

Chapter 02: The Environment of Business

Chapter 02 Multiple Choice Questions

1. In terms of organizational boundaries and environments, which is correct?

Large business firms are heavily influenced by events in the external environment, but small business firms are much less influenced.

No single firm can control the environment.

Most organizations have a single environment, but some have multiple environments they must cope with.

The major elements of the external environment are marketing, finance, production, and human resources.

The most important features of the external environment are the political and social aspects.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-01

Page-Reference: 25-26

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.1

Answer: No single firm can control the environment.

2. Distributors who are in a grocery store restocking shelves are normally considered part of the _____ rather than the _____.

environment; culture

organization; environment

culture; store

environment; organization

none of these are correct

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-02

Page-Reference: 25

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.1

Answer: environment; organization

3. A(n) _____ separates the organization from its environment.

organizational boundary

process boundary

enterprise resource

aggregate output

integration

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-03

Page-Reference: 25

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.1

Answer: organizational boundary

4. How might low inflation levels in the general economy affect a company like McDonald's?

McDonald's will pay much higher prices for supplies and will charge customers more for its products.

McDonald's will pay higher prices for supplies and will charge customers more for its products.

McDonald's will pay relatively constant prices for supplies, but will be unable to increase the price paid by customers.

McDonald's will pay relatively constant prices for supplies and will charge customers more for its products.

McDonald's will pay higher prices for supplies, but will be unable to increase the price paid by customers.

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-1-04

Page-Reference: 26

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: McDonald's will pay relatively constant prices for supplies, but will be unable to increase the price paid by customers.

5. Agriculture efficiency has resulted in

Canadians contributing more resources to farms.

an increase in the number of people employed in the industry.

Canadians needing more farms.

a decrease in the number of people employed in the industry.

none of these.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-05

Page-Reference: 27

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: a decrease in the number of people employed in the industry.

6. Since the increase in unemployment in a small Atlantic Canadian town, retailers have noticed that sales have decreased. The retailers are being affected by which element of the external environment?

Socio-cultural

Economic

Environmental

Global

Political–legal

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-06

Page-Reference: 27

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Economic

7. At one time, about _____ of the population of Canada was involved in producing the food that we needed; today less than _____ percent of the population works in agriculture.

half; 0.5

half; 2.5

one-third; 5

three-quarters; 2.5

four-fifths; 3

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-1-07

Page-Reference: 27

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: half; 2.5

8. Agricultural production has _____ because _____.

grown; we have increased total output in that sector

increased; Canada imports more agricultural products

declined; fewer Canadians are working in agriculture

remained unchanged; there have been relatively few changes in agricultural technology

increased; more people are involved in farming

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-08

Page-Reference: 27

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: grown; we have increased total output in that sector

9. The main measure of growth in an economic system is

the business cycle.

standard of living.

gross national product.

gross domestic product.

aggregate output.

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-09

Page-Reference: 27

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: aggregate output.

10. Which of the following best defines the term *aggregate output*?

- The total quantity and quality of goods and services that a country's citizens can purchase with the currency used in their economic system
- The measure of economic growth that compares how much a system produces with the resources needed to produce it
- The pattern of short-term ups and downs in an economy
- The total quantity of goods and services produced by an economic system during a given period
- The conditions of the economic system in which an organization operates

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-10

Page-Reference: 27

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: The total quantity of goods and services produced by an economic system during a given period

11. _____ refers to the total quality and quantity of goods and services that a country's citizens can purchase with the currency used in their economic system.

- Aggregate output
- The national debt
- Standard of living
- The business cycle
- The consumer price index

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-11

Page-Reference: 27

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Standard of living

12. Which of the following best defines the term *business cycle*?

- The conditions of the economic system in which an organization operates
- The pattern of short-term ups and downs in an economy
- The total quantity of goods and services produced by an economic system during a given period
- The measure of economic growth that compares how much a system produces with the resources needed to produce it
- The total quantity and quality of goods and services that a country's citizens can purchase with the currency used in their economic system

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-12

Page-Reference: 27

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: The pattern of short-term ups and downs in an economy

13. Which of the following is correct with regard to the business cycle?

Due to better government management of the economic environment, the business cycle has become less volatile in recent decades

A depression occurs when the trough of the business cycle extends five or more years

There are no recognizable short-term phases in the business cycle; rather, the cycle can only be recognized as a long-term phenomenon

A recession is usually defined as two consecutive quarters when the economy shrinks

All of these are correct

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-13

Page-Reference: 27

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: A recession is usually defined as two consecutive quarters when the economy shrinks

14. Sales had been low at Stephen's Home Office Supplies for several months, but then business starting picking up again. Stephen's business went through which two phases of the business cycle?

Recession and trough

Peak and recession

Trough and recovery

Recovery and peak

Any of these answers could be correct

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-14

Page-Reference: 27

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Trough and recovery

15. Which statement is true with regard to the standard of living?

It is dependent on the size of the city in which one lives.

It is comparable for every citizen in every country.

It is the amount and quality of goods and services that people can buy with their money.

It is improved when high-end stores stock expensive merchandise.

It is unaffected by business productivity.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-15

Page-Reference: 27

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: It is the amount and quality of goods and services that people can buy with their money.

16. Which of the following would *not* likely be a consequence of a recession?

- Aggregate output declines.
- Producers will hire more employees.
- Unemployment will increase.
- Less labour will be needed to produce products.
- GDP will decrease.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-16

Page-Reference: 27

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Producers will hire more employees.

17. Which of the following best describes the term *gross domestic product*?

- Total quantity and quality of goods and services that a country's citizens can purchase with the currency used in their economic system
- Conditions of the economic system in which an organization operates
- The total value of all goods and services produced within a given period by a national economy through domestic factors of production
- The total value of all goods and services produced by a national economy within a given period regardless of where the factors of production are located
- The total quantity of goods and services produced by an economic system

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-17

Page-Reference: 28

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: The total value of all goods and services produced within a given period by a national economy through domestic factors of production

18. Which of the following best describes *nominal GDP*?

- Total quantity of goods and services produced by an economic system
- Total quantity and quality of goods and services that a country's citizens can purchase with the currency used in their economic system
- Total value of all goods and services produced within a given period by a national economy, through domestic factors of production measured in current dollars, with all components valued at current prices
- Total value of all goods and services produced within a given period by a national economy through domestic and international factors of production
- Total value of all goods and services produced by a national economy within a given period regardless of where the factors of production are located

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-18

Page-Reference: 28

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Total value of all goods and services produced within a given period by a national economy, through domestic factors of production measured in current dollars, with all components valued at current prices

19. Which of the following best describes *real GDP*?

Total quantity and quality of goods and services that a country's citizens can purchase with the currency used in their economic system

Total quantity of goods and services produced by an economic system

Total value of all goods and services produced within a given period by a national economy through domestic and international factors of production

Total value of all goods and services produced within a given period by a national economy, through domestic factors of production measured in current dollars, or with all components valued at current prices

Total value of all goods and services produced by a national economy within a given period, calculated to account for changes in currency values and price changes

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-19

Page-Reference: 28

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Total value of all goods and services produced by a national economy within a given period, calculated to account for changes in currency values and price changes

20. Which of the following would be *included* in the gross national product of Canada?

The wages paid to Peruvian workers producing coffee for a Brazilian company

The profits earned by a Canadian-owned automobile plant in Brazil

The profits earned by a Brazilian coffee company operating in Canada

The profits earned by a Brazilian coffee company operating in Peru

The wages paid to Brazilian workers producing coffee for sale in Canada

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-1-20

Page-Reference: 28

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: The profits earned by a Canadian-owned automobile plant in Brazil

21. Which of the following would be *included* in the gross national product of Brazil?

The profits earned by a Brazilian coffee company operating in Canada

The wages paid to Peruvian workers producing coffee for a Canadian company

The profits earned by a Canadian coffee company operating in Peru

The profits earned by a Canadian-owned automobile plant in Brazil

The wages paid to Peruvian workers producing coffee for sale in Canada

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-1-21

Page-Reference: 28

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: The profits earned by a Brazilian coffee company operating in Canada

22. Which of the following would be *included* in the GNP of Canada?

- A Canadian company produces and sells products in Brazil
- A Brazilian company produces and sells products in Canada
- A U.S. company produces and sells products in Canada
- A Canadian company produces and sells products in Canada
- it is not possible to tell given the information that is provided

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-1-22

Page-Reference: 28

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: A Canadian company produces and sells products in Brazil

23. Which of the following would be *included* in the GNP of Brazil?

- A Canadian company produces and sells products in Brazil
- A Brazilian company produces and sells products in Canada
- A U.S. company produces and sells products in Brazil
- A Brazilian company produces and sells products in Brazil
- it is not possible to tell given the information that is provided

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-1-23

Page-Reference: 28

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: A Brazilian company produces and sells products in Canada

24. Which of the following would be *excluded* from the GDP of Canada?

- A Canadian company produces and sells products in Brazil
- A U.S. company produces and sells products in Canada
- A Canadian company produces and sells products in Canada
- A Brazilian company produces and sells products in Canada
- it is not possible to tell given the information that is provided

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-1-24

Page-Reference: 28

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: A Canadian company produces and sells products in Brazil

25. Which of the following would be *excluded* from the GDP of Brazil?

- A Canadian company produces and sells products in Brazil
- A U.S. company produces and sells products in Brazil
- A Brazilian company produces and sells products in Canada
- A Brazilian company produces and sells products in Brazil
- it is not possible to tell given the information that is provided

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-1-25

Page-Reference: 28

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: A Brazilian company produces and sells products in Canada

26. The _____ is the growth rate of GDP adjusted for inflation and change in value of the country's currency.
adjusted growth rate
gross national product
real growth rate
per capita GDP
real GDP

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-26

Page-Reference: 28

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: real growth rate

27. How is per capita GDP computed?

GDP minus all expenses incurred to generate GDP
Gross wages earned by all workers in Canada divided by the number of workers
GNP divided by Canada's population
Total gross domestic product divided by Canada's population
GNP minus GDP

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-27

Page-Reference: 28

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Total gross domestic product divided by Canada's population

28. Which country has the highest GDP per capita?

Brazil
Canada
Qatar
Luxembourg
United States

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-28

Page-Reference: 28

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Luxembourg

29. _____ is GDP measured in current dollars with all components valued at current prices.

Per capita GDP
Net GDP
Adjusted GDP
Nominal GDP
Real GDP

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-29

Page-Reference: 28

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Nominal GDP

30. Which of the following best describes the term *gross national product*?

Total quantity of goods and services produced by an economic system
Total value of all goods and services produced by a national economy within a given period regardless of where the factors of production are located
Total value of all goods and services produced within a given period by a national economy through domestic factors of production
Total quantity and quality of goods and services that a country's citizens can purchase with the currency used in their economic system
Conditions of the economic system in which an organization operates

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-30

Page-Reference: 28

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Total value of all goods and services produced by a national economy within a given period regardless of where the factors of production are located

31. The principle of _____ states that exchange rates are set so that the prices of similar products in different countries are about the same.

nominal GDP
gross national product
consumer price index
equal prices
purchasing power parity

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-31

Page-Reference: 28-29

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: purchasing power parity

32. _____ is a measure of economic growth that compares how much a system produces with the resources needed to produce it.

Purchasing power parity

Stability

Recession

Inflation

Productivity

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-32

Page-Reference: 29

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Productivity

33. Which of the following is accurate regarding purchasing power parity?

It gives us a better idea of what people can actually buy with the financial resources they have.

It reflects the principle that exchange rates are set so that prices of similar products in different countries are unequal.

It does not really give a good sense of the standards of living around the world.

It reflects the principle that capitalism is a better system than communism.

None of these statements are accurate.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-33

Page-Reference: 28-29

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: It gives us a better idea of what people can actually buy with the financial resources they have.

34. The _____ is the economic value of all the products that a country exports minus the economic value of imported products.

real GDP

gross national product

nominal GDP

balance of trade

national debt

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-34

Page-Reference: 29

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: balance of trade

35. Canada's GDP in 2012 was about

- \$575 billion.
- \$1 trillion.
- \$1.7 trillion.
- \$2.8 trillion.
- \$8.3 trillion.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-35

Page-Reference: 28

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: \$1.7 trillion.

36. With regard to GDP, GNP, and GPI, which of the following is correct?

- The profits earned by a Canadian company abroad are included in GDP, but not in GNP.
- Profits earned by foreign firms in Canada are included in GNP.
- GDP and GPI both increased as a result of the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.
- GDP has been increasing for many years, but GPI has been decreasing since the 1970s.
- GNP, GDP, and GPI all measure essentially the same thing.

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-1-36

Page-Reference: 28

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: GDP has been increasing for many years, but GPI has been decreasing since the 1970s.

37. When comparing GPI to GDP, it is correct to say that

- GPI is a better indicator of economic progress than GDP.
- GPI treats activities that harm our quality of life as costs and gives them negative values.
- GPI is a better measure of economic growth for advanced industrial countries, but GDP is a better measure for developing countries.
- the activities required to clean up an oil spill are not included in the calculation of GDP.
- none of these are correct.

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-1-37

Page-Reference: 28

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: GPI treats activities that harm our quality of life as costs and gives them negative values.

38. **If GDP is going up, the nation is experiencing**
inflation.
growth.
an increase in demand.
a recession.
it is not possible to tell given the information provided.

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-1-38
Page-Reference: 28
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: growth.

39. **Canada's GDP per capita (in \$US) is approximately**
\$15 000.
\$31 000.
\$42 000.
\$50 000.
\$66 000.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-1-39
Page-Reference: 28
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: \$50 000.

40. **Purchasing power parity gives us a good idea of**
what people are buying outside their own country while on vacation or while doing international business.
what people can actually buy with the financial resources allocated to them by their economic system.
what people would like to buy with the financial resources in their economic system.
purchasing trends across the globe.
average annual income.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-1-40
Page-Reference: 29
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: what people can actually buy with the financial resources allocated to them by their economic system.

41. Paul owns a Canadian shipping company that generates profits as a result of business activities in Brazil. These profits are included in Brazil's
GDP.
national employment.
productivity.
GNP.
GPI.

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-1-41
Page-Reference: 28
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: GDP.

42. If we know that it takes, on average, one Canadian worker and one Canadian dollar to make 10 soccer balls in an 8 hour work day, we can measure Canada's
balance of trade.
GDP.
productivity.
GNP.
GNP and productivity.

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-1-42
Page-Reference: 29
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: productivity.

43. Which of the following statements is correct?
GNP refers to the total value of all goods and services produced by a national economy.
GDP refers to the total value of all goods and services produced by a national economy regardless of where the factors of production are located.
Growth depends on output increasing at a faster rate than population.
Per capita GDP is calculated by dividing purchasing power parity by the rate of inflation.
Real GDP compares how much a system produces with the resources needed to produce it.

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-1-43
Page-Reference: 28
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: Growth depends on output increasing at a faster rate than population.

44. A _____ balance of trade results when a country exports more than it imports.

- depressed
- negative
- real
- nominal
- positive

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-44

Page-Reference: 29

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: positive

45. Which of the following is the *best* description of the balance of trade?

- The total of a nation's revenues from income taxes minus its expenditures on goods and services
- Changes in currency values and price changes
- The profitability of business firms that are exporting goods and services
- The total of a nation's exports minus its imports
- The total value of all services provided to foreigners during a one year time period

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-45

Page-Reference: 29

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: The total of a nation's exports minus its imports

46. Canada usually has a _____ balance of trade. It is therefore a _____ nation rather than a _____ nation.

- positive; creditor; debtor
- negative; debtor; creditor
- positive; debtor; creditor
- negative; creditor; debtor
- none of the above

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-1-46

Page-Reference: 29

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: positive; creditor; debtor

47. A nation's _____ is the total amount of money that the government owes its creditors.

trade deficit
national debt
trade deficiency
trade shortage
trade surplus

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-47

Page-Reference: 29

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: national debt

48. If Taiwan has a positive balance of trade, this means that

money is flowing into the country to pay for imported goods.
the total amount of exported goods has increased from the previous year.
the total amount of imported goods has decreased from the previous year.
the nation is exporting more than it imports from other nations.
all of these are correct.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-48

Page-Reference: 29

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: the nation is exporting more than it imports from other nations.

49. Which of the following is correct with regard to budget deficits and the national debt?

Canada's national debt is the amount of money Canada owes the United States.
A budget deficit occurs when income tax revenue is less than interest payments on the national debt.
A budget deficit occurs when government expenditures in a given year exceed government revenues.
There is no relationship between annual budget deficits and the total national debt.
The national debt is more important than annual budget deficits.

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-1-49

Page-Reference: 29

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: A budget deficit occurs when government expenditures in a given year exceed government revenues.

50. The national debt refers to

the total amount of money that Canada owes to its creditors.
the ratio of Canada's exports to its imports.
the result of government spending more in a year than the value of GDP.
the excess amount of taxes over what the government spends in one year.
the amount of taxes the government collects in one year.

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-1-50
Page-Reference: 29
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: the total amount of money that Canada owes to its creditors.

51. A budget deficit refers to

the measure of economic growth that compares how much a system produces with the resources needed to produce it.
government spending more in one year than it takes in during that year.
the total of a country's exports minus its imports.
the total amount of money that Canada owes its creditors.
the exchange rate that is set so prices of similar products in different countries are the same.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-1-51
Page-Reference: 29
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: government spending more in one year than it takes in during that year.

52. The more money the Canadian government borrows (by issuing savings bonds) , the _____ money is available for private borrowing and investment that increases _____.

more; productivity
less; productivity
more; purchasing power parity
less; GDP
more; GDP

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-1-52
Page-Reference: 30
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: less; productivity

53. With respect to inflation and deflation, which is correct?

Inflation is caused when consumers buy too many luxury goods.
When inflation occurs, people have more money to spend, and there will be an increased quantity of goods for sale.
When inflation occurs, purchasing power decreases.
Deflation is evident when the amount of money injected into the economic system increases faster than actual output.
All of these statements are correct.

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-1-53
Page-Reference: 30
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: When inflation occurs, purchasing power decreases.

54. What are three factors that threaten stability?

Purchasing power parity, productivity, and inflation
Productivity, inflation, and deflation
Purchasing power parity, inflation, and deflation
Inflation, deflation, and unemployment
Productivity, unemployment, and inflation

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-54

Page-Reference: 30

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Inflation, deflation, and unemployment

55. _____ is the economic condition characterized by widespread increased prices throughout an economic system.

Stability
Deflation
Unemployment
Stagflation
Inflation

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-55

Page-Reference: 30

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Inflation

56. Which of the following statements about inflation is correct?

Inflation increases the purchasing power of consumer dollars.
The consumer price index is one way to measure inflation.
Inflation occurs when people have more money to spend as the quantity of goods available increases.
Inflation occurs when the amount of money taken out of the economy exceeds the amount of money put into the economy.
Inflation and deflation are really almost synonymous in practice.

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-1-56

Page-Reference: 30

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: The consumer price index is one way to measure inflation.

57. The _____ is a measure of the prices of a typical "basket of products" purchased by consumers.

consumer price index
national debt
balance of trade
gross national product
real GDP

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-57

Page-Reference: 30

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: consumer price index

58. **Deflation refers to**

a period of falling prices.
the occurrence of price increases throughout the economic system.
the condition in an economic system in which the amount of money available is greater than the amount of goods produced.
the measure of prices in urban areas.
the amount of government spending greater than the taxes collected in one year.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-58

Page-Reference: 30

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: a period of falling prices.

59. John is experiencing _____ unemployment because he is out of work temporarily while looking for a new job, while Sally is experiencing _____ unemployment because she is out work because of a downturn in the business cycle.

seasonal; structural
structural; seasonal
frictional; cyclical
cyclical; frictional
seasonal; cyclical

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-1-59

Page-Reference: 31

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: frictional; cyclical

60. Which of the following is correct regarding unemployment rates in Canada?

Unemployment rates have been fairly stable at about 6 percent for the last 30 years.

Unemployment rates have been fairly stable at about 2 percent for the last 30 years.

Unemployment rates for women have generally been slightly lower than unemployment rates for men.

The government did not keep track of unemployment rates for women until the 1980s.

The unemployment rate for women is about half the unemployment rate for men.

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-1-60

Page-Reference: 31

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Unemployment rates for women have generally been slightly lower than unemployment rates for men.

61. Ben is unemployed, but he is currently in a training program designed to increase the skills he needs to perform the kinds of jobs that are available. Ben is experiencing _____ unemployment.

frictional

seasonal

cyclical

structural

none of these

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-61

Page-Reference: 31

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: structural

62. Unemployment is the level of joblessness among

people over the age of 18 within a given economic system.

people who have been previously employed in an economic system.

people who have the skills for employment within an economic system.

people over the age of 18 and under the age of 65 in a given economic system.

people actively seeking work in an economic system.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-62

Page-Reference: 31

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: people actively seeking work in an economic system.

63. _____ unemployment results because workers lack the right skills, while _____ unemployment results when people are temporarily out of work while they are looking for a new job.

Cyclical; seasonal
Frictional; seasonal
Seasonal; structural
Cyclical; structural
Structural; frictional

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-63

Page-Reference: 31

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Structural; frictional

64. A computer programmer who has just quit her job but who will find a new one soon is an example of _____ unemployment.

seasonal
frictional
cyclical
structural
none of these

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-64

Page-Reference: 31

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: frictional

65. Sam, an audiologist, lost his job two years ago and still hasn't found work. There is just no market for audiologists at this time. Sam is experiencing

structural unemployment.
full unemployment.
cyclical unemployment.
bad luck.
frictional unemployment.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-65

Page-Reference: 31

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: structural unemployment.

66. The chance that a society can actually achieve full employment is _____ percent.

- 10
- 75
- 45
- 1
- 0

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-66

Page-Reference: 31

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: 0

67. Don is unemployed because of a downturn in economic activity; this is an example of _____ unemployment.

- frictional
- seasonal
- structural
- cyclical
- none of these

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-67

Page-Reference: 31

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: cyclical

68. _____ policy involves the collection and spending of government revenues, while _____ policy focuses on controlling the size of the nation's money supply.

- Productivity; inflation
- Taxation; monetary
- Monetary; fiscal
- Fiscal; monetary
- National debt; annual deficit

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-1-68

Page-Reference: 31-32

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Fiscal; monetary

69. If Canada fell into a depression, the Bank of Canada would most likely
raise interest rates.
leave interest rates alone.
lower interest rates.
it is not possible to tell with the information given.
increase gasoline taxes.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-1-69
Page-Reference: 32
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: lower interest rates.

70. An increase in tax rates is an example of _____ policy, while the government influencing banks to lend more to consumers is an example of _____ policy.
GDP; GNP
fiscal; monetary
GNP; GDP
monetary; fiscal
none of these

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-1-70
Page-Reference: 32
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: fiscal; monetary

71. If you were the Minister of Finance taking care of fiscal policy, which one of the following could you implement?
A tax increase
A cut in social security programs
An increase in federal transfer payments
An increase in spending to military bases
All of these ideas could be implemented

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-1-71
Page-Reference: 31
Skill: Application
Objective: 2.2

Answer: All of these ideas could be implemented

72. What effect do higher interest rates have on consumer spending?

Consumer spending increases as people try to quickly buy goods before rates go even higher

Consumer spending decreases immediately, but then rises sharply after consumers get used to the new higher interest rates

Consumer spending is not impacted by changes in interest rates

Consumer spending decreases

It is not possible to tell from the information given

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-72

Page-Reference: 32

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Consumer spending decreases

73. The government controls the size of the money supply through _____ policies.

revenue

monetary

inflation

economic

fiscal

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-73

Page-Reference: 32

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: monetary

74. _____ includes human knowledge, work methods, physical equipment, electronics and telecommunications, and various processing systems that are used in performing business activities.

The technological environment

The social environment

The political–legal environment

The competitive environment

The economic environment

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-74

Page-Reference: 32

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.3

Answer: The technological environment

75. The advent of the iPod saw an increase in the downloading of music from the internet. Music artists are noticing a decrease in the sales of their CDs, which is an effect of which dimension of the external environment?

Technological
Economic
Socio-cultural
Political
Global

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-75

Page-Reference: 32

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.3

Answer: Technological

76. Research and development (R&D) includes activities that are necessary to provide new products, services, and processes. Two basic types of R&D are

deflationary and inflationary.
public and economical.
college and university.
pure and theoretical.
basic and applied.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-76

Page-Reference: 32

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.3

Answer: basic and applied.

77. R&D spending in Canada in 2011 totalled about _____ billion.

\$2
\$6
\$10
\$16
\$30

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-77

Page-Reference: 32

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.3

Answer: \$30

78. In 2012, the Canadian private sector accounted for about _____ percent of R&D spending, the government accounted for about _____ percent, and universities accounted for about _____ percent.

25; 35; 40

10; 40; 50

52; 10; 38

25; 30; 45

78; 15; 7

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-1-78

Page-Reference: 32

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.3

Answer: 52; 10; 38

79. **Basic research and development describes**

focusing specifically on how a technological innovation can be put to use in the making of a product or service that can be sold in the marketplace.

those activities that do not create value for the firm.

the process involved in getting a new technology out of the lab and into the marketplace.

improving knowledge in an area without a primary focus on whether any discoveries that might occur are immediately marketable.

those activities that increase a company's revenues.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-79

Page-Reference: 32

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.3

Answer: improving knowledge in an area without a primary focus on whether any discoveries that might occur are immediately marketable.

80. **The political–legal environment describes**

the relationship between business and government.

the customs, values, attitudes, and demographic characteristics of the society in which an organization functions.

the intensity of the competition in an industry.

the relationship between international and domestic corporations.

the relationship between government and unions.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-80

Page-Reference: 34

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.4

Answer: the relationship between business and government.

81. Ethical conduct and social responsibility are critical elements of which environment?

Global
Political–legal
Industry
Socio-cultural
Economic

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-81

Page-Reference: 34

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.5

Answer: Socio-cultural

82. The socio-cultural environment describes

the relationship between government and unions.

the relationship between business and government.

the relationship between international and domestic corporations.

the customs, values, attitudes, and demographic characteristics of the society in which an organization functions.

the intensity of the competition in an industry.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-82

Page-Reference: 34

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.5

Answer: the customs, values, attitudes, and demographic characteristics of the society in which an organization functions.

83. Which of the following is *not* an example of a factor in the socio-cultural environment?

Prepackaged chili is more popular in southwestern U.S. states than in the U.S. northeast.

Consumers in China perceive bicycles primarily as a mode of transportation, while consumers in Canada perceive bicycles as recreational items.

Companies are more likely to set up foreign operations in countries with stable political and economic systems.

McDonald's has added salads and other low fat foods to its menu.

Many people in the Middle East are unwilling to work in food service operations.

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-1-83

Page-Reference: 34

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.5

Answer: Companies are more likely to set up foreign operations in countries with stable political and economic systems.

84. If casinos notice an increase in business due to the fact that many people no longer regard gambling as wrong, this demonstrates a change in the _____ dimension of their external environment.

socio-cultural
technological
global
political–legal
economic

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-84

Page-Reference: 34

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.5

Answer: socio-cultural

85. **Companies that continue to act unethically (especially in the area of accounting) will most likely** have their shares appreciate in value because shareholders like aggressive accounting practices which help increase the price of their stock.
have their shares depreciate in value as shareholders become leery of aggressive accounting practices which distort a company's real financial condition.
never be able to sell shares of stock to the public.
find that their share price will be unaffected by this practice.
no pattern is evident.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-85

Page-Reference: 35

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.5

Answer: have their shares depreciate in value as shareholders become leery of aggressive accounting practices which distort a company's real financial condition.

86. **The major cigarette companies have been experiencing a decline in sales due to the overall decrease in smoking across Canada in recent years. These companies are being affected by which dimension of their external environment?**

Technological
Global
Business
Socio-cultural
Economic

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-86

Page-Reference: 34

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.5

Answer: Socio-cultural

87. Which of the following *best* describes the breadth of socio-cultural environment factors?

- Customs, attitudes, and values
- Demographic characteristics, customs, and values
- Values, attitudes, customs, and demographic characteristics
- Customs, values, religious beliefs, and consumer wealth
- Values, religious beliefs, and consumer wealth

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-87

Page-Reference: 34

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.5

Answer: Values, attitudes, customs, and demographic characteristics

88. Which of the factors in Porter's five forces model is generally most important?

- Threat of potential entrants
- Rivalry among existing competitors
- Threat of substitutes
- Suppliers
- None of these

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-88

Page-Reference: 36-37

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.6

Answer: None of these

89. When Microsoft introduced Encarta, it caused the sale of hard copy encyclopedias sold by Encyclopedia Britannica to drop sharply. This is an example of which of Porter's five forces?

- Rivalry among existing competitors
- Threat of potential entrants
- Suppliers
- Buyers
- Substitutes

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-89

Page-Reference: 36

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.6

Answer: Threat of potential entrants

90. _____ is often cited as a buyer that puts tremendous pressure on its suppliers.

The Bay
Canadian Tire
Target
Walmart
Costco

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-90

Page-Reference: 36

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.6

Answer: Walmart

91. **Some industries are relatively easy to enter, but automobile manufacturing is not because** the market is saturated.

it is very capital-intensive.

it is a foreign market.

it is too labour intensive.

none of these are correct.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-91

Page-Reference: 36

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.6

Answer: it is very capital-intensive.

92. **Porter's five forces model includes all of the following *except*** substitutes.

threat of potential entrants.

buyers.

suppliers.

threat of replacement products.

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-92

Page-Reference: 36-37

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.6

Answer: threat of replacement products.

93. McDonald's has made aggressive moves to gain market share in the coffee market. This is an example of _____, while the opening of Target stores in Canada is an example of _____.

substitutes; threat of potential entrants

threat of potential entrants; buyers

buyers; suppliers

suppliers; rivalry among existing competitors

rivalry among existing competitors; threat of potential entrants

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-93

Page-Reference: 36

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.6

Answer: rivalry among existing competitors; threat of potential entrants

94. The internet has changed the way people pay bills. From Canada Post's perspective, this is an example of which of Porter's five forces?

Substitutes

Threat of potential entrants

Buyers

Suppliers

Threat of replacement products

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-94

Page-Reference: 37

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.6

Answer: Substitutes

95. _____ refers to the skills and resources with which the company competes best and creates the most value for its owners.

Labour

Outsourcing

Core competencies

Viral marketing

Business process management

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-95

Page-Reference: 37

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.6

Answer: Core competencies

96. **The most successful firms are getting leaner by focusing on their core competencies, but these new business models call for**
environmental management.
unprecedented coordination.
new corporate boundaries.
unprecedented funds.
none of these are correct

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-96

Page-Reference: 37

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.6

Answer: unprecedented coordination.

97. **Most successful firms are getting leaner by focusing on their _____, the skills and resources with which they compete best and create the most value for owners.**

viral marketing
core competencies
processes
business process management
political–legal environment

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-97

Page-Reference: 37

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.6

Answer: core competencies

98. _____ **is the strategy of paying suppliers and distributors to perform certain business processes or to provide needed materials or resources.**

Enterprise management
Outsourcing
Alliance
Disruption
Core competency

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-98

Page-Reference: 38

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.6

Answer: Outsourcing

99. Which of the following is the best description of *outsourcing*?

Any activity that adds value to some input by transforming it into an output for an internal or external customer

An approach by which firms move away from department-oriented organization and toward process-oriented team structures that cut across old departmental boundaries

The strategy of paying suppliers and distributors to perform certain business processes or to provide needed materials and resources

The strategy of using the internet and word-of-mouth marketing to spread product information

The strategy of owning the means by which an organization produces goods or services

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-99

Page-Reference: 38

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.6

Answer: The strategy of paying suppliers and distributors to perform certain business processes or to provide needed materials and resources

100. Many firms use _____ to provide cafeteria operations for their customers.

enterprise management

disruption management

outsourcing

core competencies

vertical integration

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-100

Page-Reference: 38

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.6

Answer: outsourcing

101. _____ uses word of mouth and the internet to market products.

Virtual marketing

Compressed channel marketing

Viral marketing

Internet marketing

None of these

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-101

Page-Reference: 38

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.6

Answer: Viral marketing

102. **When the Organic Trade Association partnered with Free Range Graphics to produce a 5-minute online spoof of the latest Star Wars movie, this was an example of**
a strategic alliance.
viral marketing.
outsourcing.
business process management.
none of these.

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-102

Page-Reference: 38

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.6

Answer: viral marketing.

103. **Viral marketing can result in _____ when compared to traditional marketing.**
faster consumer awareness and a wider reach
slower consumer awareness and a wider reach
quicker consumer awareness and higher costs
lower rates of recall and slower consumer awareness
lower rates of recall and higher costs

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-103

Page-Reference: 38

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.6

Answer: faster consumer awareness and a wider reach

104. **Which of the following best describes *viral marketing*?**

The strategy of paying suppliers and distributors to perform certain business processes or to provide needed materials and resources
An approach by which firms move away from department-oriented organization and toward process-oriented team structures that cut across old departmental boundaries
The strategy of owning the means by which an organization produces goods or services
Any activity that adds value to some input by transforming it into an output for an internal or external customer
The strategy of using the internet and word-of-mouth marketing to spread product information

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-104

Page-Reference: 38

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.6

Answer: The strategy of using the internet and word-of-mouth marketing to spread product information

105. _____ uses games, contests, chat rooms, and bulletin boards to encourage potential customers to try out products and tell other people about them.

Relationship marketing
Business process management
Enterprise planning
Vertical integration
Viral marketing

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-105

Page-Reference: 38

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.6

Answer: Viral marketing

106. An approach which moves from a department-orientated organization to a process team orientation is called

process improvement.
business process management.
six sigma.
outsourcing.
virtual restructuring.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-106

Page-Reference: 38

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.6

Answer: business process management.

107. Which of the following best describes *business process management*?

An approach by which firms move away from department-oriented organization and toward process-oriented team structures that cut across old departmental boundaries
The strategy of paying suppliers and distributors to perform certain business processes or to provide needed materials and resources
Any activity that adds value to some input by transforming it into an output for an internal or external customer
The strategy of using the internet and word-of-mouth marketing to spread product information
The strategy of owning the means by which an organization produces goods or services

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-107

Page-Reference: 38

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.6

Answer: An approach by which firms move away from department-oriented organization and toward process-oriented team structures that cut across old departmental boundaries

108. Which of the following is the best definition of *vertical merger*?

A strategy in which one of the companies in the merger is a supplier or customer of the other

An approach by which firms move away from department-oriented organization and toward process-oriented team structures that cut across old departmental boundaries

The strategy of using the internet and word-of-mouth marketing to spread product information

Any activity that adds value to some input by transforming it into an output for an internal or external customer

The strategy of paying suppliers and distributors to perform certain business processes or to provide needed materials and resources

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-108

Page-Reference: 39

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.7

Answer: A strategy in which one of the companies in the merger is a supplier or customer of the other

109. A(n) _____ is a merger of two firms that have previously had a buyer-seller relationship.

hostile takeover

conglomerate merger

friendly takeover

vertical merger

enterprise merger

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-109

Page-Reference: 39

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.7

Answer: vertical merger

110. A company that cuts and packages paper for photocopiers and printers that merges with a paper mill to reduce the risk of paper shortages is using a(n)

poison pill merger.

enterprise merger.

friendly takeover bid.

hostile takeover.

vertical merger.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-110

Page-Reference: 39

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.7

Answer: vertical merger.

111. An acquisition takes place when

two firms who previously have been buyer and seller merge.
two firms join together to form a new entity.
one firm consolidates with another.
one firm simply buys another.
management adopts a defence to make its firm less attractive.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-111

Page-Reference: 38

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.7

Answer: one firm simply buys another.

112. When one company sells part of its existing business operations to another company, this is called
outsourcing.

intense competition.
a spinoff.
a divestiture.
a strategic alliance.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-112

Page-Reference: 39

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.7

Answer: a divestiture.

113. If Shirley's Subs Inc. purchased Tony's Car Repair Inc., this would be _____.

a horizontal merger
a conglomerate merger
a spinoff
a vertical merger
a divestiture

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-1-113

Page-Reference: 39

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.7

Answer: a conglomerate merger

114. If Toyota Motors purchased Ruscombe Muffler, a small retail muffler business, the purchase would be

a horizontal merger.
a conglomerate merger.
a spinoff.
a vertical merger.
a divestiture.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-114

Page-Reference: 39

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.7

Answer: a vertical merger.

115. Company A and Company F have been in direct competition for many years. Recently, an announcement was made of a merger between the two companies. This would be a

reverse merger.

joint venture.

vertical merger.

friendly takeover.

horizontal merger.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-115

Page-Reference: 39

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.7

Answer: horizontal merger.

116. A corporation may overcome the resistance of a takeover target by implementing which of the following actions?

Buy the target company's preferred stock instead of its common stock

Reduce the price offered for the target company's stock

Threaten to fire the officers of the target company

Buy more of the target company's stock

File a lawsuit

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-116

Page-Reference: 39

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.7

Answer: Buy more of the target company's stock

117. Stone Inc. has just been through a friendly takeover. This means that

these two firms are in a completely unrelated businesses merge.

two firms agree to join together.

the acquired company welcomes the acquisition because it may need cash or other benefits which it believes will be available from the other firm.

the organization will buy back their own stock from an investor who threatened a hostile takeover.

the two firms were direct competitors before the merger and now will not compete with each other after the merger.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-117

Page-Reference: 39

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.7

Answer: the acquired company welcomes the acquisition because it may need cash or other benefits which it believes will be available from the other firm.

118. **When Molson merged with Adolph Coors, this was an example of**

- a reverse merger.
- a conglomerate merger.
- a vertical merger.
- a poison pill.
- a horizontal merger.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-118

Page-Reference: 39

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.7

Answer: a horizontal merger.

119. **BSX Inc. gave shareholders the right to purchase company stock at a 50 percent discount if a group without approval of BSX's board of directors acquired more than 20 percent of the company's shares. This is an example of**

- a stock buyback.
- a conglomerate merger.
- greenmail.
- a poison pill.
- a vertical merger.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-1-119

Page-Reference: 39

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.7

Answer: a poison pill.

120. **PepsiCo created a new corporation called Tricon Global Restaurants (now called Yum! Brands Inc.) which included Pizza Hut, KFC, and Taco Bell. This is an example of a(n)**

- hostile takeover.
- acquisition.
- spinoff.
- merger.
- divestiture.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-1-120
Page-Reference: 39
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.7

Answer: spinoff.

121. **The primary objective of an ESOP is to**
keep management from making bad decisions.
protect against takeovers.
prevent worker strikes.
provide workers with financial security.
motivate workers to work harder.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-1-121
Page-Reference: 39
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.7

Answer: motivate workers to work harder.

Chapter 02 Critical Thinking Questions

1. **Flavor Foods runs The Hungry Cow, a chain of fast food restaurants located all over the country. The chain has a loyal customer base and is well-known for its signature dishes like the Big Bite Burger, Springy Fries, and the Orange Float. The company is faced with a critical decision: Should it expand its operations into China?**

Which of the following, if true, would strengthen the argument for competing in the Chinese market?

Changes in exchange rates can affect the value of sales made in different countries.
Even global brands typically choose to tailor their offerings according to the tastes of consumers in different countries.
The Big Bite Burger has a higher selling price than other items on The Hungry Cow's menu, but it is not the most profitable item because of the cost of its ingredients.
The Hungry Cow's research indicates that reaching new customers in domestic markets will be more expensive than doing so in emerging markets.
Chinese companies tend not to pursue the franchise option when attempting to expand into other countries.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-2-122
Page-Reference: N/A
Skill: Analysis
Objective: N/A

Answer: The Hungry Cow's research indicates that reaching new customers in domestic markets will be more expensive than doing so in emerging markets.

2. Flavor Foods runs The Hungry Cow, a chain of fast food restaurants located all over the country. The chain has a loyal customer base and is well-known for its signature dishes like the Big Bite Burger, Springy Fries, and the Orange Float. The company is faced with a critical decision: Should it expand its operations into China?

Which of the following, if true, would weaken the argument for competing in the Chinese market?

An American fast food chain found that the time to recoup its investments in China was greater under the franchise model as opposed to the corporate chain store model.

Chinese government policies can impose lengthy delays on businesses seeking food sale licenses.

Studies show that modern Chinese consumers are more likely than previous generations to dine outside the home.

When choosing a restaurant, Chinese consumers seek benefits beyond simple food quality.

Expanding into every market within China would require more resources than The Hungry Cow has at its disposal.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-2-123

Page-Reference: N/A

Skill: Analysis

Objective: N/A

Answer: Chinese government policies can impose lengthy delays on businesses seeking food sale licenses.

3. In the past, only India's elite could afford to buy a car. But recent dramatic changes in India's economy have produced a growing middle class and rapidly rising incomes. Now, to meet the new demand, established automakers are introducing smaller, more affordable vehicles into India. But they will have to find a way to compete with India's Tata Motors, which has unveiled the least expensive car ever in this market, the Tata Nano. The Nano sells for only 100 000 rupees (about US \$2,200) . It seats four passengers, gets 50 miles per gallon, and travels at a top speed of 60 miles per hour.

Based on the information above, Tata most likely believed that as a result of recent changes in India's economy, what would be true of a growing number of Indian consumers?

They had become even more cost-conscious than ever before.

They would be willing and able to spend 100 000 rupees on a car.

They would choose a vehicle with high fuel efficiency primarily because of concern about the natural environment.

They will eventually prefer models similar to those currently available in the U.S. and Europe.

They will place a higher value on car safety than fuel economy.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-2-124

Page-Reference: N/A

Skill: Analysis

Objective: N/A

Answer: They would be willing and able to spend 100 000 rupees on a car.

4. The economy in the African nation Sponeto has been stagnant for a long time. The government and central bank of Sponeto have been considering options for what can be done to help stimulate investment and growth in the economy.

The Sponeto national bank advocates increasing the money supply to encourage investment within the country. Which of the following, if true, would strengthen the case that this will cause inflation?

Jobs will be created.

Banks will lower interest rates.

Wages will decrease.

Foreign investment will be discouraged.

Only low-technology sectors will benefit.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-2-125

Page-Reference: N/A

Skill: Analysis

Objective: N/A

Answer: Banks will lower interest rates.

5. The economy in the African nation Sponeto has been stagnant for a long time. The government and central bank of Sponeto have been considering options for what can be done to help stimulate investment and growth in the economy.

Many in the Sponeto government agree that increasing the money supply to the nation's economy would be of significant help to the country. The national bank's reserve, however, is short on the funds needed, and suggests asking for them from the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Which of the following, if true, would strengthen the case for this course of action?

The IMF has been known to force donor countries to drop tariffs put in place to protect domestic industries.

The IMF has been known to force donor countries to privatize national companies.

The IMF contributes money as well as financial advice to help countries with economies suffering from balance-of-payment problems.

IMF loans typically come with many conditions attached that may result in increased poverty in the donor country.

A number of developing countries have suffered financial disasters from following IMF advice.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-2-126

Page-Reference: N/A

Skill: Analysis

Objective: N/A

Answer: The IMF contributes money as well as financial advice to help countries with economies suffering from balance-of-payment problems.

6. The economy in the African nation Sponeto has been stagnant for a long time. The government and central bank of Sponeto have been considering options for what can be done to help stimulate investment and growth in the economy.

Some in the Sponeto government would like the country to appeal to the World Bank for funding toward economic development, rather than short-term monetary stimulation. Which of the following, if true, would strengthen the case for this course of action?

Sponeto has come under criticism in the United Nations for alleged human rights abuses.

Sponeto has been able to grow enough food to export to surrounding nations.

Corruption is a major problem among Sponeto's government officials.

Sponeto urgently needs humanitarian aid due to a recent natural disaster.

Chronic and widespread poverty is Sponeto's biggest economic problem.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-2-127

Page-Reference: N/A

Skill: Analysis

Objective: N/A

Answer: Chronic and widespread poverty is Sponeto's biggest economic problem.

7. Marquand says: Information technology has had its biggest impact on business in communication and access to data. With the networking and streamlined communication modalities now available to businesses, businesses can collaborate with each other as well as within a business at different locations with the greatest of ease. Businesses also have access to a greater range of information and at a greater speed than ever before. And with this information being constantly updated, businesses now have the ability to plan in response to market conditions with much greater efficiency than before.

Stevenson responds: Information is important, but what's most important is how that information is used. And there is no more direct way that information technology has helped businesses than the ability to sell directly. Selling online has opened up entirely new markets that allow businesses to make greater profits, with greater efficiency, than ever before. Many businesses, such as Amazon, have been able to use online selling exclusively to dramatic effect: without having to spend money on bricks-and-mortar storefronts, they can make billions in profits selling products at low prices.

Which of the following is at issue between Marquand and Stevenson?

Whether online selling is an important factor in business today

Whether information technology has made a significant difference to businesses

Whether doing business is significantly helped by online communications

What the most important effect of information technology has been on business

What has changed in business since the advent of the latest information technology

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-2-128

Page-Reference: N/A

Skill: Analysis

Objective: N/A

Answer: What the most important effect of information technology has been on business

8. Marquand says: Information technology has had its biggest impact on business in communication and access to data. With the networking and streamlined communication modalities now available to businesses, businesses can collaborate with each other as well as within a business at different locations with the greatest of ease. Businesses also have access to a greater range of information and at a greater speed than ever before. And with

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Which of the following, if true, would best support Marquand's position?

Having information to help it plan gives a business the greatest competitive edge.

Information technology has given consumers more choices than ever before.

The majority of consumers make at least one online purchase per month.

Information technology has greatly increased the choices available to consumers.

Most businesses are motivated to take advantage of the latest information technology.

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-2-129

Page-Reference: N/A

Skill: Analysis

Objective: N/A

Answer: Having information to help it plan gives a business the greatest competitive edge.

9. Marquand says: Information technology has had its biggest impact on business in communication and access to data. With the networking and streamlined communication modalities now available to businesses, businesses can collaborate with each other as well as within a business at different locations with the greatest of ease. Businesses also have access to a greater range of information and at a greater speed than ever before. And with this information being constantly updated, businesses now have the ability to plan in response to market conditions with much greater efficiency than before.

Stevenson responds: Information is important, but what's most important is how that information is used. And there is no more direct way that information technology has helped businesses than the ability to sell directly. Selling online has opened up entirely new markets that allow businesses to make greater profits, with greater efficiency, than ever before. Many businesses, such as Amazon, have been able to use online selling exclusively to dramatic effect: without having to spend money on bricks-and-mortar storefronts, they can make billions in profits selling products at low prices.

Which of the following, if true, would best support Stevenson's position?

In general, the more that information technology is used by businesses, the better they perform.

Businesses that exclusively sell online have been the fastest-growing.

The most successful businesses are those that make use of information technology.

Many more businesses sell their products over the internet now than in the past.

Easily packaged imperishable consumer goods are those that are best suited to being sold over the internet.

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-2-130

Page-Reference: N/A

Skill: Analysis

Objective: N/A

Answer: Businesses that exclusively sell online have been the fastest-growing.

10. Marquand says: Information technology has had its biggest impact on business in communication and access to data. With the networking and streamlined communication modalities now available to businesses, businesses can collaborate with each other as well as within a business at different locations with the greatest of ease. Businesses also have access to a greater range of information and at a greater speed than ever before. And with this information being constantly updated, businesses now have the ability to plan in response to market conditions with much greater efficiency than before.

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Which of the following is assumed by Marquand?

All businesses now use information technology for communications and information.

Relatively few businesses sell products online.

Less information was available to businesses before the information technology revolution than there is now.

Consumers preferentially choose to buy from businesses that use the latest information technology.

Selling online is relatively unimportant to most businesses.

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-2-131

Page-Reference: N/A

Skill: Analysis

Objective: N/A

Answer: Less information was available to businesses before the information technology revolution than there is now.

11. Marquand says: Information technology has had its biggest impact on business in communication and access to data. With the networking and streamlined communication modalities now available to businesses, businesses can collaborate with each other as well as within a business at different locations with the greatest of ease. Businesses also have access to a greater range of information and at a greater speed than ever before. And with this information being constantly updated, businesses now have the ability to plan in response to market conditions with much greater efficiency than before.

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Which of the following is assumed by Stevenson?

Most people do not like shopping at traditional retail stores.

Many businesses are reluctant to adopt the latest information technology.

Most consumers use the internet primarily to buy goods.

The greatest benefit of information technology has been to businesses.

Many products are more efficiently sold online than in traditional stores.

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-2-132
Page-Reference: N/A
Skill: Analysis
Objective: N/A

Answer: Many products are more efficiently sold online than in traditional stores.

Chapter 02 True/False Questions

1. **The external environment has only a limited impact on the success or failure of most organizations, but it does have a significant impact on some firms.**

- aTrue
- bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-133
Page-Reference: 25
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.1

Answer: b. False

2. **In the past, organizational boundaries were fairly clear-cut and easy to identify, but they have now become much more complex.**

- aTrue
- bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-134
Page-Reference: 25
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.1

Answer: a. True

3. **Prevailing economic conditions will affect the performance of almost every business.**

- aTrue
- bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-135
Page-Reference: 26
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: a. True

4. **Low inflation will allow McDonald's to increase the prices it charges consumers.**

- aTrue
- bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-136
Page-Reference: 26
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: b. False

5. **Aggregate output refers to the pattern of short-term ups and downs in the economy.**
aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-137
Page-Reference: 27
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: b. False

6. **The standard of living in a country improves through increases in the money supply.**
aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-138
Page-Reference: 27
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: b. False

7. **The business cycle consists of four phases: peak, recession, trough, and recovery.**
aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-139
Page-Reference: 27
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: a. True

8. **Effective government management of the economy during the last couple of decades means that the business cycle has a smaller effect on business firms than it used to have.**
aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-140
Page-Reference: 27
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: b. False

9. **GNP is the total value of all the goods and services produced by an economic system during a five-year period.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-141
Page-Reference: 28
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: b. False

10. **Canada's GDP in 2012 was approximately \$6.4 trillion.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-142
Page-Reference: 28
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: b. False

11. **Profits from a Canadian-owned automobile factory in Brazil are included in the GNP of Brazil.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-143
Page-Reference: 28
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: b. False

12. **GDP includes the total value of goods and services produced within a given period by a national economy through domestic factors of production.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-144
Page-Reference: 28
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: a. True

13. **GNP is the total value of all goods and services produced by a national economy within a given period, regardless of where the factors of production are located.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-145
Page-Reference: 28
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: a. True

14. **The real growth rate of the Canadian economic system is the growth rate of GDP adjusted for inflation and changes in the value of a country's currency.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-146
Page-Reference: 28
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: a. True

15. **Nominal GDP is more important than real GDP.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-147
Page-Reference: 28
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: b. False

16. **Luxembourg has a higher per capita GDP than any other country in the world.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-148
Page-Reference: 28
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: a. True

17. **Purchasing power parity is a principle that states exchange rates are set so that the prices of similar products in different countries are about the same.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-149
Page-Reference: 29
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: a. True

18. **A negative balance of trade results when a country imports more than it exports.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-150
Page-Reference: 29
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: a. True

19. **Canada is usually a creditor nation, while the U.S. is a consistent debtor nation.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-151
Page-Reference: 29
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: a. True

20. **In 2011, Canada had a trade deficit of approximately \$5 billion.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-152
Page-Reference: 29
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: b. False

21. **Stability, as an economic goal, is a condition in which there is a balance between money available and goods produced.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-153
Page-Reference: 30
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: a. True

22. **Inflation is relevant only for specific industries.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-154
Page-Reference: 30
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: b. False

23. **Inflation increases the purchasing power of your money.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-155
Page-Reference: 30
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: b. False

24. **The consumer price index (CPI) is a measure of the prices of typical products purchased by consumers.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-156
Page-Reference: 30
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: a. True

25. The rise in housing and food prices means that Canadian consumers now spend a larger proportion of their income on necessities than they did 40 years ago.

- aTrue
- bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-157
Page-Reference: 30
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: b. False

26. Deflation is generally a positive thing for consumers because consumers' dollars go further.

- aTrue
- bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-158
Page-Reference: 30
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: b. False

27. The "basket of goods" included in the Consumer Price Index has remained the same for many years so the government can make accurate year-to-year comparisons about the rate of inflation.

- aTrue
- bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-159
Page-Reference: 30
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: b. False

28. Ted has not worked in 5 years and has given up looking for work. He is considered unemployed.

- aTrue
- bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-160
Page-Reference: 31
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: b. False

29. **Full employment is impossible.**
aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-161
Page-Reference: 31
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: a. True

30. **When unemployment is low, employers will tend to reduce the prices of their products.**
aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-162
Page-Reference: 31
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: b. False

31. **When unemployment is low, businesses raise the wages that they are willing to pay.**
aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-163
Page-Reference: 31
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: a. True

32. **Mary is temporarily out of work while she is looking for a new job. She is experiencing frictional unemployment.**
aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-164
Page-Reference: 31
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: a. True

33. **Mark is out of work because he lacks the skills needed to perform jobs that are available. He is experiencing cyclical unemployment.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-165
Page-Reference: 31
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: b. False

34. **Technology transfer refers to the process of moving new technological developments out of government research labs and into the private sector.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-166
Page-Reference: 33
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.3

Answer: b. False

35. **R & D spending in Canada in 2011 totaled about \$30 billion.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-167
Page-Reference: 32
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.3

Answer: a. True

36. **Political stability is an important factor for international firms because no business wants to set up shop in another country unless trade relationships with that country are well defined and stable.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-168
Page-Reference: 34
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.4

Answer: a. True

37. **The quality of relations between sovereign governments does not have much impact on businesses operating in those countries.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-169
Page-Reference: 34
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.4

Answer: b. False

38. **The socio-cultural environment includes things like attitudes and values, but not demographic factors because the latter cannot easily be changed.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-170
Page-Reference: 34
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.5

Answer: b. False

39. **Customer preferences must be taken into consideration across national boundaries, but not generally within the same country.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-171
Page-Reference: 34
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.5

Answer: b. False

40. **Product life cycles are longer than they were 20 years ago because products have become more complex.**

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-172
Page-Reference: 36
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.6

Answer: b. False

41. **Viral marketing uses word of mouth that spreads information like a virus from customer to customer.**
aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-173
Page-Reference: 38
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.6

Answer: a. True

42. **A hostile takeover occurs when one organization buys enough of the shares of another company to take control of the company even though that company may be opposed to the takeover.**
aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-174
Page-Reference: 39
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.7

Answer: a. True

43. **When Molson and Adolph Coors merged, this was an example of a horizontal merger.**
aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-175
Page-Reference: 39
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.7

Answer: a. True

44. **A poison pill is generally used in hostile takeovers to ensure that outsiders can't get any shares of stock.**
aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-3-176
Page-Reference: 39
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.7

Answer: b. False

45. In an acquisition, one firm simply buys another firm, whereas in a merger the consolidation is more collaborative.

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-177
Page-Reference: 38
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.7

Answer: a. True

46. Spinoffs generally occur because the company no longer wants to be in the business of the unit they are spinning off.

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-178
Page-Reference: 39
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.7

Answer: a. True

47. The majority of companies that have adopted ESOPs have experienced improvement in both sales and profits.

aTrue
bFalse

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-3-179
Page-Reference: 40
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.7

Answer: a. True

Chapter 02 Short Answer Questions

1. What is an *organizational boundary*?

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-4-180
Page-Reference: 25
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.1

Answer: An organizational boundary is that which separates the organization from its environment.

2. List the five dimensions of the external environment of business organizations.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-4-181
Page-Reference: 26
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.1

Answer: The five dimensions are economic, technological, political–legal, socio-cultural, and business environments.

3. What is the main measure of growth in an economy?

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-4-182
Page-Reference: 27
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: The main measure of growth is aggregate output.

4. List the four phases in the business cycle.

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-4-183
Page-Reference: 27
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.2

Answer: The four phases are peak, recession, trough, and recovery.

5. What is a *recession*?

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-4-184
Page-Reference: 27
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: A recession is a period during which aggregate output declines.

6. How is *GDP per capita* calculated?

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-4-185
Page-Reference: 28
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: GDP per capita is calculated by dividing the total GDP by the total population of a country.

7. What is reflected in the *real* GDP?

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-4-186
Page-Reference: 28
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: The real GDP is calculated to account for changes in currency values and price changes.

8. If a Danish company builds a production facility in Canada, will the value of the goods produced be included in Canada's GNP? Explain.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-4-187
Page-Reference: 28
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: The value of the goods won't be included in Canada's GNP, but will be included in its GDP because they are produced domestically, that is, in Canada.

9. What is productivity?

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-4-188
Page-Reference: 29
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: Productivity is a measure of economic growth that compares how much a system produces with the resources that are needed to produce it.

10. Explain purchasing power parity.

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-4-189
Page-Reference: 29
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: Purchasing power parity is the principle that exchange rates are set so that the prices of similar products in different countries are about the same.

11. Under what circumstances can inflation be a positive factor?

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-4-190

Page-Reference: 30

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: As a sign of economic growth, more products sold, more workers are hired, more investment in new products

12. What is the national debt?

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-4-191

Page-Reference: 29

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: The national debt is the amount of money a country owes its creditors. It is the result of accumulated annual budget deficits.

13. A key goal of an economic system is stability. What is meant by *stability* in an economic system?

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-4-192

Page-Reference: 30

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Stability is a condition in which the amount of money available in an economic system and the quantity of goods and services produced in it are growing at about the same rate. Stability can be undermined by inflation and unemployment.

14. List the three primary factors that threaten economic stability.

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-4-193

Page-Reference: 30

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Inflation, deflation, and unemployment are the three primary factors that threaten economic stability.

15. What is measured by the consumer price index (CPI)?

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-4-194

Page-Reference: 30

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: The consumer price index measures the changes in the cost of a "basket" of goods and services that a typical family might buy.

16. Define the term *unemployment*.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-4-195

Page-Reference: 31

Skill: Knowledge

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Unemployment is the joblessness of people actively seeking work in an economic system.

17. What is *cyclical unemployment*?

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-4-196

Page-Reference: 31

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Cyclical unemployment is unemployment that results from a downturn in the business cycle.

18. How does cyclical unemployment differ from frictional unemployment?

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-4-197

Page-Reference: 31

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Cyclical unemployment results from a downturn in the business cycle, while frictional unemployment refers to people who are out of work temporarily while they are looking for a new job, irrespective of which phase the business cycle is in.

19. What is the difference between pure and applied R & D?

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-4-198

Page-Reference: 32

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.3

Answer: "Pure" R & D involves developing knowledge in an area without regard to whether any discoveries that occur will be immediately marketable. "Applied" R & D means focusing specifically on how a technological innovation can be sold in the marketplace.

20. Why is the political–legal environment important to business?

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-4-199
Page-Reference: 33-34
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.4

Answer: The political–legal environment is important because it influences how businesses are allowed to behave. For example, government regulation of business limits (or completely prohibits) certain business behaviour. Although Canada is a free market economy, there is still significant regulation of business activity. At times, government policy can be tremendously advantageous to businesses and at other times government policy can be very limiting.

21. Why are customer preferences and tastes important to business?

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-4-200
Page-Reference: 34
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.5

Answer: Tastes and preferences determine what products and services will sell in various geographic regions and among various ethnic groups in Canada.

22. List the five forces in Porter's model.

Difficulty: 1
QuestionID: 02-4-201
Page-Reference: 36
Skill: Knowledge
Objective: 2.6

Answer: Rivalry among existing competitors, threat of potential entrants, suppliers, buyers, and substitutes

23. What is meant by the term *core competencies*?

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-4-202
Page-Reference: 37
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.6

Answer: Core competencies are the skills and resources with which an organization competes best and creates the most values for owners.

24. What is *outsourcing*?

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-4-203
Page-Reference: 38
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.6

Answer: Outsourcing is a strategy of paying suppliers and distributors to perform certain business processes or to provide needed materials or resources.

25. What is *business process management*?

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-4-204

Page-Reference: 38

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.6

Answer: A process is any activity that adds value to some input, transforming it into an output for a customer. Business process management means moving away from traditional organization by department and toward organizing around process-oriented team structures.

26. What is *viral marketing*?

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-4-205

Page-Reference: 38

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.6

Answer: The rapid spread of information among consumers about products. It is facilitated by electronic means such as the internet.

27. How is a *vertical merger* different than a *horizontal merger*?

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-4-206

Page-Reference: 39

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.7

Answer: A vertical merger occurs when one of the companies involved in the merger is a supplier or customer of the other. A horizontal merger occurs when two companies that are competitors in the same industry merge (for example, when Molson Inc. merged with Adolph Coors Co.).

28. What is a *poison pill*?

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-4-207

Page-Reference: 39

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.7

Answer: A poison pill is a defence that company management uses to make the company less attractive to another company that is trying to take it over. It usually takes the form of allowing current stockholders to buy the company's stock at a big discount if a hostile suitor buys more than a certain proportion of the outstanding stock.

Chapter 02 Essay Questions

1. How does the external environment affect business?

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-5-208

Page-Reference: 25

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.1

Answer: All businesses operate within the context of a larger external environment. The external environment consists of everything outside a business's boundaries that might affect it. The domestic business environment refers to the environment in which a firm operates, conducting operations and generating revenues. The global business environment includes the international forces affecting a business. The technological environment refers to human knowledge, work methods, physical equipment, electronics and telecommunications, and various processing systems used to conduct a business. The relationship between business and government describes the political–legal environment. The sociocultural environment includes the customs, mores, values, and demographic characteristics of the society in which a business conducts operations. Finally, the economic environment refers to the economic conditions which exist in the economic system in which a company operates.

2. List and briefly describe each of the organizational environments that affect businesses.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-5-209

Page-Reference: 26-27

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.1

Answer: The environments are (1) *economic* (the condition of the economic system in which the company operates) , (2) *technological* (changes in the way that businesses create value for their customers) , (3) *political-legal* (the relationship between businesses and government) , (4) *socio-cultural* (the customs, values, attitudes, and demographics of the society in which a company operates) , and (5) *business* (the complex, demanding, and ever-changing set of circumstances in which businesses try to differentiate themselves from their competitors).

3. How might an economic environment characterized by moderate unemployment and low inflation affect a McDonald's restaurant?

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-5-210

Page-Reference: 26

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Moderate unemployment will result in most people being able to afford to eat out, but it also means that McDonald's must pay higher wages to attract employees. Low inflation will result in McDonald's paying relatively constant prices for its supplies, but it also means that McDonald's will be constrained from increasing the prices it charges.

4. How does GNP differ from GDP? Give an example of a product that would be included in Canada's GNP, but not its GDP.

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-5-211
Page-Reference: 28
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: A nation's gross national product (GNP) measures the total value of all goods and services produced by its economy within a given period of time, regardless of where the factors of production are located. A nation's gross domestic product (GDP) measures the total value of all goods and services produced within a given period by a national economy through domestic factors of production. The profits earned by a Canadian-owned automobile plant operating in Brazil would be included in Canadian GNP, but not GDP.

5. Which organization has proposed what they believe is a more realistic measure than GNP or GDP to assess economic activity? What have they called this measure? How does it provide a more realistic measure?

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-5-212
Page-Reference: 28
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: An organization called Redefining Progress has proposed a more realistic measure to assess economic activity. They have called this measure the Genuine Progress Indicator (GPI) which treats activities that harm the environment or our quality of life as costs and gives them negative values.

6. How does the national debt affect economic growth?

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-5-213
Page-Reference: 29
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: A country's national debt is the amount of money that the government owes its creditors. The government raises money through taxes and the sale of bonds. By selling bonds, the government competes with other potential borrowers for the available supply of loanable money. The more the government borrows, the less money is available for the private borrowing and investment that increases productivity.

7. Explain the relationship between productivity and the standard of living.

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-5-214
Page-Reference: 29
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.2

Answer: Standard of living refers to the total quantity and quality of goods and services that people can purchase with the currency used by their economic system. Productivity is a measure of economic growth that compares how much a system produces with the resources needed to produce it. Standard of living improves only through increases in productivity.

8. What are the pros and cons of prolonged economic stability?

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-5-215

Page-Reference: 30

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Pros: Balance, wages constant, low inflation, predictability, stable interest rates

Cons: Possible stagnation, less innovation, decreasing efficiency, job loss, slowed economy, high unemployment

9. What is inflation and how does it threaten economic stability?

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-5-216

Page-Reference: 30

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Inflation occurs when there are widespread price increases throughout an economic system. During periods of inflation, the amount of money injected into an economy outstrips the increase in actual output. When this happens, people will have more money to spend, but there will still be the same quantity of products available for them to buy. As they compete with one another to buy available products, prices go up. Higher prices erase the increase in the amount of money injected into the economy and purchasing power declines.

10. How might the productivity of a company that is located in an island nation (e.g., Madagascar) be negatively affected?

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-5-217

Page-Reference: 29

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Productivity is the measure of economic growth that compares how much a system produces with the resources needed to produce it. Because Madagascar's location may result in a less-than-optimum efficiency of imports and exports, manufacturers located there may be more dependent on local materials, which may not facilitate the highest levels of productivity.

11. How does inflation affect purchasing power?

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-5-218

Page-Reference: 30

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Inflation is the occurrence of widespread price increases throughout an economic system. Purchasing power declines as a result of the increased prices associated with inflation.

12. What is unemployment? How does low unemployment threaten economic stability?

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-5-219

Page-Reference: 31

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: Unemployment is the joblessness of people actively seeking work in an economic system. While low unemployment might seem to be positive, it can threaten economic stability. When unemployment is low, there is a shortage of labour available for businesses to hire. As businesses compete with one another for the available supply of labour, businesses raise the wages that they are willing to pay. Because higher wages cut into profit margins, companies raise the prices of their products. While the increase in pay results in consumers having more money to spend, high prices offset any gain and purchasing power declines.

13. How is the effectiveness of the government's attempts to manage Canada's economy measured? Briefly explain each tool.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-5-220

Page-Reference: 31

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: - GDP: value of all goods and services produced *in* a country
- GNP: value of all goods and services produced *by* a country
- Productivity: a measure of efficiency
- Standard of living: a measure of a society's economic well-being
- Balance of trade: exports minus imports.

14. List and describe the three factors that threaten stability.

Difficulty: 1

QuestionID: 02-5-221

Page-Reference: 30

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: The three factors are inflation (the occurrence of widespread price increases throughout an economic system), deflation (a period of generally falling prices), and unemployment (the level of joblessness among people actively seeking work in an economic system).

15. List and discuss the 4 different types of unemployment, using examples to demonstrate the different types.

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-5-222

Page-Reference: 31

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.2

Answer: (1) frictional unemployment (people are unemployed while they search for a new job), (2) seasonal unemployment (people are unemployed because of the seasonal nature of their work), (3) cyclical unemployment (people

are unemployed because of a downturn in the business cycle), and (4) structural unemployment (people are unemployed because they do not have the specific skills the market requires). For example, farm workers may be out of work during the winter because there are no crops to harvest (seasonal unemployment). Computer workers may be unemployed because they do not have certain software or hardware skills that the market demands (structural unemployment). Some people are unemployed because they have quit their current job because they were dissatisfied with it, but they haven't yet found another job (frictional unemployment). Some people are unemployed because they have been laid off from their job because of a downturn in the business cycle (cyclical unemployment).

16. Why should companies always be on the lookout for technological breakthroughs?

Difficulty: 2

QuestionID: 02-5-223

Page-Reference: 32

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.3

Answer: There are two good reasons. First, technological breakthroughs might allow a company to develop new products to supplement its current product offerings. The new product may well contribute to increased profits. Second, a technological breakthrough may make one or more of a company's current product line obsolete and threaten its very survival.

17. Why is it important for businesses to be aware of trends in the political–legal environment?

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-5-224

Page-Reference: 34

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.4

Answer: There are several reasons why it is important for businesses to be aware of trends in the political–legal environment. First, the legal system defines in part what an organization can and can't do. Various government agencies regulate important areas such as advertising practices, safety and health considerations, and acceptable standards of business conduct. Periods of pro-business sentiment may result in less regulation, while periods of anti-business sentiment may result in greater restriction in competitive activities. Finally, political stability is also an important consideration, especially for international firms.

18. Why is the socio-cultural environment important for business firms?

Difficulty: 3

QuestionID: 02-5-225

Page-Reference: 34

Skill: Comprehension

Objective: 2.5

Answer: It is important because the values, attitudes, tastes, customs, and demographic characteristics of a society strongly influence what products or services a company can profitably sell to consumers. For example, failure to accurately assess consumer tastes will lead to poor sales and reduced profitability. Unethical behaviour by a company's managers will lead to a poor public image for the company and may very well result in decreased sales and profits.

19. There is a trend toward mixing business and entertainment. This is an example of which element of the external environment?

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-5-226
Page-Reference: 34
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.5

Answer: The trend toward mixing business and entertainment is an example of the influence of the sociocultural environment. The sociocultural environment covers the values important to consumers. In this example, consumers are responding positively to business transactions that are being made more entertaining.

20. How is Porter's Five Forces Model useful?

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-5-227
Page-Reference: 36-37
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.6

Answer: Porter's model helps managers analyze the competitive situation in their industry and then decide what their competitive strategy should be. Using the model requires assessment of five elements: rivalry among existing competitors (intensity and type varies across industries), the threat of potential new entrants (new competitors can cause big changes in an industry), the amount of bargaining power that suppliers have (the greater the number of suppliers, the less their individual bargaining power), the amount of bargaining power that buyers have (the fewer the number of buyers, the more their bargaining power), and product substitutes (if there are many substitute products, the industry is more competitive).

21. What is *outsourcing*? Give an example of outsourcing.

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-5-228
Page-Reference: 38
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.6

Answer: Outsourcing is the strategy of paying suppliers and distributors to perform certain business processes or to provide needed materials and services. A large bank might outsource an ancillary service such as food service. Other firms outsource payroll, training, and research and development functions.

22. Describe three advantages of *outsourcing*.

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-5-229
Page-Reference: 38
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.6

Answer: Outsourcing provides a number of advantages to organizations. Outsourcing often saves time and money, increases effectiveness in a firm's core business, and results in more value for customers and owners.

23. What is *viral marketing*? Why do firms use it?

Difficulty: 2
QuestionID: 02-5-230
Page-Reference: 38
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.6

Answer: Viral marketing is the strategy of using the internet and word-of-mouth marketing to spread product information. Viral marketing can gain consumer awareness faster, with a wider reach than traditional media messages, and at a lower cost.

24. Why is business process management important?

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-5-231
Page-Reference: 38
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.6

Answer: It is important because it requires a business to ask a very fundamental question: What must we do well to stay in business? To answer that question, a business must identify the major processes that must be performed well, and then organize resources and skills around those essential processes. This leads to faster decision making and a stronger customer orientation.

25. What is a *vertical* merger? Provide an example.

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-5-232
Page-Reference: 39
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.7

Answer: A vertical merger occurs when there is a consolidation of two firms and one of the firms is a supplier or customer of the other. An example would include a car manufacturer merging with one of its parts suppliers.

26. How does a *poison pill* work?

Difficulty: 3
QuestionID: 02-5-233
Page-Reference: 39
Skill: Comprehension
Objective: 2.7

Answer: A poison pill is a defence used to make a firm less attractive to an actual or potential hostile suitor in a takeover attempt. The objective is to make the "pill" so distasteful that the potential acquirer will not want to swallow it. For example, BCE allowed its shareholders to purchase BCE stock at a 50% discount if another organization announced its intention to purchase 20% or more of BCE.