specified in the SOW. An agile framework is typically used when the project scope is not well understood at the start of the project (which is the case in the scenario described) and is progressively elaborated throughout project execution. This situation creates special considerations when contracting with a vendor to supply developers. One method of addressing the issue is to use contract terms that include fixed-price increments. With this approach, the scope is decomposed into microdeliverables, such as user stories, and the vendor will be paid a fixed price for each of these microdeliverables.

In this scenario, the development team will complete the user stories determined during sprint planning. At the end of the sprint, during the sprint review, the development team will demonstrate the product increment that was developed during the sprint to the product owner and other relevant stakeholders. The product owner then has the authority and responsibility for approving or rejecting the deliverables.

Details for Each Option:

A Wait until the team completes the development of all user stories specified in the SOW

Incorrect. With a contract featuring fixed-price increments, the project scope (or the scope specified in the SOW in the scenario described) can be decomposed into fixed-price microdeliverables, such as user stories. With this type of contract, there is no reason nor is this appropriate per agile best practices to wait until the entire project scope has been completed before approving the deliverables.

B Request the product owner to approve or reject user stories during a sprint review

Correct. During a sprint review, the development team demonstrates the product increment that was developed during the sprint. The product owner then has the responsibility for approving or rejecting the deliverables.

C Validate the user stories as soon as they are completed at any point during a sprint

Incorrect. The use of sprints creates a cadence of predictable, timeboxed pre-agreed, consistent duration that aids with scheduling. Validating the user stories as soon as they are completed at any point in a sprint before the timebox is over, would interfere with the team's work, break the cadence, and negatively affect the project schedule, and may have other unintended consequences.

D Conduct a procurement audit with the vendor each time a sprint retrospective is held

Incorrect. A procurement audit is a structured review of the procurement process between the buyer and seller (vendor). The emphasis is on the process of procurement rather than the deliverables produced by the vendor. Sprint retrospectives, on the other hand, are aimed to review the process the development team uses to carry out their work rather than review the procurement process.

Exam Content Outline: Domain: 1. People / Task: 1.8 Negotiate project agreements / PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 141

Hint: Proactive planning should consider risk mitigation and cost control strategies.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Predictive analysis and fixed-price contracts reduce future budget risks and provide cost certainty, making them effective proactive measures.

The project manager is dealing with fluctuating material costs in a multi-phase project, which means the challenge is ongoing and not just a one-time issue. This cost volatility can disrupt budget planning, leading to potential overruns. The project manager must proactively implement a measure that minimizes the financial impact in future phases.

Using predictive analysis to forecast future cost variations and negotiate fixed-price contracts. This is the best proactive approach because it addresses the issue by using data-driven forecasting (predictive analysis) to estimate future cost fluctuations. Locking in fixed-price contracts, ensuring cost certainty and reducing exposure to price volatility. Mitigating financial risks, allowing better budget planning and resource allocation. By leveraging predictive analysis, the project team can analyze historical price trends, market conditions, inflation rates, and supply chain factors to anticipate future fluctuations. This information allows them to negotiate fixed-price contracts with suppliers, ensuring cost stability for the remaining project phases.

Details for Each Option:

A Increase contingency reserves for all future phases.

Incorrect. Increasing reserves may not address the root cause of fluctuations. While increasing reserves might provide a temporary buffer, it does not address the root cause of cost fluctuations. Contingency reserves are meant for unexpected risks, not ongoing, predictable cost variations.

B Use predictive analysis to forecast future cost variations and negotiate fixed-price contracts.

Correct. Forecasting and negotiating fixed prices mitigate risks effectively. This approach prevents cost overruns and enables better budget management while maintaining project timelines.

C Request a larger overall budget to account for uncertainties.

Incorrect. Requesting more funds may not be feasible without clear justification. Budget increases require justification-stakeholders or sponsors won't approve additional funding without solid reasoning. It is a reactive rather than proactive approach and does not control costs, only shifts the burden to a larger budget.

D Delay purchasing materials until costs stabilize.

Incorrect. Delaying purchases risks schedule slippage and missed opportunities. Waiting for prices to stabilize is risky, as prices may continue fluctuating unpredictably. Delaying material purchases can lead to schedule slippage, impacting project deadlines. Many suppliers increase prices over time rather than decreasing them, making delays counterproductive.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.5 Plan and manage budget and resources

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 142

Hint: This technique might be referred to as a project premortem.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

"Remember the future" is a collaboration game where stakeholders are asked to envision the future state of the project after completion. This technique is particularly helpful in drawing out requirements and gaining consensus on the project vision. When this technique is applied to the failure of a project (sometimes referred to as a project premortem), it allows stakeholders to envision and capture various ways that the project could fail. Applying this technique to regulatory compliance would aid in providing a shared vision for the consequences of non-compliance. Understanding the consequences of non-compliance will help the stakeholders include appropriate regulatory (and other) compliance requirements in the project vision.

Details for Each Option:

A Facilitate a project post-mortem

Incorrect. A project post-mortem (also known as a project retrospective) occurs at the end of the project. Therefore, this activity will not be able to influence the project requirements.

B Play a session of "remember the future"

Correct. "Remember the future" is a collaborative game to aid in the development of the project vision. When this technique is applied to the failure of a project (sometimes referred to as a project premortem), it allows stakeholders to envision and capture various ways that the project could fail.

C Lead a round of planning poker

Incorrect. Planning Poker is a collaborative estimating and planning technique that is used to estimate user story size. This technique would not likely be used to analyze the consequences of non-compliance.

D Conduct a t-shirt sizing exercise

Incorrect. A t-shirt sizing exercise is a relative sizing technique for gaining a high-level estimate for items in the product backlog. This technique would not be particularly useful for analyzing the consequences of non-compliance.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 3. Business Environment

Task: 3.1 Plan and manage project compliance

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 143

Hint: What extreme Programming (XP) practice might achieve the project leader's objective?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Successful project leaders build quality into processes and deliverables. This question asks for a best practice in which potential software defects can be identified and corrected while the code is still being written. Any form of testing, by definition, is reactive and would occur once some code has already been written. However, the practice of pair programming from the extreme Programming method is proactive and has the advantage of potentially discovering defects and rectifying them as the code is being written. With pair programming, two developers work in tandem, with one developer writing the code while the other reviewing the code as it is written. The developers then switch roles frequently. While various quality assurance methods would be employed with a project such as the one described in this scenario, of the available choices, only pair programming meets the project leader's objective.

Details for Each Option:

A Include a user story for smoke testing in every sprint

Incorrect. Smoke testing is the process of using lightweight tests to ensure that the most important functions of the software work as intended. While smoke testing might be a good quality assurance practice, any form of testing would occur after the software code has been written rather than while it is being written, as asked by the question.

B Do not allow changes after the system design is approved

Incorrect. The scenario indicates that an agile framework is being employed for this project. Agile projects welcome change and harness it for the customer's competitive advantage. Not allowing changes, as suggested by this answer choice, would go against the agile best principles and likely do more harm than good for the project and customer.

C Employ continuous integration of product increments

Incorrect. Continuous integration refers to frequent incorporation of work into the whole and testing it to determine if the entire product still works as intended. While this practice may help detect defects early in the project, integration cannot happen before the code is written. The question is looking for a way to build quality into code as it's being written.

D Request that developers work in pairs while creating software

Correct. This answer choice implies the use of pair programming, a practice in which two developers work side-by-side coding the product. One developer writes code while another reviews it as it is written. In this way, defects can be identified and corrected as the software is being developed, making this choice the best answer to the question asked.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.7 Plan and manage quality of products/deliverables

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 144

Hint: Monitoring and feedback strengthen adherence to rules.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Ensuring adherence to ground rules requires proactive monitoring and consistent feedback. By conducting periodic assessments, the project manager reinforces expectations and provides guidance on areas of improvement. This approach encourages accountability and strengthens team discipline. Without active reinforcement, ground rules may be ignored over time, leading to inefficiencies and team conflicts.

Details for Each Option:

A Conduct periodic assessments and provide feedback on adherence to ground rules.

Correct. Regular assessments and feedback reinforce adherence to ground rules, ensuring alignment with project expectations. Open discussions about compliance help resolve issues before they escalate.

B Assume team members will naturally adhere once the rules are set.

Incorrect. Simply assuming compliance is ineffective. Team members may unintentionally deviate from the rules without regular reinforcement. Proactive engagement is necessary to maintain discipline.

C Only address violations when team performance is negatively impacted.

Incorrect. Addressing violations only when they significantly impact performance is reactive. A proactive approach prevents minor issues from escalating into major disruptions.

D Replace team members who fail to comply with ground rules.

Incorrect. Removing team members is an extreme measure that could demoralize the team. Instead, coaching and constructive feedback should be the first steps to address non-compliance.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.12 Define team ground rules

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 145

Hint: Which vendor provides the highest EMV?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The expected monetary value (EMV) technique is one that calculates the combined probability and impact values of a decision or a solution. This question requires a simple multiplication of the profit anticipated from a vendor by the probability of the vendor's success. Selecting Vendor 2 is the correct answer because they provide a solution with the highest EMV.

Details for Each Option:

A

Vendor 1 with an 80% probability of success and profit of \$20,000

Incorrect. Vendor 1's solution is calculated as $0.80 \times \$20,000 = \$16,000$, which is not the highest EMV possible of the answer choices given.

B

Vendor 2 with a 90% probability of success and profit of \$19,000

Correct. Vendor 2's solution is calculated as $0.90 \times \$19,000 = \$17,100$, which represents the highest profit to the project from the answer choices given.

C

Vendor 3 with a 75% probability of success and profit of \$18,000

Incorrect. Vendor 3's solution is calculated as $0.75 \times \$18,000 = \$13,500$, which is not the highest EMV possible of the answer choices given.

D

Vendor 4 with an 85% probability of success and profit of \$20,000

Incorrect. Vendor 4's solution is calculated as $0.85 \times \$20,000 = \$17,000$, which is not the highest EMV possible of the answer choices given.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.8 Negotiate project agreements

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 146

Hint: How might daily project status updates be communicated using a form of push communications?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Agile best practices promote transparency. Displaying burndown charts and other relevant project information in a highly visible location promotes transparency as current information regarding project status is readily available to everyone. All of the answer choices represent actions that should be taken by the project manager. The PMP aspirant should select the 'best' answer among the available options. With the project team and stakeholders co-located at the corporate office, posting the project status in a highly visible location will make current information readily available to everyone. Note that the incorrect answer choices all represent an action that must be taken by the stakeholders in order to retrieve the information rather than having the information proactively presented to them. The correct answer choice describes an agile best practice. Therefore, of the available options, displaying burndown charts and other relevant project artifacts in a highly visible location is the 'best' answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A Reserve a conference room and invite all relevant stakeholders to monthly project status meetings

Incorrect. Holding monthly project status meetings is a good idea. However, the project status will change daily during project execution. A monthly meeting will only provide a snapshot of the project status. To promote transparency as asked by the question, it is better to make current information readily available.

B Post burndown charts and other project status documents to the company's intranet site

Incorrect. The project manager probably should post any relevant project status documents to the company's intranet site. However, this action requires the project team and stakeholders to proactively access the information rather than having the information readily available to them.

C Share the appropriate information whenever requested by stakeholders

Incorrect. The project manager should share any relevant information upon request. However, requiring stakeholders to seek out the information they need is not the best way to keep stakeholders informed and promote transparency.

D Display bumdown charts and other relevant project artifacts in a highly visible location

Correct. Agile best practices encourage transparency. Displaying burndown charts and other relevant project information in a highly visible location promotes transparency as the information readily available to everyone.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.2 Manage communications

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 147

Hint: Divide the story points remaining by the average velocity.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

The way to forecast velocity is to run an iteration (or two, or three) and then calculate the average velocity based on the story points completed during each of the iterations. In this situation, the project team's current average velocity is 30 story points. In this scenario, to calculate the number of iterations required to complete the remaining portion of the project, the number of story points remaining (292 story points) needs to be divided by the average velocity (30 story points). 292 divided by 30 results in 9.74 iterations. Therefore, at the current velocity, it should take another 10 iterations to complete the project.

Please note, the result should be rounded to 10, not because of the math rules, but rather because there is no such thing as half iteration, or quarter iteration (or any other portion of iteration). Therefore, even if the result were 9.1, the answer would be the same: it should take 10 iterations for the team to complete the project.

Details for Each Option:

A 7 iterations

Incorrect. If the average velocity for the team is 30 story points, then, if the current velocity is maintained, the team would only be able to complete 210 (the product of 7 and 30) of the remaining 292 story points after the next 7 iterations.

B 8 iterations

Incorrect. The scenario indicates that the average velocity for the team stands at 30 story points. At the current velocity of 30 story points, the team could expect to complete 240 (the product of 8 and 30) story points of the remaining 292 after 8 additional iterations. The team would need to experience a significant increase in velocity to complete the project in only 8 Iterations, and there is no information presented that would suggest that the velocity might increase for the remainder of the project.

C 9 iterations

Incorrect. The average velocity of the team is stated at 30 story points. At the current velocity, the team can expect to complete 30 story points for each of the remaining iterations. Thus, Iterations should yield 270 completed story points (the product of 9 and 30). Therefore, unless the team experiences an increase in velocity, an additional iteration will be necessary to complete the remaining 22 story points.

D 10 iterations

Correct. To calculate the number of iterations required to complete the remaining portion of the project, one should divide the number of story points remaining, 292, by the average velocity of 30 story points. 292 divided by 30 results in 9.74 iterations. Therefore, at the current velocity, it should take another 10 iterations to complete the project

Exam Content Outline: Domain: 2. Process / Task: 2.6 Plan and manage schedule / PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 148

Hint: How might you determine which obstacle to address first?

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The question states that the team is facing various impediments resulting in schedule delays. The project manager should work with the team to ensure that the obstacles are cleared as efficiently and effectively as possible so the development can get back to work on the project's deliverables. However, before the project manager can work on removing the blockers, the impediments should first be analyzed and prioritized. For example, it is possible that one impediment is currently blocking the entire team, and others might only be affecting individual team members. Thus, it will be important to address the most severe and time-critical impediments first. Therefore, of the available options, the project manager should first analyze and prioritize the blockers.

Note, the scenario describes a project in which the project schedule is managed using the traditional/predictive project management approach (the schedule baseline is in jeopardy") while the work is carried out using the Scrum framework, which is one of the agile methods ("a project manager is conducting a daily standup"). This means the project as a whole is managed in a hybrid way. While this information does not change the correct answer, it is important to understand that projects can be managed using various approaches, including predictive (sometimes called traditional or waterfall), agile, or hybrid which is a combination of both.

Details for Each Option:

A Attempt to resolve the problems during the meeting

Incorrect. While it is essential to remove the blockers as quickly as possible, the scenario indicates that a daily standup meeting is underway. The daily standup is a meeting in which impediments are identified. However, this meeting is not intended to find solutions for the impediments.

B Analyze and prioritize the blockers

Correct. The various impediments described in the scenario should first be analyzed and prioritized in order to determine the most efficient and effective path for clearing them.

C Assign the team to work on another project in the meanwhile

Incorrect. Reassigning the team to another project is an overreaction. If the blockers are removed quickly, the team can continue working on the existing project. The impediments should first be analyzed before a decision to move the team to another project (if at all) is made.

D Escalate the issue to the project sponsor

Incorrect. The impediments identified in this scenario may or may not need to be escalated to the project sponsor. There is not enough information to make that determination. The project manager should first analyze the blockers to determine if escalation is even warranted.

Exam Content Outline: Domain: 1. People / Task: 1.7 Address and remove impediments, obstacles, and blockers for the team / PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 149

Hint: Which information serves as input or is a tool and technique in the plan stakeholder engagement process? Which information is likely to be found elsewhere?

Correct Answer: B,D,E,F

Explanation:

When a stakeholder leaves a project or when a new stakeholder joins the project, an iteration of the Identify Stakeholders process as well as the Plan Stakeholder Engagement process takes place. Meetings are an example of the tools and techniques that can be used as part of both processes. A meeting between the project manager and the new key stakeholder can take the form of an interview allowing both parties to get to know each other and set expectations for the project. The questions asked during the interview should be designed in a way that would help the project manager identify the inputs of the Plan Stakeholder Engagement process as it relates to this particular stakeholder. For example, stakeholder's risk appetites, stakeholder's communication preferences, lessons that the stakeholder has learned from past projects, level of stakeholder's support for the project are among the inputs that can be used by the project manager in the process of updating the stakeholder engagement plan.

Details for Each Option:

A Have you ever managed a project before?

Incorrect. The new stakeholder joins the project to replace another stakeholder, not the project manager. Therefore, while the project management experience may come in handy, it is not required for and is unlikely to be a factor in updating the stakeholder engagement plan as requested by the scenario.

B How much risk are you willing to take for an anticipated benefit?

Correct. Stakeholder risk appetites are among the enterprise environmental factors (EEFS) that can be used as an input to the Plan Stakeholder Engagement process implied by the scenario. Risk appetite is an important Input because it can have a direct impact on the risk management strategies applied throughout the course of the project.

C What position did you hold in your previous company?

Incorrect. It is unlikely that the answer to this question will have a significant (if any) impact on the stakeholder engagement process implied by the scenario or would require an update to the stakeholder engagement plan. Therefore, this question can be considered Irrelevant.

D What are your communication preferences?

Correct. Project Stakeholder Management and Project Communications Management are two Knowledge Areas that often intertwined. Understanding the communication requirements, needs, and preferences of a stakeholder can help plan effective communication with that stakeholder as well as help in proper stakeholder involvement in the project.

E Do you have any lessons learned to share from your previous projects?

Correct. Lessons learned from previous projects are organizational process assets (OPAS) that serve as an input to the process of planning stakeholder engagement. Whether the new stakeholder comes from within the organization or outside of it, lessons learned are valuable assets that may help the current project team learn from others' mistakes.

F Do you think it was the right thing to undertake the project?

Correct. By asking this question, the project manager can determine how much support and awareness for the project the stakeholder has. This kind of Information can be tracked in the stakeholder engagement assessment matrix, a key tool in carrying out the Plan Stakeholder Engagement process implied by the scenario.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.4 Engage stakeholders PM Approach: Predictive

Question 150

Hint: Which answer choice represents a technique from eXtreme Programming (XP)?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

The scenario describes a hybrid project in which some of the elements are managed using a predictive/traditional project management approach (the schedule baseline, the Control Quality process, the dedicated QA department) while others are managed using agile (the product is developed over the course of several iterations). Pair programming is an agile software development technique from extreme Programming (XP) in which two developers work side-by-side in tandem at the same workstation. While one programmer writes the code, the other reviews the code as it is entered. The two then switch roles frequently. With pair programming, the feedback loop is immediate. If a developer enters a coding error, their partner has the opportunity to catch the error where it can be fixed immediately. Thus, of the available responses, pair programming offers the feedback loop with the shortest interval.

Details for Each Option:

A Shorten the iteration length

Incorrect. While shortening the iteration length would allow the team to gain feedback from the QA department earlier in comparison to the current cadence, agile best practices discourage changing the iteration length in the middle of a project.

B Reduce the size of the user stories

Incorrect. Since the testing is done at the end of each iteration, reducing the size of the user stories would not progress work items from development to testing quicker. The QA department would still have to wait until all the user stories in the iteration are completed whether the user stories are big, medium, or small. Additionally, it's up to the team, not the project manager, to determine whether a user story should be split.

C Revise the schedule baseline

Incorrect. According to the scenario, there are already delays to the project schedule. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that the schedule baseline will need to be revised. However, this action would not shorten the feedback loop, as requested by the question.

D Suggest pair programming to the team

Correct. Pair programming is an agile software development technique in which two developers work side-by-side: one programmer writes the code, the other reviews the code as it is entered. In this manner, the feedback loop is immediate and is the shortest of any other available options.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.3 Support team performance

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 151

Hint: Which project management approach combines elements of both the predictive and agile?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Development approach is a component of the project management plan that describes, as the name implies, the approach selected for the development of the product, service, or result delivered by the project. Predictive, iterative, agile, or hybrid are examples of the development approach. The main differences between the various development approaches lie in the way requirements are defined and managed, project deliverables are produced, change is handled, risk and cost are controlled, and stakeholders are involved. The different development approaches can be visually displayed on what is called, the continuum of project life cycles. A predictive development approach is at one extreme of the continuum, while the agile approach is at the other end, with hybrid models being anywhere in between. The scenario describes a project in which requirements are elaborated at several intervals during delivery; the delivery is divided into subsets of the overall product; change is incorporated at periodic intervals; risk and cost are controlled by progressively elaborating the plans with new information; and, key stakeholders are regularly involved. These practices combine elements of both predictive and agile life cycles, making the whole development approach hybrid.

Note, the development approach is sometimes called the development life cycle.

Details for Each Option:

A Agile

Incorrect. On agile projects, requirements are elaborated frequently during delivery, delivery occurs frequently with customer-valued subsets of the overall product, change is incorporated in real-time during delivery; risk and cost are controlled as requirements and constraints emerge; and, key stakeholders are continuously involved.

B Predictive

Incorrect. On predictive projects, requirements are defined up-front before development begins; a single final product is delivered at the end of the project, change is constrained as much as possible; risk and cost are controlled by detailed planning; and, key stakeholders are involved at specific milestones.

C Hybrid

Correct. On hybrid projects, requirements are elaborated at several intervals; delivery is divided into subsets of the overall product, change is incorporated at periodic intervals; risk and cost are controlled by progressively elaborating the plans with new information; and, key stakeholders are regularly involved. This is the exact match with the scenario described, making this choice the best answer to the question asked.

D Periodic

Incorrect. "Periodic" is not a development approach specified in the reference provided. It's a term that was made-up for this question.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.13 Determine appropriate project methodology/methods and practices

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 152

Hint: What is the best way to enable change to achieve the envisioned future state?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Projects drive an organization from the current state to an envisioned future state. To be successful, project leaders must enable change to achieve the envisioned future state. In this scenario, an agile project is being undertaken to restructure an organization from a weak matrix to a project-oriented organizational type. This type of change will significantly impact stakeholders, including reporting relationships, the scope of authority, essential competencies, etc. Such a significant change will likely be met with resistance by some of those affected by the changes. As a result, stakeholder engagement will be an important aspect of the project to keep stakeholders informed, correct misinformation, and promote the benefits of the change to facilitate the transition. Note, terms such as generalizing specialists, product owner, an adaptive approach, etc., used across the question are typically associated with software development (or knowledge-intensive) projects. However, nothing prevents an organization from using agile methods to undertake other initiatives, such as organizational change, like the one described in the scenario. Obviously, on such a project, the specific tasks performed by the team members, the product owner, and other stakeholders would be different from the roles performed in a knowledge project. For example, instead of developing software, the team will likely develop processes and procedures for the change. However, the application of adaptive/agile project management best practices for the organizational change project would be similar to those applied to the software development project.

Details for Each Option:

A Keep the project confidential until the effective date of the reorganization

Incorrect. Confidentiality might be important while such a project is at the ideation stage. However, stakeholders should be informed of the changes prior to the implementation date to promote transparency. Additionally, stakeholders should have the opportunity to provide their feedback and have their concerns addressed before the implementation.

B Appoint a change control board to review and decide on changes

Incorrect. The scenario implies that an adaptive (agile) framework will be used for this project. Agile projects do not typically incorporate a formal change management process, nor do they use a change control board (CCB) to review and decide on changes. Rather, agile methodologies favor a collaborative approach to changes over strict change control.

C Reassure the project managers that their scope of authority will not change

Incorrect. Project managers have little authority within a weak matrix organizational structure and much greater authority in a project-oriented organization. Therefore, the scope of their authority will change significantly. Reassuring the project managers that their scope of authority will not change would be irresponsible and misleading.

D Incorporate stakeholder engagement and motivational approaches

Correct. Restructuring an organization from a weak matrix to a project-oriented organizational type will have a significant impact on various job roles and responsibilities. For the success of the project, the team will need to engage with affected stakeholders to address their concerns and focus on the benefits that will result from the change.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.4 Engage stakeholders PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 153

Hint: Hint: Which project lifecycle approach would best work?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The hybrid life cycle approach leverages the strengths of waterfall and agile methods. The waterfall approach ensures the hardware development is on schedule and meets all regulatory standards and clarity. The agile approach allows the software to adapt to changing requirements and user feedback through an incremental development delivery. This integrated strategy ensures that both components are developed efficiently, effectively, and cohesively, leading to a successful project outcome.

A strictly sequential approach does not allow for flexibility in accommodating the missing development provisions for the application. It may result in delays or difficulties in integrating new requirements as they emerge.

An adaptive approach may lack the structured planning and sequencing necessary for cohesive development across hardware and software components. Without a clear roadmap, the project may face coordination challenges and difficulties in effectively integrating the two aspects.

Segregating the project into distinct stages may delay integrating the hardware and software components. Without concurrent development and continuous integration, the project timeline may be jeopardized.

Details for Each Option:

A Use a waterfall approach that meets the end date and regulatory standards and an adaptive methodology that addresses the missing development provisions and allows the team to incorporate user feedback iteratively.

Correct. The predictive nature of the waterfall approach ensures that the hardware development follows a structured plan, allowing the team to meet the target end date and comply with regulatory standards. The adaptive approach provides flexibility in accommodating unknown requirements, allowing the team to develop the software iteratively and incorporate user feedback and evolving needs to ensure the application meets user expectations. This hybrid life cycle allows for efficient development and addressing specific needs to ensure project success.

B Create an approach ensuring the hardware and software follow a strict sequential development plan.

Incorrect. A strictly sequential approach does not provide flexibility or adaptability to accommodate changes or unknown requirements that may arise during the project. There is a risk of delays in integrating hardware and software components. This may result in coordination challenges and difficulties in ensuring that the final product effectively meets the project objectives.

C Create an adaptive approach that allows the team to iteratively develop the project's hardware and software to meet its fixed end date and regulatory standards.

Incorrect. An adaptive approach allows for iterative development, but it may not ensure the thorough documentation and testing required to meet stringent regulatory standards for the medical device. Iterative development cycles may extend the project timeline, making meeting the fixed end date difficult.

D Rely solely on a phased approach that will allow the PM to segment the project into distinct stages, allowing flexibility in adapting the application development process based on evolving user feedback.

Incorrect. Segregating the project into distinct stages may lead to delays or challenges in effectively integrating the hardware and software components. This lack of concurrent development and continuous integration may hinder the overall project progress and success. Relying solely on a phased approach will not incorporate the strengths of a hybrid approach to this type of project.

Exam Content Outline: Domain: 2. Process / Task: 2.13 Determine appropriate project methodology/methods and practices / PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 154

Hint: What are tools and techniques to resolve interpersonal and cultural conflicts?

Correct Answer: A,C,E

Explanation:

The scenario surrounds the Develop Team process. This process is aimed at improving competencies, team member interaction, and the overall team environment to enhance project performance. When a team composition changes, conflict is often inevitable, especially when it involves cultural aspects. A project manager has to demonstrate cultural sensitivity, display strong interpersonal skills, and lead by example. Focus groups, ground rules, and meetings (e.g., team-building activities) are among the tools and techniques that may help the project manager in reconciling cultural differences, resolving conflicts, and, eventually, improving the overall collaboration between the team members, thus resulting in better project outcomes.

Details for Each Option:

A Focus groups

Correct. Focus groups are an example of individual and team assessment tools and techniques that can be used as part of the Develop Team process implied by the scenario. With this technique, information is collected in group interviews to receive insights on a particular topic. The outputs could help the project manager better understand the root causes of the conflicts in the team and find appropriate solutions.

B Role definition

Incorrect. According to the scenario, role definition has already been done but did not prevent the lack of acceptance of cultural differences among the team members. The conflict is likely to have deeper underlying causes. A more personal approach is needed to address the situation.

C Ground rules

Correct. Ground rules can be added to the team charter, helping to set clear guidelines for behavior, especially between new team members and within the team overall. Ground rules, as well as codes of conduct, are often proven as an effective tool for reconciling cultural differences in teams.

D Ability tests

Incorrect. Ability tests are an example of individual and team assessment tools and techniques that can be used as part of the Develop Team process implied by the scenario. These tests, however, are primarily used to assess skills and knowledge of the team members rather than resolve the cultural differences within the team.

E Meetings

Correct. A team-building activity can be an agenda item at a meeting, helping team members work together more effectively. Such a meeting could address the issues and conflicts in the team and collaboratively find solutions for them. One may argue that members of a virtual team cannot meet in person. The question does not provide any limitations or constraints prohibiting the team from getting together for a team-building activity. Bringing virtual team members for a meeting once in a while is an acceptable project management practice, making this choice a plausible answer.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.2 Lead a team

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 155

Hint: It's a sprint review meeting. It is neither a planning meeting nor a retrospective.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Stakeholder engagement is critical to the success of any project. On agile projects, changes are typically driven by stakeholder needs. When new stakeholders are identified during an ongoing project, the stakeholders should be engaged as soon as possible. One of the earliest opportunities for that engagement is at the sprint review meeting. At the sprint review meetings, the team presents the product increment that they have built during the sprint. According to Rawsthorne and Shimp, the sprint review is conducted for three main reasons:

1. To prove to the stakeholders that the team is moving in the right direction;
2. To get feedback from the stakeholders about the work completed; and
3. To discuss the work of the next sprint with the stakeholders.

One may argue that work to be completed during the next sprint is discussed at the sprint planning meeting, not sprint review. While it's generally true, at the sprint review, the discussion of the work to be performed for the next sprint is done at a high-level only and does not replace the sprint planning meeting. It is at the sprint planning meeting that the sprint goal is defined after the team forecasts what they can deliver on that sprint. Of the choices provided, only discussing what is to be worked on in the next sprint is the most plausible answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A To reflect on the team performance

Incorrect. Team performance is discussed at the sprint retrospective meeting, not the sprint review meeting described in the scenario. Typically, stakeholders do not attend sprint retrospective meetings.

B To prioritize high-risk user stories for the next sprint

Incorrect. The prioritization of user stories, regardless of whether they are high-risk or not, for the next sprint typically happens at the sprint planning meeting. The scenario, however, describes the sprint review meeting.

C To reprioritize the release backlog

Incorrect. An agile release encompasses several sprints. The release backlog is comprised of the items to be developed during those sprints. Each sprint has its own sprint planning meeting. The release backlog is prioritized during the release planning meeting, not the sprint planning meeting, and not the sprint review meeting described in the scenario.

D To discuss the high-level plans for the next sprint

Correct. Among other items, the work to be done during the next sprint is discussed at the sprint review meeting. The discussion is conducted at a high-level and does not replace the one held at the spring planning meeting.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.8 Negotiate project agreements

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 156

Hint: The question references key skills included in this technique which can assist project managers in resolving issues promptly and obtaining needed resources.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Influencing skills is a component of interpersonal and team skills which is a tool and technique used in the Manage Team process. Influencing skills are often critical to the success of a project in a matrix environment because of the limited authority project managers have in those environments. Influencing skills can help the project manager obtain resources and solve issues promptly. Vital influencing skills include an ability to be persuasive, clearly articulating points and positions, high levels of active and effective listening, awareness of, and consideration for, the various perspectives in any situation, and gathering relevant information to address issues and reach agreements while maintaining mutual trust. The PMBOK Guide groups many process tools and techniques, like influencing skills, based on their purpose. Useful information and tables that categorize these tools and techniques by group and tie them to their respective process can be found using the included page reference.

Details for Each Option:

A Influencing

Correct. Influencing is one of 17 Interpersonal and team skills tools and techniques within the Manage Team process. This question demonstrates the use of many of the key influencing skills, including but not limited to, active and effective listening, clearly articulating points and positions, and others.

B Team performance assessments

Incorrect. Team performance assessments are inputs to but are not tools and techniques of the Manage Team process. Additionally, in the scenario, you are not assessing the performance of your project team. Rather, you are working with the stakeholders to address their concerns and gain their support and cooperation.

C Conflict management

Incorrect. Conflict management is a tool or technique in the Manage Team process. When conflict is appropriately managed, it can lead to improved productivity and working relationships. However, this question does not indicate that there is conflict, it merely describes a meeting to address stakeholder concerns.

D Cultural awareness

Incorrect. Cultural awareness refers to understanding the differences between individuals, groups, and organizations and adapting the project's communication strategy in the context of these differences. Nothing in the scenario points out cultural differences between various individuals and groups, making this choice an incorrect answer.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.14 Promote team performance through the application of emotional intelligence

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 157

Hint: How might you use a top-down approach to estimating the team resource requirements?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The question suggests that you, as the project manager, are performing the Estimate Activity Resources process and that a hybrid development approach is being utilized. When incorporating agile practices within an overarching traditional waterfall approach, the project scope may be progressively elaborated throughout the project, and the work breakdown structure (WBS) may not be fully decomposed during initial project planning. Under such circumstances, one viable approach to estimating team resource requirements would be to utilize the analogous estimating technique. If there are past similar projects, the organizational process assets (OPAs) should contain detailed information that could be used for analogous estimating.

Details for Each Option:

A Check the organizational process assets for similar projects and use analogous estimating

Correct. Analogous estimating can be used when the work breakdown structure (WBS) cannot be fully decomposed. In this case, the organizational process assets (OPAs) may contain information on similar past projects that can be used as a basis for estimating team resource requirements.

B Apply bottom-up estimating using the work breakdown structure (WBS) as a guide

Incorrect. With the bottom-up approach, team resources would be estimated at the activity level and then aggregated to develop estimates from work packages up to the project level. However, at this point, you are not able to fully decompose the WBS in order to identify the activities and work packages. The bottom-up estimating technique requires a fully decomposed WBS.

C Utilize parametric estimating for the individual work packages within the existing WBS

Incorrect. The work package represents the lowest level of the work breakdown structure (WBS). In this scenario, only the highest levels of the WBS exist, which would not include the work package level. Therefore, in this scenario, one would not be able to apply parametric estimating to individual work packages.

D Decompose the WBS down to the work package level during initial project planning

Incorrect. With a traditional waterfall project, the work breakdown structure (WBS) would be fully decomposed down to the work package level during the Create WBS process. When incorporating agile techniques, the project scope may be progressively elaborated as the project progresses rather than fully decomposed during initial project planning. In this scenario, the question stipulates that the WBS will be progressively elaborated throughout the project rather than fully decomposed as part of initial project planning.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.0 Build a team

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 158

Hint: Unplanned training takes place as a result of observation, conversation, and project performance appraisals conducted during management of the project team.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The question states that a competency gap was uncovered as a result of a project team appraisal that was previously unknown. As a result, the newly discovered training need is not likely to be addressed in the resource management plan. If project team members lack the necessary management or technical skills, such skills can be developed as part of the project work. Scheduled training takes place as stated in the resource management plan. Unplanned training takes place as a result of observation, conversation, and project performance appraisals conducted during the management of the project team. The incorrect answer choices represent actions that do not directly address the newly discovered training need. Therefore, of the available options, conducting unplanned training to address the competency gap is the best response.

Note, since the unplanned training will likely consume project resources (time, budget, etc.), an approved change request will be required. While the correct answer choice does not indicate this, it's still the best of those provided.

Details for Each Option:

A Implement the response planned for this risk

Incorrect. Risk responses are developed to address risks that have been identified during project planning or later as the project progresses. The competency gap is a risk. However, according to the scenario, the gap was previously unknown, implying no response exists for this risk.

B Conduct unplanned training to address the competency gap

Correct. When project team members lack the necessary technical skills, these skills can be developed as part of the project work. Unplanned training takes place as a result of observation, conversation, and project performance appraisals conducted during management of the project team.

C Consult the training management plan

Incorrect. 'Training management plan' is a made-up term not specified in the PMBOK® Guide.

D Let go of the staff who have technical skill gaps

Incorrect. There is not enough information provided in the question to suggest that termination of employment is appropriate in this situation. Termination is a serious action that when initiated is generally the culmination of a series of progressive actions. Typically, a plan should be created and followed to fill the technical deficiencies.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.5 Ensure team members/stakeholders are adequately trained

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 159

Hint: Building trust requires demonstrating direct value to the skeptical stakeholders.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Stakeholder buy-ins are often driven by how well the project aligns with their specific needs, priorities, and strategic goals. Demonstrating alignment ensures stakeholders feel their concerns and objectives are valued, fostering trust and collaboration. When stakeholders see how the project directly contributes to their department's success, they are more likely to support it. For example, if the skeptical group's primary goal is operational efficiency, the project manager could emphasize how the deliverables will reduce redundant processes, or if their goal is market expansion, the project manager can explain how the project outcomes will help achieve this. By highlighting these alignments, the project manager builds credibility, showing the group that the project is not an isolated initiative but a critical contributor to their department's success.

The project manager should address three key concepts: Trust Building, Stakeholder Engagement, and Influence through Alignment. Trust is built when stakeholders feel their needs and goals are understood and prioritized. Highlighting alignment with their strategic goals demonstrates the project manager's commitment to mutual success. Effective stakeholder engagement involves identifying and addressing specific concerns rather than generic strategies like assigning tasks or providing updates. Aligning project goals with stakeholder priorities ensures that they see the project as an enabler of their success, making them more inclined to support it.

Details for Each Option:

A Highlight the project's alignment with their department's strategic goals.

Correct. Stakeholder buy-in is often driven by how well the project aligns with their needs, priorities, and strategic goals. Demonstrating alignment ensures stakeholders feel their concerns and objectives are valued, fostering trust and collaboration. When stakeholders see how the project directly contributes to their department's success, they are more likely to support it.

B Emphasize the project's benefits to other stakeholders.

Incorrect. While highlighting the project's broader benefits might showcase its overall value, it does not address the specific concerns or priorities of the skeptical stakeholder group. This approach risks further alienating the group by making them feel their unique needs are being ignored.

C Assign project tasks to this stakeholder group to increase their involvement.

Incorrect. While increasing Involvement might seem like a good strategy to build engagement, assigning tasks without addressing their skepticism could lead to frustration. They might perceive this as an attempt to push responsibility onto them rather than addressing their concerns.

D Schedule additional status update meetings to keep them informed.

Incorrect. Keeping stakeholders Informed is good practice, but scheduling more meetings without tackling their specific concerns will not change their perception of the project's value. This can lead to meeting fatigue and further disengagement.

Question 160

Hint: In which approach all sides win?

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Agile methodologies are typically used when requirements are not well-understood upfront. Thus, agile contracts need to focus on collaborative efforts and aligning the contract terms with the project goals. Unlike an adversarial approach of winners versus losers, which will likely result in an increased risk to the project, a collaborative approach is one that pursues a shared-risk-reward relationship, where all sides win. Therefore, pursuing a shared-risk-reward relationship for the outsourced portion of the work in which requirements are not well-defined upfront is the best course of action in this situation.

Note, the scenario describes a project in which most of the project scope is managed using the traditional/predictive project management approach (WBS) while the outsourced portion of work is carried out using the agile framework. This means the project as a whole is managed in a hybrid way. While this information does not change the correct answer, it is important to understand that projects can be managed using various approaches, including predictive (sometimes called traditional or waterfall), agile (Scrum, Kanban, etc.), or hybrid which is a combination of both.

Details for Each Option:

A Seek an informal agreement rather than a formal contract

Incorrect. The Agile Manifesto supports the idea of customer collaboration over contract negotiation. This does not mean, however, that formal contracts are not used for agile projects (or for the outsourced deliverables that managed using agile methods). The contract type and terms may differ with an agile project versus waterfall, but vendor agreements should still be captured in a formal contract.

B Secure a fixed-price contract for the outsourced scope

Incorrect. A fixed-price contract would be better suited to a waterfall project as opposed to agile. With waterfall projects, the scope is generally well-understood upfront. With agile projects, the project scope is more likely to be progressively elaborated. As a result, it would be challenging to determine contract terms for the entire outsourced scope upfront.

C Negotiate aggressively for the most advantageous terms

Incorrect. While it may seem natural to seek the most advantageous contract terms, this approach may not produce the best results for any project. With agile projects, the project scope is not typically well understood initially, which means that greater cooperation will be necessary. Thus, it will be preferable to seek contract terms that put vendor performance in alignment with the project goals, rather than driving the hardest bargain.

D Pursue a shared-risk-reward contract relationships

Correct. Agile projects typically require a more collaborative approach with respect to vendors because the project scope is usually not well-defined initially and will be progressively elaborated. Thus contract terms that present a shared-risk-reward relationship are most advantageous for both parties.

Question 161

Hint: What assurance is there that the situation described in the scenario will not recur?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

If a business analyst is assigned to a project, requirement-related activities are the responsibility of that role. On agile projects, this role is frequently performed by a product owner. The product owner serves as the voice of the customer and needs to work closely with the development team to ensure that the team's efforts remain in alignment with project goals. The lack of involvement from a business analyst/product owner can lead to slower development and rework. Although the project manager has reached out to the business analyst and requested them to work with the team in the upcoming sprints, this does not mean that the issue will not recur. An effective leader should identify potential problems and address them proactively. Since the business analyst's lack of involvement has been identified as an issue, the project manager should continue to monitor the business analyst's involvement to ensure that the project work can continue without disruption.

Note, the scenario describes a project in which the project scope is managed using the traditional/predictive project management approach (e.g., work package) while the work is carried out using the Scrum framework (sprints). This means the project as a whole is managed in a hybrid way. While this information does not change the correct answer, it is important to understand that projects can be managed using various approaches, including predictive (sometimes called traditional or waterfall), agile (Scrum, Kanban, etc.), or hybrid which is a combination of both.

Details for Each Option:

A No further action needed as the problem is resolved

Incorrect. It is unclear if the problem has been resolved. All the project manager did was reaching out to the business analyst and requesting them to collaborate with the team during the upcoming sprints. The problem will be considered resolved only when it's evident the business analyst is available for the team when needed.

B Report a work ethics violation to the human resources department

Incorrect. It is not uncommon that an organization may have resource constraints resulting in some of the resources being unavailable and, consequently, unresponsive at times. An individual being unavailable and/or unresponsive, though, is unlikely to be considered as one who violates work ethics.

C Continue monitoring the business analyst's involvement

Correct. Even though it appears that the current issue has been addressed, a good proactive leader is expected to continue monitoring issues to ensure they do not reoccur going forward.

D Instruct the team to fix the work package to meet customer needs

Incorrect. Since the customer has not accepted the work package, it is reasonable to assume that the package will have to be modified to meet customer needs. However, before a modification to a work package can be made, a clarification on what exactly to fix should be provided by the business analyst, who, according to the scenario, has not been available.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.7 Address and remove impediments, obstacles, and blockers for the team

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 162

Hint: The project manager should have been proactive.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

The project team under the guidance of the project manager needs to be able to assess the project situation, balance the demands, and maintain proactive communications with stakeholders in order to deliver a successful project. In this case, a thorough assessment of the project's impact on all stakeholders early in the project life cycle may have identified the potential resistance of the local residents to the pathway. Identifying potential issues early allows the project team to proactively address the problems and implement strategies to resolve them to increase the prospect of project success.

Details for Each Option:

A Identify the pathway as a possible point of contention with stakeholders early in the project

Correct. By identifying the problem with the pathway early, the project team could have engaged the local residents proactively and worked out a possible win-win solution for both parties.

B Nothing could have been done differently because the project was authorized per the project charter

Incorrect. Just because the project was authorized does not mean steps could not have been taken to avoid the situation. The conflict could have been avoided if a proper assessment of the project's impact on the stakeholders was conducted early in the project before the project management plan was approved so that the stakeholders' concerns could have been heard and addressed.

C Engage a public relations company to handle community outreach once local residents voiced their disapproval

Incorrect. This answer choice is not the best answer because engaging a public relations company after the local residents voice their disapproval is reactive and would not have 'avoided' the situation. The project manager and team should be proactive whenever possible in identifying potential issues and dealing with them.

D Reroute the pathway entrance during construction to an old railway trail instead of the local street

Incorrect. Rerouting the entrance and exit points to another location may or may not resolve the local residents immediate concern and very well could lead to another conflict with the local community. Therefore, this choice is not the best answer to the question asked.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.10 Build shared understanding

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 163

Hint: What issue might the requesting organization encounter with an agile project?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Agile approaches emphasize delivering project outputs early and often. This sentiment is captured in one of the Agile Manifesto's principles. An organization that has been structured around a predictive project management framework (the "client" in the scenario described) may not be prepared to implement the rapid and incremental delivery that an agile approach can offer. It is not enough for the organization that develops the product/service ("your company" in the scenario described) to successfully deliver the project outputs. If the client is not prepared to accept the deliverables when they are deployable, then the return on investment will be delayed. Therefore, in this scenario, it will be important for your company to gain alignment with the client on the timing of the deliverables, so the full benefits of the project's output can be realized.

Details for Each Option:

A Develop a change management plan to address the inevitable changes

Incorrect. Changes are inevitable, and agile principles welcome change for the client's benefit. However, for an agile project, a change management plan would be an impediment. Agile projects typically collaborate with stakeholders as the product evolves rather than follow a change management plan.

B Request the client to take part in product testing to speed up delivery

Incorrect. Clients may participate in iteration reviews where the development team demonstrates the product increment that has been developed during the iteration. Clients can also conduct acceptance testing. However, it is uncommon that the client participates in product testing. Product testing is the responsibility of the organization that develops the product.

C Gain alignment with the client on the timing of project deliverables

Correct. If the requesting organization is not prepared to accept the deliverables when they are deployable, then the return on investment will be delayed. Therefore, in this scenario, it will be important for the performing organization to gain alignment on the timing of the deliverables, so the full benefits of the project's output can be realized.

D Instruct the project team to develop all features in a single release

Incorrect. Providing a full feature set in a single release would be contradictory to the early and often delivery of value. Agile projects release valuable features as soon as they are ready so the client can start receiving the project benefits as quickly as possible. The project team should release features as they are deployable rather than waiting for a full feature set to be delivered in a single release.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 3. Business Environment

Task: 3.4 Support organizational change

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 164

Hint: Which of the answer choices is an activity associated with the Close Project or Phase process?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

The scenario suggests the project manager and team are carrying out the activities associated with the Close Project or Phase process. To convey project performance and assist in project evaluation, the final project report should be prepared and shared according to the communications management plan. All of the incorrect answer choices represent tasks that should be completed as part of process groups other than the Closing Process Group. The information provided by the question suggests that all of the tasks associated with project closure have been completed except for sharing the final project report.

Details for Each Option:

A Reviewing project requirements

Incorrect. A review of project requirements would have been completed much earlier in the project as part of project planning. The question implies that the project team is performing the Close Project or Phase process.

B Verifying project deliverables

Incorrect. The question states that final acceptance has been obtained which suggests that the project deliverables have already been verified, otherwise they would not have been accepted. Additionally, the question implies that the Close Project or Phase process is being performed, while this answer choice represents an activity associated with the Monitoring and Controlling Process Group.

C Sharing the final project report

Correct. The information provided by the question suggests that all of the tasks associated with project closure have been completed except for the preparation and communication of the final project report.

D Conducting benefit analysis

Incorrect. The benefits analysis is completed during project initiation rather than during project closure as suggested by the question.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.17 Plan and manage project/phase closure or transitions

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 165

Hint: After the needs assessment, what is still required to serve as an input to the development of the project charter?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

The business case is a documented economic feasibility study used to establish the validity of the benefits of a selected component lacking sufficient definition, and that is used as a basis for the authorization of further project management activities. The benefits management plan is the documented explanation defining the processes for creating, maximizing, and sustaining the benefits provided by a project or program. The business case and benefits management plan comprise the business documents which are used as an input to create the project charter. Pre-project work includes developing the needs assessment, business case, and benefits management plan. The pre-project work should be completed before project initiation. The question states that the needs assessment has already been completed; therefore, the next step is to prepare the business case and benefits management plan.

Details for Each Option:

A Collect requirements and develop the project management plan

Incorrect. Collecting requirements and developing the project management plan are activities that take place during project planning. According to the scenario, the project has not even been initiated yet.

B Understand the business goals and objectives to recommend proposals

Incorrect. The needs assessment involves understanding business goals and objectives, issues, and opportunities and recommending proposals to address them. The scenario states that the needs assessment has already been completed. Therefore, this answer choice can be eliminated.

C Prepare the business case and benefits management plan

Correct. Pre-project work includes developing the needs assessment, business case, and benefits management plan. The pre-project work should be completed before project initiation. The question states that the needs assessment has already been completed; therefore, the next step is to prepare the business case and benefits management plan.

D Develop the project charter and identify the key stakeholders

Incorrect. Project initiation includes the development of a project charter and identifying the stakeholders. Before the project can be initiated, the pre-project work should be completed.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.13 Determine appropriate project methodology/methods and practices

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 166

Hint: An effective communications management plan addresses who, what," when,' 'where,' and how' of project communications.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

One way to plan communication management is to identify the 5Ws (Who, What, When, Where, Why) and 1H (How) of communication:

- Who needs the information;
- What information needs to be communicated;
- When should the information be communicated;
- Where should the information be communicated;
- Why communication of the information is essential; and
- How the information needs to be transmitted.

The scenario states that the project manager had determined the 'who, what,' and 'when' of communicating the project information. The Where," why, and how are not mentioned. Among the choices provided, only 'Determine how the information will be transmitted addresses the 'how' which is one of the missing '5Ws' and '1H", and is, therefore, the best answer to the question asked.

Details for Each Option:

A Determine the information needs of the stakeholders

Incorrect. According to the scenario, the project manager has determined which stakeholders need what information and how often. Therefore, Kathy has already established the Information needs of the stakeholders.

B Determine how the information will be transmitted

Correct. The project manager has determined the stakeholder communication requirements in that she knows the who, what," and "when" of the project communications. However, she has not yet identified how the information will be transmitted which would be the next necessary component of the communications management plan.

C Measure the effectiveness of the communications

Incorrect. The project manager is working on the communications management plan; therefore, she is most likely in the Plan Communications Management process. Measuring the effectiveness of the communications is performed in the Monitor Communications process which is carried out later in the project life cycle.

D Submit a change request to update the communications management plan

Incorrect. The scenario suggests the project is still in planning implying the project management plan has yet to be approved. A change request is not required to update a component of the project management plan that has not yet been approved.

Question 167

Hint: What obligation, as a steward, does the project manager have to the team members?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

In this scenario, the customer has expressed their frustration with the development team's performance by referring to them as lazy and incompetent. The customer might be entitled to be disappointed and frustrated with the project team for failing to meet their commitment. However, it is never appropriate to be disrespectful of others. One of the project management principles for project leaders is to be a diligent, respectful, and caring steward. Integrity obligates project leaders to ensure that the project team members, and others, are treated with dignity and respect. It might be a difficult conversation, but the project manager has an ethical obligation to challenge the customer to consider their words and actions to be empathetic and respectful of others.

Details for Each Option:

A Meet with the customer in private and challenge them to be more respectful to the team

Correct. The customer might be entitled to be disappointed and frustrated with the project team for failing to meet their commitment. However, as a steward, the project manager has an obligation to challenge stakeholders (customers are project stakeholders) to consider their words and actions to be empathetic and respectful of others.

B Discuss the reasons for the failed sprint during the next daily standup meeting

Incorrect. Discussing the reasons for the failed sprint as well as determining the root cause of the issue and actions to improve performance is one of the duties of the project manager as a servant leader. However, the appropriate venue for this topic would be the sprint retrospective rather than the daily standup meeting.

C Encourage the team to commit to completing fewer story points for the next sprint

Incorrect. The team might or might not have overcommitted during sprint planning. However, without first knowing the reason for the failed sprint, encouraging the team to commit to completing fewer story points for the next sprint would not be appropriate at this point. Finding the root cause of the performance gap would be a better choice.

D Challenge the team to work on their days off until they cover the shortfall

Incorrect. Without knowing the reason for the shortfall, assuming that there was a lack of effort by the team is not aligned with the agile leadership practices. The project manager should first seek to understand the root causes of the performance gap before addressing the problem. Besides, good leaders should respect team members' work-life balance.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.9 Collaborate with stakeholders

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 168

Hint: Collaboration forms the basis for joint decision-making to ensure the customer receives the intended benefits of the project.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

The third value of the Agile Manifesto is "Customer collaboration over contract negotiation." Customer collaboration forms the basis for the joint decision-making process. It establishes a bond between the customer and the development team, helping ensure the customer receives the intended benefits of the project. The question describes a situation where the vendor insists that product specifications are thoroughly documented in the contract even though the buyer (customer) does not have a clear picture of the requirements upfront. The vendor produces the deliverables according to the contract negotiated at the beginning of the project, but the product does not deliver the intended value/result. In some cases, a buyer is not a product expert and relies on the vendor to guide the buyer in the product design and development. This approach is an example of collaborating with the customer over rigidly adhering to specifications outlined in a contract.

Details for Each Option:

A Business people and developers must work together

Incorrect. This principle may have prevented the problem outlined in the scenario from occurring. However, this answer choice represents a principle of the Agile Manifesto rather than one of its values.

B Individuals and interactions over processes and tools

Incorrect. There is not enough information in the question to determine if processes and tools were valued over individuals and interactions, resulting in the buyer's dissatisfaction with the deliverables. Better collaboration between the parties would have had a more positive effect on the outcome of the project.

C Pair programming over continuous integration

Incorrect. Pair programming is a technique in which two developers work side-by-side developing software code. Continuous integration is a practice in which each team member's work products are frequently integrated and validated with one another. Both are valuable agile techniques; however, it is unclear if applying/valuing one of them over another would have prevented the problem described in the scenario from occurring in the first place.

D Customer collaboration over contract negotiations

Correct. Thoroughly negotiating contracts is typical for projects that are lead using the traditional approach. In the scenario, however, the customer does not have detailed requirements upfront and requests that the vendor develops the device using agile methods. Collaboration over negotiations would be more beneficial for both parties.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.10 Build shared understanding

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 169

Hint: Projects are initiated by an entity external to the project.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Projects are initiated by an entity external to the project, such as a sponsor, program or project management office (PMO), or a portfolio governing body chairperson or authorized representative. The project initiator or sponsor should be at a level that is appropriate to procure funding and commit resources to the project. Therefore, a project sponsor is external to the project, is of high power and high interest, and has an upward direction of influence. Of the available choices, only Todd Young possesses the characteristics of a project sponsor. Note, being external to the project does not necessarily mean being external to the organization. The terms "internal" vs. "external" are relative to something. The column "Internal/External to the Project" in the table specifies what is being referred to by 'internal' and 'external'. For example, the sponsor is external to the project in that they are not a member of the immediate project team, but they are a stakeholder to the project and internal to the organization.

Based on section 1.6 Project Stakeholders of the Pstardards+TM in the reference provided, one may argue that a sponsor is a project-internal stakeholder. Unfortunately, Pstardards+ does not do a great job clarifying that the examples in the "Internal stakeholders" and "External stakeholders" lists refer to stakeholders as they relate to the performing organization, not project. For example, in the list of stakeholders in section 1.6 Project Stakeholders, the sponsor, resource manager, PMO, team members, etc., could be either external or internal to the project, but they are internal to the performing organization. However, customers, end-users, suppliers, etc., are external to both project and performing organization. Therefore, we strongly believe that a sponsor is an individual who is external to the project, possesses high power and high interest, and has an upward direction of influence.

Note, Figure 2-1 Project Boundaries on in section 2. The Standard for Project Management: Initiating Process Group, places the sponsor outside the project boundaries, thus supporting the idea that a sponsor is an entity external to the project. Another consideration that may help support the correct answer is the understanding that one individual who is internal to the performing organization can serve as a project sponsor for multiple projects, keeping this individual external to each one of the projects he/she is sponsoring.

Details for Each Option:

A John Show - Incorrect. Projects are initiated by an entity external to the project such as a sponsor or project management office (PMO). John Snow is identified as internal to the project; therefore, he cannot be the project sponsor.

B Todd Young - Correct. The project sponsor is most likely to be external, high power and high Interest, with an upward direction of Influence. Projects are initiated by an entity or person external to the project like a sponsor or PMO. A sponsor, by definition, has high power over the project and is most likely to be of high interest. The role of the sponsor has an upward direction of Influence. Of the available options, only Todd Young has all of the characteristics of a project sponsor.

C Marie Smith - Incorrect. Marie Smith is classified as low power on the project. The Initiator of a project by definition is high power as they are the one that is authorizing the project and the expenditure of resources. Additionally, a project sponsor has an upward direction of Influence rather than outward. Therefore, this answer choice can be eliminated.

DC Tonya Stewart - Incorrect Projects are initiated by an entity external to the project such as a sponsor or project management office (PMO). A project sponsor is, by definition, classified as high power. Additionally, a project sponsor has an upward direction of Influence. Therefore, none of the characteristics of Tonya Stewart match that of a project sponsor.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.4 Engage stakeholders PM Approach: Predictive

Question 170

Hint: The size of your team may increase or decrease over time. You need to manage changes to it to optimize performance.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

The key words in this question "immediately" and "to manage the team composition". The change management plan is a subsidiary plan of the project management plan. It provides direction to manage the change control process and documents the roles and responsibilities of the change control board (CCB) if one is used on the project. The question describes a situation in which the project manager is in the Manage Team process. One of the activities of this process involves managing team changes to optimize project performance. For example, staffing changes, whether made by choice or by uncontrollable events, can disrupt the project team (and need to be managed). To do so, the project manager may submit a change request to either replace team members who leave or outsource some of the work.

Details for Each Option:

A Write a work performance report to generate awareness of the lead architect's departure

Incorrect. Work performance reports are the physical or electronic representation of work performance information which is intended to generate decisions, actions, or awareness. The information from work performance reports and related forecasts assist in determining future team resource requirements, recognition and rewards, and updates to the resource management plan. While it is important to inform stakeholders of the change in team composition, it is not the immediate action a project manager should take in this situation.

B Update the project organizational chart to reflect the team change

Incorrect. A project organizational chart is a graphic display of project team members and their reporting relationships, which is contained within the resource management plan. Since the resource management plan is a controlled document, it cannot be updated at will without an approved change request. While this step will need to be performed eventually, of the choices provided, it is not the immediate action required in this situation. Additionally, simply updating the project organizational chart would not address the need of managing the team composition as requested by the question.

C Review the change management plan and submit a change request

Correct. Since a lead architect has been forced to leave due to a conflict of interest, the project manager must now deal with the matter by submitting a change request and follow the process outlined in the change management plan to replace the human resource. The change request may be to update the resource management plan to reflect the change in team composition, to request an additional architect to replace the one that left, or possibly to outsource the project work affected by the lead architect's departure. In any case, this is the best answer choice of those provided to manage your team composition.

D Use float on the critical path to prevent schedule slippage due to this new risk

Incorrect. This answer choice is incorrect for several reasons. The first is that it describes using float on the critical path to protect the schedule. This is a false statement as a critical path should not contain any float. Second, while there is a potential risk of having only one project architect, this risk must first be analyzed, and a response planned before any change can be made to the schedule (e.g., adding a time contingency reserve). Finally, this answer choice does not directly answer the question of how to manage team composition. Per those reasons, this is not the best answer choice of those provided.

Exam Content Outline: Domain: 1. People / Task: 1.0 Build a team / PM Approach: Predictive

Question 171

Hint: Discuss balancing collaboration, version control, and accessibility in a globally distributed team environment.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Clearly defined document ownership ensures accountability, updating schedules reduces delays, and real-time synchronization protocols address inconsistencies across time zones. This approach ensures that the repository functions effectively for collaboration and supports global teams while maintaining version control and accessibility.

A global project involves multiple cross-functional teams in different time zones. The artifacts (important project documents, deliverables, and records) are stored in a centralized cloud-based repository for accessibility. Despite regular version control and accessibility checks, stakeholders report inconsistent updates, causing decision-making delays.

Stakeholder access and collaboration issues-Even though the repository is centralized, updates do not effectively reach stakeholders. Version integrity problems-Document changes are not consistently reflected, leading to outdated or conflicting information. Global team coordination - Different time zones and team structures mean updates may not always be communicated effectively.

The best approach to resolve document inconsistencies in a global project is structured artifact management (Answer C). Clearly defining ownership, schedules, and real-time syncing ensures accountability, consistency, and collaboration. While partially helpful, other options fail to address the root problem or introduce new risks.

Details for Each Option:

A Implement automated notifications for every document update to inform all stakeholders in real-time.

Incorrect. Automated notifications may overwhelm stakeholders and don't solve inconsistencies in updates or accountability.

B Introduce a decentralized repository system for each region to reduce dependency on a single repository.

Incorrect. A decentralized repository risks misalignment and complicates version control.

C Establish clearly defined document ownership, update schedules, and real-time synchronization protocols.

Correct. Defined ownership, schedules, and synchronization ensure effective artifact management in global projects.

D Transition to physical artifacts for high-priority documents to ensure reliability and accuracy.

Incorrect. Transitioning to physical artifacts is impractical for global projects and hinders collaboration.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.12 Manage project artifacts

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 172

Hint: Proper change management practices require evaluation before implementation.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The correct answer is B. Documenting the change request and assessing its impact ensures alignment with the project objectives, timeline, and budget. This step is critical in determining if the change should proceed. Skipping this analysis can lead to unintended consequences. Documenting the change request and evaluating its impact ensures that it aligns with the project's scope, objectives, timeline, and budget.

Change management is a structured process that prevents project risks and unintended consequences. The project manager should first record the change request, assess its potential impact on the project constraints (scope, time, cost, quality, risk, and resources), and follow the established change control process.

The project manager should first record the change request, assess its potential impact on the project constraints (scope, time, cost, quality, risk, and resources), and follow the established change control process.

Details for Each Option:

A Implement the change immediately to save time.

Incorrect: Implementing a change without evaluation could harm the project. Implementing a change immediately without evaluation can introduce risks such as delays, increased costs, or scope creep. Even if the change appears beneficial bypassing the formal evaluation process can lead to unintended consequences.

B Document the change request and evaluate its impact on project objectives.

Correct: Following change management practices requires documenting and analyzing the change request. Best practices dictate that all changes should be documented, analyzed, and reviewed before approval. This ensures alignment with the project's goals and avoids negative impacts.

C Reject the change as it might disrupt the project timeline.

Incorrect: Rejecting a change outright might overlook potential project benefits. Automatically rejecting a change request without evaluating its benefits could mean missing an opportunity to improve efficiency, reduce costs, or enhance project outcomes. While changes should be carefully managed, rejecting them outright is not a best practice.

D Present the change request to the sponsor without review.

Incorrect: Escalating a change without analysis might waste sponsor time. Presenting the change request to the sponsor without analysis wastes time and does not follow proper project governance. The project manager should first assess the impact and determine whether escalation is necessary before involving the sponsor.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 2. Process

Task: 2.10 Manage project changes

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 173

Hint: Which of the answer choices would be key ingredients for agile ways of working?

Correct Answer: A,B,D,E

Explanation:

The scenario implies that the first phase of the project was likely delivered using a waterfall project management approach, where the software had been developed in one long iteration and deployed at the customer site. This approach, especially with software development products, often results in more defects in comparison to the iterative and incremental approach. What customer demands for the second phase can be achieved by incorporating agile practices, making the second phase hybrid. For many project teams who need to introduce more agility, setting up regular timeboxes and frequent retrospectives help organize the team's work in close collaboration with the customer. In addition to a more iterative approach, an incremental delivery using a backlog is another good first step towards agility in a project. According to the scenario, the team has problems with poor quality - test-driven development practices can address that.

Details for Each Option:

A A cadence with regular timeboxes

Correct. By setting up a cadence in the form of regular timeboxes, a team can schedule interaction with the relevant stakeholders (including the customer) regularly and iteratively. Many teams find a cadence helpful in demonstrating the working product increments to the customer, get feedback, and improve.

B Regular and frequent retrospectives

Correct. Conducting regular and frequent retrospectives is one of the Agile Manifesto principles, "At regular intervals, the team reflects on how to become more effective, then tunes and adjusts its behavior accordingly. This concept is also known as "continuous improvement". Applying this principle would help the team to learn, improve, and adapt, likely resulting in improved customer satisfaction.

C Optimization at the level of each individual team member

Incorrect. The lean manufacturing concept of "optimizing the whole with a systemic view suggests that optimization is much more effective when it's done at the project level instead of the individual team member's level. Therefore, this answer choice is unlikely to contribute to the team's effort in addressing the customer's request.

D Test-driven development practices

Correct. Test-driven development (TDD) focuses on writing test cases before writing software code. TDD approach helps teams design and reduce the number of potential mistakes. This approach also contributes to product quality. Thus, implementing TDD would likely reduce the number of defects in the software delivered to the customer.

E Incremental delivery using a backlog

Correct. Incremental delivery using a backlog as a single source of requirements for a project is one of the first steps to introduce important and effective agile ideas into project environments. This practice can help the team improve its interaction with the customer and stakeholders, get feedback, and adjust as necessary.

Limiting the number of changes before the software is released

Incorrect. While it's true that limiting the number of changes may reduce the number of potential defects, this course of action would not necessarily address the customer's request, which is focused on seeing the team's results more regularly and without very long development intervals in-between.

Question 174

Hint: One of the principles servant leaders follow is creating an environment of functional accountability.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Selecting the correct answer to this question is challenging due to the subtle wording differences between the answer choices. Based on our own experience as well as feedback from our customers, answer choices in the actual exam can be very similar to one another. Sometimes, a tiny nuance in the wording determines which choice is the correct answer.

To answer agile questions correctly, it is important to get into the agile mindset. This particular question deals with the concept of duties and principles of agile servant leadership. One of the principles that servant leaders follow is creating an environment of functional accountability. In the reference provided, the author states that servant leaders "give the team ample space to come up with the best ideas and build the best product." In order for the team to become self-organized and accountable for their own results, the author suggests that "If you [the project manager] stay at the process level and stay away from the details of the team's every decision and plan, you can achieve detachment. Your being detached invites them to attach and to own their results. This helps them achieve goals asked (and sometimes demanded) of them." Owning the results is one of the principles servant leaders should engrain in their teams. In this way, teams can learn to be accountable for outcomes.

The question is asking what the project manager do 'first'. There is not enough information in the scenario to determine that, if the issue is not resolved, the team will miss the iteration goal, or the project will fail. According to the scenario, the issue is minor. It is not an extreme situation where the project manager would need to step in and help the team resolve the issue or even resolve the issue by herself. Even though the project manager has the needed expertise, resolving the issue is not the project manager's responsibility. Furthermore, servant leaders should let the team make technical decisions and own the outcomes, whether the outcome leads to success or failure. Servant leaders should remove themselves from the outcome. The author stresses that "If you diagnose the problem and implement a solution, you run the risk of being way off base. Worse, you have subtly undermined the team's ability to solve its own problems."

Details for Each Option:

A Let the team resolve the issue

Correct. Applying agile servant leadership principles to this situation, the first thing the project manager should do is letting the team members try to resolve the issue on their own so that the team can own the decision and be accountable for the outcome.

B Help the team resolve the issue

Incorrect. According to the scenario, the issue is minor. Therefore, letting the team resolve the issue would be a better approach. If the team doesn't succeed, the project manager should help. However, the project manager should not do the technical work for the team. Rather, the project manager may help in providing expertise or getting necessary development tools, etc.

C Resolve the issue for the team

Incorrect. Even though the project manager has the expertise to resolve the issue, resolving the issue for the team would not be the first step for the project manager to take, nor is this the responsibility of a project manager regardless of what previous experience she may have.

D Consult with the product owner

Incorrect. In general, a product owner should leave technical decisions up to the team to resolve and, in many cases, would not have much to offer in terms of technical expertise.

Exam Content Outline: Domain: 2. Process / Task: 2.15 Manage project issues / PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 175

Hint: Pre-assignment is when physical or team resources for a project are determined in advance, often as part of a competitive proposal or if the project is dependent upon the expertise of particular persons.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Pre-assignment is a formally defined tool of the Acquire Resources process. It involves identifying physical or team resources for a project in advance and is often used when a project is dependent upon the expertise of particular persons. In this scenario, senior management has requested a particular individual for the project team because of their necessary expertise. Therefore, the project manager should accept the request. Although denying the request until the project manager has had a chance to verify the skills of a pre-assigned resource may seem like the best answer of those provided, it is not. The project manager can make that assessment if necessary without denying the pre-assignment request and it shouldn't be assumed the project manager has the expertise to verify the resources expertise.

Details for Each Option:

A Deny the request because the project manager should be the one to acquire project resources.

Incorrect. Pre-assignment may occur as part of the Acquire Resources process, even before the project management plan has been completed. Assigning resources to a project is not necessarily the sole responsibility of the project manager.

B Accept the request, since identifying specific resources for the project can occur as part of the early planning process.

Correct. This scenario describes pre-assignment, which is the act of determining physical or team resources for a project in advance. This can occur during the Develop Project Charter process or other processes before the initial resource management plan has been completed.

C Accept the request only after you have finished creating the project management plan.

Incorrect. Pre-assignment is a technique that can be used during the initial stages of a project to identify specific resources, before the project management plan or project charter has been completed.

D Deny the request since you have not had an opportunity to verify that the individual has the proper skills.

Incorrect. Though there is merit to questioning whether or not a resource has the proper skills, there is nothing stated in the question that implies this would be necessary. There will be times when the project manager will need to defer to the expertise of others, such as senior management, SMEs, etc.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People Task: 1.0 Build a team

PM Approach: Predictive

Question 176

Hint: Consider the financial constraints, contractor coordination, and phased approach.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

The correct answer is B) Predictive execution with phased contracting. Predictive strategies provide clear plans and control, while phased contracting addresses financial constraints and coordination requirements.

A government-funded infrastructure project with financial constraints, multiple contractors, and a phased rollout requires an execution strategy that ensures control, predictability, and structured coordination. Given these constraints, the predictive execution with phased contracting is the most suitable approach because:

Predictive methodologies (often called waterfall) are ideal for projects with fixed budgets and well-defined scopes.

Phased contracting allows for structured financial management, ensuring that funding is allocated efficiently while managing risks in stages.

Government projects typically require strict compliance, accountability, and detailed upfront planning, elements well-supported by a predictive approach.

Multiple contractors are easier to manage when contracts are clearly defined in advance rather than using iterative or adaptive approaches that may introduce variability.

Details for Each Option:

A Agile execution with frequent iterations

Incorrect. Agile is not ideal for fixed-budget, contractor-heavy projects. Agile is not well-suited for government-funded infrastructure projects with rigid budget constraints and requiring extensive contractor coordination. Agile methodologies work best in projects with high uncertainty and evolving requirements, which is not true for Infrastructure projects with pre-defined specifications. Frequent iterations in Agile could introduce budget and scope uncertainties, making it difficult to maintain cost control.

B Predictive execution with phased contracting

Correct. This approach aligns with fixed budgets and phased rollout requirements. Predictive execution (Waterfall) ensures a well-structured approach with detailed planning and cost control, which is crucial for government-funded projects. Phased contracting allows financial oversight and reduces risk exposure, ensuring compliance with funding and contract constraints. This method supports clear contract deliverables, procurement regulations, and risk management-all essential for large-scale infrastructure projects.

C Incremental execution with rolling wave planning

Incorrect. While incremental planning adds flexibility, it is less suited to contractor-heavy projects. Rolling wave planning introduces adaptive elements, which can benefit evolving requirements but may not be ideal for projects with strict contractor dependencies. Incremental execution breaks the project into functional parts, which can work well for software development but is not always suitable for construction and Infrastructure projects. This approach could create coordination challenges when multiple contractors need to work within a predefined framework.

D Hybrid execution using Agile and Predictive elements

Incorrect. Hybrid approaches may overcomplicate execution without adding significant value. Because they combine Agile and Predictive elements, they may increase complexity without adding significant value in this case. Agile is not typically required for infrastructure projects where a predictive, phase-based approach already provides structured execution. Mixing Agile with Predictive may introduce inefficiencies, as contractors and government funding agencies often require strict contracts and milestone-based payments rather than iterative execution.

Question 177

Hint: What type of employee is capable of completing more tasks on a Kanban board?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

The fact the project will be initiated and planned using a predictive approach, while the development team will use Kanban (one of the agile methods), indicates that a hybrid management approach has been selected for the project. High performing agile teams are cross-functional as they are comprised of T-shaped people (also known as generalizing specialists). Generalizing specialists can perform a wider range of project tasks compared to I-shaped people (specialists). An agile team of generalizing specialists will have greater flexibility, which will help avoid bottlenecks and increase throughput. Transforming the development team from I-shaped to T-shaped should improve velocity. The incorrect answer choices represent actions that would provide little to no value or would be counterproductive.

Details for Each Option:

A Send the development team to a seminar on maximizing WIP

Incorrect. One of the goals in Kanban is to maximize the value of a product delivered to the customer while minimizing work in progress (WIP). One of the principles of the Agile Manifesto states, "Working software is the primary measure of progress." Thus, WIP represents no value to the customer and should be minimized, not maximized

B Provide training to transform T-shaped people into I-shaped people

Incorrect. T-shaped people may have a specialized skillset but are also able to perform a wide range of tasks beyond their specialty. I-shaped people have specialized skillset but are limited to their specialty. T-shaped people offer the project team more flexibility and greater redundancy. It would not make sense to transform T-shaped into I-shaped people.

C Deliver training to convert I-shaped people into T-shaped people

Correct. T-shaped people are also known as generalizing specialists. Generalizing specialists can perform a broader range of project tasks compared to -shaped people (specialists).

D Train the team on how to best prioritize the features to be developed

Incorrect. With agile projects, it is the product owner, not the development team, who has the responsibility for prioritizing the product backlog. Thus, training the team to better prioritize the features in the backlog would provide little or no benefit.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.5 Ensure team members/stakeholders are adequately trained

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 178

Hint: Agile leaders shield their project team members from distractions.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Successful project leaders demonstrate leadership behaviors. When significant changes are made to the project goals, the original project charter will likely become misaligned. Under such circumstances, the project charter should be revised to keep the document current and relevant. However, the project charter is owned by the project sponsor rather than the project team, and asking the team members to revise the document would distract them from their development work. Project leaders should shield the team from distractions. In this case, the best course of action would be for the agile leader to take ownership of the issue and work with the sponsor to revise the project charter as necessary.

Note, typically, project charters are not revised. In rare cases, for example, when a project manager is replaced, a charter can be amended. Furthermore, if the project is no longer aligned with the original charter (like in the scenario described), a question should be asked as to the validity of the project altogether. Terminating the project should be considered. However, none of the answer choices reflect these options. Therefore, one should select the choice that, under the circumstances described in the scenario, best addresses the question asked, even if that choice does not look/sound like a perfect/ideal/complete answer.

Details for Each Option:

A Ask the team member to revise the project charter and submit it to the project sponsor for approval

Incorrect. The project charter will likely need to be revised and approved by the project sponsor. However, it would not be appropriate to ask a team member to revise the charter. Team members should be focused on their development work rather than being pulled away to perform tasks outside their primary responsibility, which is delivering value.

B Take ownership of the issue and work with the project sponsor to revise the project charter

Correct. One of the responsibilities of an agile leader is to shield the project team from distractions. Since the project team does not own the project charter, the agile leader should accept responsibility for addressing the issue with the project sponsor and keeping the team focused on their development work.

C Capture the risk of misalignment between the project backlog and the charter in the risk register

Incorrect. The issue of misalignment between the project backlog and the charter might or might not represent a new risk. Regardless, adding it to the project risk register (if one exists on this agile project) is the right next step for the agile leader to take. However, merely documenting the risk would not resolve the issue as requested by the question.

D Empower the project team members to develop and implement their own project charter

Incorrect. The project charter is owned by the project sponsor, not the team. Project team members are empowered to develop their own team charter, which establishes the team values, agreements, and operating guidelines for the team. However, having the team members develop and implement their own project charter makes little sense.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.2 Lead a team

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid

Question 179

Hint: What output of the Define Scope process is missing?

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

In the scenario described, the project team has completed the requirements management plan, which is an output of the Plan Scope Management process. Additionally, the team has completed the requirements documentation and requirements traceability matrix, which are outputs of the Collect Requirements process. The next step in the Planning Process Group is the Define Scope process and the creation of the project scope statement. Before creating the WBS, the project scope must be well defined and documented in the project scope statement. The completed project scope statement sets the boundaries for the project by defining the work that is included in the project as well as the work excluded from the project. The project scope statement serves as a guide when creating the WBS and should be completed before work begins on the WBS. The project team wants to move on to creating the WBS, but they have forgotten that they need to create the project scope statement before the WBS can be created.

Details for Each Option:

A Create the project scope statement

Correct. According to the scenario, the project team is in the Planning Process Group of the Project Scope Management Knowledge Area. The requirements documentation and the requirements traceability matrix are both outputs of the Collect Requirements process; therefore, the team has completed the Collect Requirements process. The next step in the Planning Process Group would be the Define Scope process. The project scope statement is an output of the Define Scope process and should be completed before proceeding to the Create WBS process.

B Complete the project management plan

Incorrect. In the scenario described, the team has completed the requirements management plan which is an output of the Plan Scope Management process. The requirements management plan is one of the components of the project management plan. Therefore, it is not possible to complete the project management plan before creating the requirements management plan.

C Update the lessons learned register

Incorrect. The lessons learned register is a project document that captures knowledge gained in the project. The project team is supposed to benefit from this knowledge to Improve further project performance. There is not enough information in the question to determine what beneficial knowledge has been gained during the development of the project artifacts described in the scenario.

Incorrect. The scenario states the project is still in the planning stage; therefore, in the Planning Process Group. The Validate Scope process is part of the Monitoring and Controlling Process Group. The project planning must be completed, and execution underway before the project would be in the Monitoring and Controlling Process Group. Therefore, performing the Validate Scope process is not what the team forgot.

D Begin validating the scope

Question 180

Hint: What role serves as the voice of the customer?

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

When using a scrum framework, the product owner works directly with the stakeholders to determine project requirements and incorporate stakeholder feedback in the development of the items in the product backlog. The product owner serves as the voice of the customer by representing the relevant stakeholders and providing direction to the project team. Since the product owner is responsible for working with the stakeholders to determine product requirements, it would make the most sense to have the product owner analyze and categorize the stakeholders' influence. A power and influence grid can assist the product owner in a grouping of stakeholders according to their level of authority (power) and ability to influence the outcomes of the project (influence).

Details for Each Option:

A Submit a change request to update the stakeholder register

Incorrect. According to the scenario, the project is in planning. During planning, change requests are not required to update any of the components of the project management plan or project documents. In general, unless stated otherwise in the scenario, change requests are not required to update project documents, such as the stakeholder register.

B Wait until the stakeholders attend the first sprint review

Incorrect. Understanding the stakeholders' level of influence and engaging with them as soon as possible in the project would allow the project manager to set and better manage their expectations. Waiting with this activity until the first sprint review would increase the risk of the stakeholders being unsatisfied and the product increment being rejected.

C Suggest that the product owner use a power/influence grid

Correct. On projects where the product is developed using Scrum, the product owner is responsible for working with the stakeholders to determine product requirements. Therefore, it would make the most sense to have the product owner analyze and categorize the stakeholders' influence.

D Conduct the analysis yourself using hierarchical charts

Incorrect. Hierarchical charts are an example of the data representation techniques that can be used for various purposes as part of the Plan Resource Management process or Perform Qualitative Risk Analysis process. Those charts, however, are not used during the Plan Stakeholder Engagement process implied by the scenario.

Exam Content Outline:

Domain: 1. People

Task: 1.2 Lead a team

PM Approach: Agile/Hybrid