

## AFA MSP® Style Exam Answers

Correct answers are marked in red.

- 1) MSP defines Programme Management as:
  - a) The management of a set of activities with dependencies, durations and deadlines
  - b) The co-ordinated organisation, direction and implementation of a portfolio of projects and activities that together achieve outcomes and realise benefits that are of strategic importance**
  - c) The co-ordination of a group of projects
  - d) A timetable
  
- 2) The fundamental reason for beginning a programme is to:
  - a) Create and commission a set of products or deliverables
  - b) Enter into a contractual relationship with a client
  - c) Realise benefits through change**
  - d) Co-ordinate a set of projects
  
- 3) The governance arrangements for a programme:
  - a) Are defined by regulators
  - b) Are established and implemented within the programme
  - c) Will be the same as the governance arrangements in place at the beginning of the programme**
  - d) Will only be defined by statute

### Principles

- 4) Which of the following is not a characteristic of the MSP principles. They are?
  - a) Universal
  - b) Self-validating
  - c) Compulsory**
  - d) Empowering
  
- 5) Which of the following is not an MSP Principle?
  - a) Applying strict, detailed control to all programme activities including projects**
  - b) Envisioning and communicating a better future
  - c) Adding value
  - d) Designing and delivering a coherent capability

## Organisation

- 6) The key principles for effective leadership of a programme include:
- a) **Empowered decision making, visible commitment from those in authority and relevant skills & experience**
  - b) A focus on cost scope and schedule
  - c) Detailed specification of all work to be undertaken at all levels
  - d) Total visibility of progress against plan at the highest level
- 7) Day to day management of the programme is carried out by
- a) The Programme Director
  - b) **The Programme Manager**
  - c) The Programme Management Office
  - d) The Business Change Manager

## The Vision

- 8) The Vision is:
- a) The top level plan showing the main projects
  - b) **A picture of a better future**
  - c) A model of the future state
  - d) A marketing message designed for external stakeholders

## Leadership & Stakeholder Engagement

- 9) Stakeholders may be identified from the following groups:
- a) Only employees
  - b) Only those working on the programme
  - c) **Amongst others, owners, staff, trade unions and the wider community**
  - d) Only owners and regulators

## Benefits Realisation Management

- 10) Managing Benefits
- a) Is outside a programme
  - b) Is a project in itself
  - c) **Is about tracking benefits from initial identification to their successful realisation**
  - d) Happens after the close of a programme
- 11) Part of the project output to strategic objective chain is in which order?
- a) Benefit → Outcome → Business Change
  - b) Business Change → Benefit → Outcome
  - c) **Business Change → Outcome → Benefit**

- d) Outcome → Business Change → Benefit

### Blueprint Design and Delivery

- 12) Which of the following is the most appropriate definition of a Blueprint?
- a) It is a summary of the vision
  - b) It is how to get to the future state**
  - c) It is a summary of the programme plan
  - d) It is the design of the IT infrastructure
- 13) The Blueprint contains?
- a) Plans, Organisation, Tools and Technologies
  - b) Processes, Outcomes, Tools and Technologies
  - c) Processes, Organisation, Tools and Technologies**
  - d) Processes, Organisation, Themes and Technologies

### Plans & Controls

- 14) The Programme Plan:
- a) Is a master project plan
  - b) Is a Gantt chart
  - c) Helps with micro management
  - d) Is a key control document that covers projects and activities**
- 15) Which of the following should not be part of the Programme Plan?
- a) Project timescales, costs, outputs and deliverables
  - b) Transition plans
  - c) Monitoring and control activities and performance targets
  - d) The detailed schedules for every project in the dossier**

### Business Case

- 16) Which of the following should NOT be included in a Business Case?
- a) Value of the benefits
  - b) Risks to achieving them
  - c) Stakeholders**
  - d) Costs of delivering the Blueprint

### Risk Management & Issue Resolution

- 17) Which of the following is not a principle of programme risk management?
- a) Understand the programme context Risk change
  - b) Capture all project risks centrally**
  - c) Involve stakeholders

d) Monitor for early warning indicators

18) Which of the following statements is correct?

a) Risks and issues are the same

b) Risks occur at programme level while issues are at project level

**c) Risks are things that may happen while issues have happened**

d) Risks are handled by managers while issues are handled at a lower level

### Quality Management

19) The scope of Quality Management in a programme does not include?

a) Adherence to strategy policy and standards

**b) Striving for excellence in everything the programme does**

c) The quality of decisions taken by the programme's leadership

d) Systematic use of processes tools and techniques

20) Critical Success Factors that underpin the information management system of any programme do not include?

a) Compliance

**b) Comprehensiveness**

c) Confidentiality

d) Currency

### Transformational Flow

21) In Defining a Programme:

a) The programme is given a name

**b) The programme is defined in detail and planned**

c) All projects are identified and planned

d) The client commissions the programme

22) The purpose of 'Managing the Tranches' is to?

a) Add another level of detail to each project

b) Group the projects into logical clusters

c) Dig the holes in the ground where the foundations will be constructed

**d) Implement the defined governance for the programme**

23) 'Delivering the Capability' does not include?

a) Engage stakeholders

**b) Carry out Gateway Reviews**

c) Align projects with programme objectives

d) Align projects with benefits realisation

24) 'Realising the Benefits' does not include?

- a) **Managing projects**
- b) Managing pre-transition
- c) Managing transition
- d) Managing post-transition

25) Programmes are closed:

- a) When all projects are finished
- b) When all products are delivered
- c) **When the end goal has been achieved, new capabilities have been delivered and some benefits have been realised**
- d) Never

Congratulations, if you scored;

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Your MSP knowledge is not as good as it could be. At your present level you would not pass the MSP Foundation exam. As a first course of action you should consider attending an [AFA MSP Foundation course](#) before going any further.

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Although you have reasonable MSP knowledge you may find completing the MSP Foundation exam a struggle without some kind of prior training. Check out our [MSP Foundation and Practitioner Combined course](#).

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Well done, you should be able to complete a Foundation exam without too many problems. Check out our [MSP Foundation and Practitioner Combined course](#). Or contact the office about options for the exam and further training, including the MSP Practitioner Conversion.

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