Homework – 2
(10 points)

Name: Patrick Woodrum

Clemson ID: C79975506

Submission: Save this Word document with your answers as a PDF file and upload the PDF file to Canvas.

1. Why should a systems analyst be interested in strategic planning?

Strategic planning looks at long-term goals and focuses on what can happen in the future for the better of the team or company. A systems analyst should be interested in this because as a part of the IT team, they should be delivering the resources to support their firm's long-term strategies and upholds the firm's vision and mission.

2. List the four factors involved in a SWOT analysis.

The four factors involved in a SWOT analysis are: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats.

3. Describe how CASE tools can support strategic planning.

CASE tools can support strategic planning by integrating statements, entities, data elements, and models into one overall structure. Using CASE tools can result in more consistency, higher quality, and require a lot less effort from the systems analyst to define and document an overall environment.

4. List five questions the business case should answer.

-Why are we doing this project?

-What is the project about?

-How much will it cost and how long will it take?

-How will we measure success?

-What alternatives exist?

5. What are the six main reasons for systems requests?

The six main reasons for systems request are as follows: Stronger controls, reduced cost, more info, better performance, improved service, and more support.

6. Explain the two main factors affecting systems requests.

The two main factors that affect systems request are internal factors and external factors. Internal factors encompass the strategic plan, managers, user requests, and company information such as through the IT Department, existing systems and data, or company finances. External factors include anything outside the company that could influence it such as technology, suppliers, customers, competitors, and even broader things like the economy or government.

7. Describe the role of the systems review committee in processing systems requests.

The role of the systems review committee is to use the combined judgement and the experience of key managers and users to evaluate the massive influx of systems requests for the organization. Instead of relying on a single person to evaluate everything, most organization utilize a committee of people with experience that can provide a variety of knowledge and a broader viewpoint.

8. Define operational, economic, technical, and schedule feasibility.

Operational feasibility – Will it be easy to learn and use?

Economic feasibility – Will benefits exceed costs?

Technical feasibility – Do we have the tech resources?

Schedule feasibility – Can we do it in time?

9. List seven questions the systems analyst should consider when assessing project priorities.

-Will the proposed system reduce costs? Where? When? How? By how much?

-Will the system increase revenue for the company? Where? When? How? By how much?

-Will the systems project result in more info or produce better results? How? Are they measurable?

-Will the system serve customers better?

-Will the system serve the organization better?

-Can the project be implemented in a reasonable time period? How long will the results last?

-Are the necessary financial, human, and technical resources available?

10. What are the five steps of a preliminary investigation?
    1. **Understand the problem or opportunity**
    2. **Define the project scope and constraints**
    3. **Perform fact-finding:**
       -Analyze org charts
       -Review documentation
       -Observe operations
       -Conduct a user survey
    4. **Study usability, cost, benefit, and schedule data**
    5. **Evaluate feasibility**
       -Operational
       -Technical
       -Economic
       -Schedule