

IT Project Management – 2020-21

Introduction to MS Project - Exercise – Buying a Computer Question

The purpose of this exercise is to investigate how Network Diagrams can be used to plan out activities to enable a milestone to be achieved. Also how to view critical path and analyse the impact of delays.

This is like any other IT project, buying a computer in line with user specification.

Project Definition

- Provide a Computer System that meets agreed user specification
 - Quality - to be addressed in Feasibility Study & Specification
 - Cost – to be provided as part of Feasibility Study
 - Time – to be specified as part of Feasibility Study

The times for the various tasks are identified below:

These times were agreed following Feasibility Study.

Task No	Task	Duration	Resource
1	Feasibility Study	2	Analyst
2	Specification	4	Analyst
3	Order Computer	2	User
4	Deliver	10	Supplier
5	Install	2	Supplier
6	Detail Design	5	Analyst
7	System Build	6	Programmer
8	System Test	6	Programmer
9	Write User Manual	4	Analyst
10	User Training	4	Analyst & User
11	User Testing	4	Analyst & User
12	Implementation	2	Analyst & User

Milestone: Project Complete as Task 13

The Resources available are:

Resource
Analyst
Programmer
User
Supplier
Computer & Software
Delivery
Install

Resource Costs

Resource	Cost	Unit
Analyst	£525	per day
Programmer	£475	per day
User	£0	per day
Supplier	Inc in Computer Cost	
Computer & Software	£5750	per computer
Delivery	Inc in Computer Cost	
Install	£250	per computer

Constraints:

Start Date is **4th March 2021**

When task 1 is complete task 2 can commence

Task 3 & 6 can commence when task 2 is complete

Task 4 can commence when task 3 is complete

Task 5 can commence when task 4 is complete

When task 6 is complete tasks 7 & 9 can commence

Task 8 can commence when task 7 is complete

Task 10 can commence when task 9 is complete

Task 11 can commence when tasks 5, 8 & 10 are complete

Task 12 can commence when task 11 is complete

Ensure to link the Milestone...

1. View the **network analysis chart** for the project, do the different coloured boxes and lines have any significance?
2. Identify the Tasks on the critical path and the minimum project duration and who is responsible for the Tasks.
3. **Note the date at which the project can be completed DD/MM/YYYY** (required for answering the quiz)
4. Having completed the plan the suppliers of the computer tell you there will be a delay of 4 Days in supplying it. What effect will this have on the project end date? Have the Tasks on the critical path changed.

Information on Moodle:

Links to Quiz & File Submissions can be found at on Module Moodle Page

Buy Computer 2020-21 – Quiz questions:

1. The Tasks on the critical path are
2. The earliest date at which the project can be completed is DD/MM/YYYY
3. Use the Gantt chart to calculate earliest date at which the project can be completed if the suppliers of the computer tell you there will be a delay of 4 Days in supplying it is DD/MM/YYYY
4. I can account for the discrepancy in the dates found for Question 2 & 3 as follows :-
5. The Total Costs for Manpower is XXXXX.XX
6. The Cost of Equipment and installation is XXXX.XX
7. Which of the following resource has the highest cost:- Computer & Software, Programmer, User, Analyst, Supplier, Delivery or Installation
8. The cost of the most expensive resource is: XXXX.XX
9. The Total Cost is XXXXX.XX

Answer the questions on the VLE (Moodle) Quiz page.

Quiz can be found in Week 2 - **Buy Computer 2020-21 – Quiz**

Submit the Microsoft Project file you created on VLE (Moddle) file submission.

File Submission can be found in Week 2 - **Buy Computer 2020-21 - File Submission.**

Answer the Quiz and submit the Microsoft Project file you created (ensure it is the correct file) by **04th November 2020** (Midnight).