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Exam overview

Exam: PMI-SP

Exam Name: PMI Scheduling Professional (PMI-SP) ®

Number of Questions: 170

<https://www.pmi.org/certifications/scheduling-sp>

Topic 1, Volume A

QUESTION NO: 1

Once the project's WBS has been created what process may happen next?

- A.
Estimate activity resources
- B.
Define activities
- C.
Estimate activity durations
- D.
Sequence activities

Answer: B

Explanation:

The define activities process is the process that may begin once the project's WBS has been completed and approved. It is possible, in some projects, to complete the WBS and the activity list at the same time.

QUESTION NO: 2

Which of the following scheduling techniques identifies the successor activities and the predecessor activities to assist the project manager in sequencing the project work?

- A.
Precedence Diagramming Method
- B.
Schedule network template
- C.
Dependency determination
- D.
Activity on the Node

Answer: A

Explanation:

The Precedence Diagramming Method uses both predecessors and successors as nodes in the project network diagram. The PDM approach is the most common network diagram approach used.

QUESTION NO: 3

You are the project manager of the NHGQ project for your company. You must create and distribute performance reports every week to your key project stakeholders. What communication technique do you normally use to distribute reports?

- A.**
Push technique
- B.**
Many-to-many
- C.**
One-to-one
- D.**
Pull technique

Answer: A

Explanation:

Performance reports are distributed through the push technique. This means that the project manager distributes the reports regularly through a mechanism, such as email.

QUESTION NO: 4

Your project team is executing the project plan and things are going well. Your team has reached its first milestone and is now in the second phase of the project. The project stakeholders have requested that you find a method to reduce the duration of the project. They will reward you and your project team with a 25 percent bonus of the project costs if you can finish the project thirty days earlier than what was already planned. The stakeholders, however, will not approve any additional labor costs as part of the agreement. Which approach could you use to shorten the duration of the project?

- A.**
Perform resource leveling for the project.

-
- B.**
Crash the project schedule.
 - C.**
Fast track the project.
 - D.**
Remove things from the project scope.

Answer: C

Explanation:

Fast tracking is a technique for compressing project schedule. In fast tracking, phases are overlapped that would normally be done in sequence. It is shortening the project schedule without reducing the project scope. It does not add any additional labor but it can introduce project risks.

QUESTION NO: 5

The Define Activities process is the first process in the project time management knowledge area. The Define Activities process creates just three outputs as a result of decomposition, rolling wave planning, templates, and expert judgment. Which one of the following is not an output of the Define Activities process?

- A.**
Activity list
- B.**
Milestone list
- C.**
Activity attributes
- D.**
Project document updates

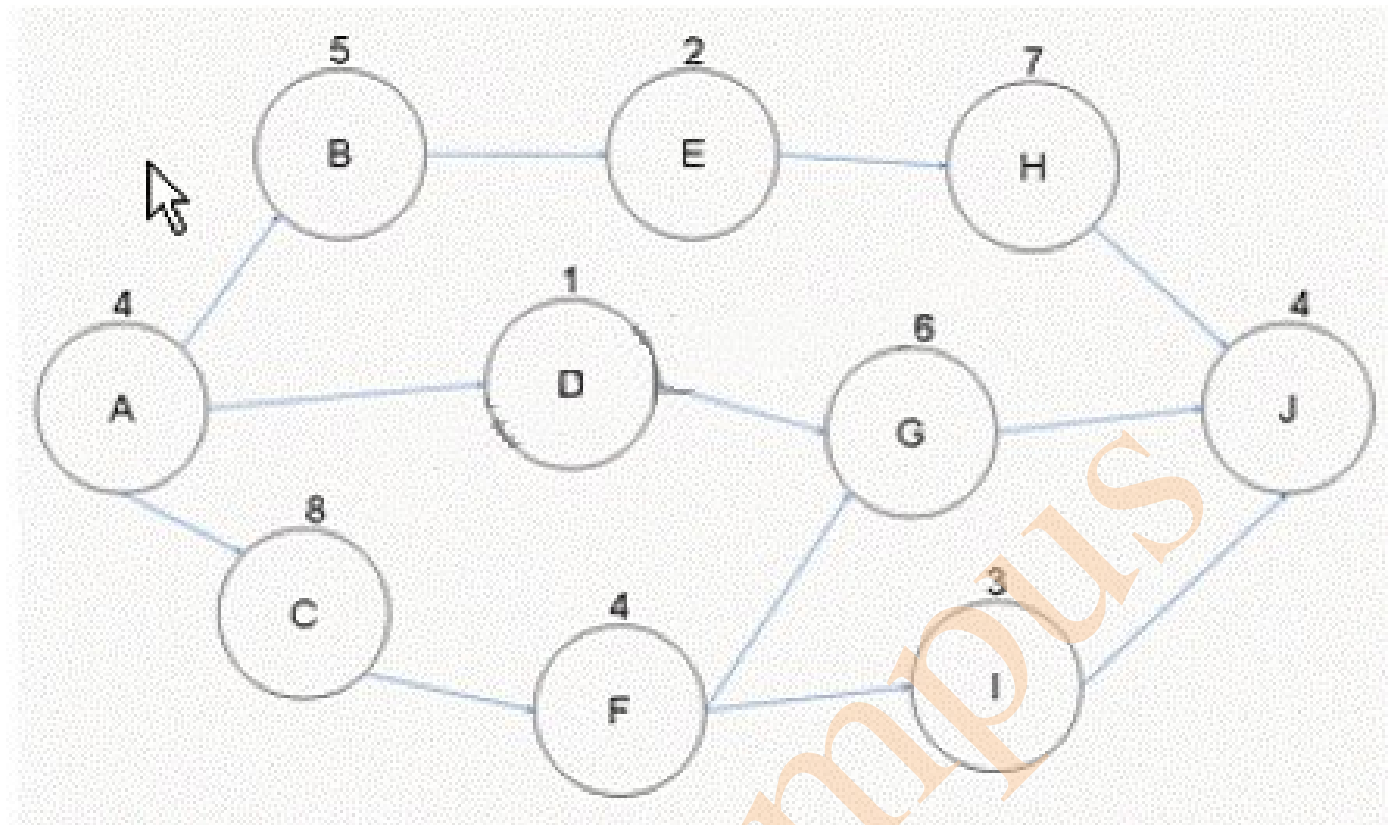
Answer: D

Explanation:

Project document updates are not an output of the Define Activities process. Project document updates are the outputs for estimate activity resources. Project document updates include the following:

QUESTION NO: 6

Examine the figure given below:



If Activity B takes eight days to complete instead of five days as schedule, how long can you now delay Activity H?

- A. Three days
- B. One day
- C. Four days
- D. Zero days

Answer: B

Explanation:

Activity B is not on the critical path and it has a total of four days of float. If Activity B takes a total of eight days, it will consume three days of float. However, the total duration of the path ABEHJ may not exceed 26 days, as this is the total duration for the project. Although Activity H has a total of four days of float available, the consumption of three days of float on this path will reduce the total float for Activity H to just one day. If Activity H is delayed by more than one day, then the project will be late.

QUESTION NO: 7

You are the project manager of the GHT Project. Ben, one of your project team members, does not understand the idea of a milestone. Which of the following best describes what a milestone is?

- A.**
A significant point in the project
- B.**
A goal of reaching a significant delivery of project benefits by an identified date
- C.**
An imposed date for the project to reach a given point
- D.**
The completion of a project activity that is crucial to project completion

Answer: A

Explanation:

A milestone is simply a significant point or event in the project. It does not have to be assigned to a specific date, but is usually assigned to the completion of project phases. A milestone is the end of a stage that marks the completion of a work package or phase, typically marked by a high level event such as completion, endorsement or signing of a deliverable, document or a high level review meeting. In addition to signaling the completion of a key deliverable, a milestone may also signify an important decision or the derivation of a critical piece of information, which outlines or affects the future of a project. In this sense, a milestone not only signifies distance traveled (key stages in a project) but also indicates direction of travel since key decisions made at milestones may alter the route through the project plan. To create a milestone, enter 0 (zero) in the Duration field. The task will automatically be classified as a milestone.

QUESTION NO: 8

You are the project manager of the GHY Project. Management wants you to create a process improvement plan for your project. Your project will be studied by management and will become a standard for all future organizational projects based on your project's performance, approach, and implementation of project processes. All of the following should be included in your project's process improvement plan except for which one?

- A.**
Process boundaries

-
- B. Process configuration
 - C. Targets for improved performance
 - D. Identification of project risks

Answer: D

Explanation:

Identification of the project risks is not part of the process improvement plan. Identify risks is a risk management process, and risks are recorded in the risk register.

QUESTION NO: 9

George is the project manager of the NHQ Project and has a budget of \$778,000. The project is scheduled to last for one year with an equal amount of work completed each quarter. The second quarter of the project has ended and George has spent \$325,000 but has only finished forty percent of the project. Management needs a variance report for the project schedule. What value should George report in this instance?

- A. .96
- B. -\$77,800
- C. \$-34,500
- D. -\$13,800

Answer: B

Explanation:

Schedule variance (SV) is a measure of schedule performance on a project. The variance notifies that the schedule is ahead or behind what was planned for this period in time. The schedule variance is calculated based on the following formula: $SV = \text{Earned Value (EV)} - \text{Planned Value (PV)}$ If the resulting schedule is negative, it indicates that the project is behind schedule. A value greater than 0 shows that the project is ahead of the planned schedule. A value of 0 indicates that the project is right on target. The earned value in this instance is forty percent of the project budget, \$778,000, and the planned value is \$398,000 because George is to be fifty percent done

at the end of the second quarter, as the work is spread evenly across all quarters. The schedule variance is -\$77,800 for the project.

QUESTION NO: 10

You are the project manager of the NHQ Project. Management has set a conformance to the project schedule for your project at 0.95. What does this term mean?

- A.**
It means the largest schedule variance you can have is five percent.
- B.**
It is the earned value divided by the planned value for your project.
- C.**
It is the expectation of management to be 95 on schedule at 95 percent of the project.
- D.**
It means you will need to earn at least 95 cents per dollar invested in the project.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Conformance to schedule is a required adherence for the project's schedule. In this instance, the project manager must not allow the schedule to slip more than five percent.

QUESTION NO: 11

Which one of the following estimate types is a form of expert judgment?

- A.**
Parametric estimate
- B.**
Analogous estimate
- C.**
Bottom-up estimate
- D.**
Definitive estimate