

(Following Paper ID and Roll No. to be filled in your Answer Book)

Paper ID :270101

Roll No.

MBA

(SEM. I) THEORY EXAMINATION, 2015-16

MANAGING ORGANISATION

[Time: 3 hours]

[Maximum Marks:100]

Note : The Question Paper contains three Sections.

Section-A

1. Attempt all questions of the following: (2x10=20)
- Critically examine the statement "Management principles are universal in nature."
 - "One can delegate authority but no responsibility." Discuss.
 - Discuss Victor Vroom's Expectancy Theory in brief.
 - Differentiate between transactional & transformational leadership.

(1)

P.T.O.

- (e) What is OB MOD?
- (f) "Planning is moving ahead and controlling is moving back." Do you agree? Why and why not?
- (g) "Groups are better than individuals in problem solving." In the light of statement discuss the difference between individual & group decision making.
- (h) List some of the common perceptual distortions.
- (i) Briefly explain the concept of Managerial Grid.
- (j) How far do you agree with the statement that culture of an organization determines employee's commitment & loyalty for work? Justify your answer.

Section-B

Attempt any five of the following: (10x5=50)

2. Why is it important to understand the different perspectives and approaches to management thought that have evolved throughout the history of organizations.

3. "The business environment is very dynamic and changes take place very often requiring quick transformations at workplace." In light of the given statement Critically appraise the challenges faced by organizations to keep pace with the changing environment.
4. Define conflict and enumerate the sources of its arousal in an Organization. Also discuss what do you mean by conflict management strategies in detail?
5. "Attitude is inherent in an individual and is affected by a number of factors." How far do you agree with the statement? Also discuss the important components of attitudes.
6. Compare & contrast Maslow's Need Hierarchy Theory & Herzberg's Two Factor theory.
7. Person's response is always based upon their perception Examine the statement in the light of various principles of perception.
8. "A happy employee is a productive employee." Examine the statement in light of various forms of organizational attitudes a person carries throughout his professional journey.

9. What do you understand by Organisational Culture? What are the various elements of organizational culture? Do you think that organisational culture affects the productivity and efficiency in an organization?

Section-C

10. Read the following case and answer the following questions given at the end of the case: (3x10=30)

Humanized Robots

Helen Bowers was stumped. Sitting in her office at the plant, she pondered the same questions she had been facing for months: how to get her company's employees to work harder and produce more. No matter what she did, it didn't seem to help much.

Helen had inherited the business three years ago when her father, Jake Bowers, passed away unexpectedly. Bowers Machine Parts was founded four decades ago by Jake and had grown into a moderate-size corporation. Bowers makes replacement parts for large-scale manufacturing machines such as lathes and mills. The firm is headquartered in Kansas City and has three plants scattered throughout Missouri.

Although Helen grew up in the family business, she never understood her father's approach. Jake had treated his employees like part of his family. In Helen's view, however, he paid them more than he had to, asked their advice far more often than he should have, and spent too much time listening to their ideas and complaints. When Helen took over, she vowed to change how things were done. In particular, she resolved to stop handling employees with kid gloves and to treat them like what they were: she hired help. In addition to changing the way employees were treated, Helen had another goal for Bowers. She wanted to meet the challenge of international competition. Japanese firms had moved 'aggressively into the market for heavy industrial equipment. She saw this as both a threat and an opportunity. On the one hand, if she could get a toehold as a parts supplier to these firms, Bowers could grow rapidly. On the other, the lucrative parts market was also sure to attract more Japanese competitors. Helen had to make sure that Bowers could compete effectively with highly productive and profitable Japanese firms.

From the day Helen took over, she practiced an altogether different philosophy to achieve her goals. For one thing, she increased production quotas by 20 percent. She instructed her first-line supervisors to crack down on employees and

eliminate all idle time. She also decided to shut down the company softball field her father had built. She thought the employees really didn't use it much, and she wanted the space for future expansion.

Helen also announced that future contributions to the firm's profit-sharing plan would be phased out. Employees were paid enough, she believed, and all profits were the rightful property of the owner-her. She also had private plans to cut future pay increases to bring average wages down to where she thought they belonged. Finally, Helen changed a number of operational procedures. In particular, she stopped asking other people for their advice. She reasoned that she was the boss and knew what was best. If she asked for advice and then didn't take it, it would only stir up resentment.

All in all, Helen thought, things should be going much better. Output should be up and costs should be way down. Her strategy should be resulting in much higher levels of productivity and profits.

But that was not happening. Whenever Helen walked through one of the plants, she sensed that people weren't doing their best. Performance reports indicated that output was only marginally higher than before but scrap rates had soared.

Payroll costs were indeed lower, but other personnel costs were up. It seemed that turnover had increased substantially and training costs had gone up as a result.

In desperation, Helen finally had hired a consultant. After carefully researching the history of the organization and Helen's recent changes, the consultant made some remarkable suggestions. The bottom line, Helen felt, was that the consultant thought she should go back to that "humanistic nonsense" her father had used. No matter how she turned it, though, she just couldn't see the wisdom in this. People worked to make a buck and didn't want all that participation stuff.

Suddenly, Helen knew just what to do: She would announce that all employees who failed to increase their productivity by 10 percent would suffer an equal pay cut. She sighed in relief, feeling confident that she had finally figured out the answer.

Questions:

- (a) How successful do you think Helen Bowers's new plan will be?

(c) If you were Helen's consultant, what would you advise her to do?

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