

PM Notebook

Summarizing Project Management Concepts for the PMP Exam

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PM NOTEBOOK

No great man ever complains of want of opportunity. Ralph Waldo Emerson

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APPENDIX G - INTERPERSONAL/TEAM/SOFT SKILLS

Coaching – When you coach people, you help them develop their skills and get better at what they do.

Communication - Open and honest.

Conflict Management

Emotional Intelligence (EI) – is the ability to identify and manage your own emotions and the emotions of others.

- Inbound Self-management and self-awareness.
- Outbound Relationship management.

Helps in -

- Emotionally control team.
- Reduction in staff turnover.

Facilitation – Structured ways to help people reach common understandings and solve problems. Numerous professionals refer to themselves as **facilitators** –

- Project Manager
- Trainers, Teachers, and Instructors
- Coaches

Examples of facilitation techniques -

- Affinity Analysis/Clustering Categorizing sticky notes.
- Brainstorming
- Flip Charting and Post-It Notes
- **The T –** Focusing technique that ends endless unstructured debates and produces a better quality decision.

Influencing – The way you work as a PM can set the standard for your teammates.

Lateral Thinking – the process of seeking additional options, exploring unlikely paths, and attempting to escape from established patterns, labels, and classifications.

Types of lateral thinking –

- Free Association
- Reversal
- Distortion
- Literalization

Leadership Skills – Developing a vision and strategy, and motivating people to achieve them.

Management Skills – Accounting, procurement, logistics, etc.

Meetings - Most important is the list of issues to be discussed.

Mentoring – an experienced person (**mentor**) assists another (**mentoree**) in developing specific skills and knowledge that will enhance the less-experienced person's professional and personal growth.

Motivation - Helping team to be satisfied with the job they are doing.

Negotiation - Helping team come to an agreement.

- Win-win outcomes occur when each side of a dispute feels they have won.
- Win-lose situations result when only one side perceives the outcome as positive.
- Lose-lose means that all parties end up being worse off.
- **Yield-lose/win** strategy wherein one party yields to the other party (or parties) to protect and preserve the relationships involved.

Factors of negotiation:

- Compromise ability
- Adaptability
- Good faith

Political and cultural awareness – Understanding similarities and differences in the working environments across your team.

Problem Solving Skills -

- 1. **Identify** the problem
- 2. **Define** the problem and break it into manageable problems
- 3. Investigate and gather data
- 4. Analyze data
- 5. Solve
- 6. Check if the problem has been solved

Team Building – Helping your team to bond.

- Puzzles and games
- Ice breakers
- WBS creation and other team-bonding activities

Trust Building

Reactive vs. Proactive

Reactive - Reacting to the past rather than anticipating the future.

Proactive - Acting before a situation becomes a source of confrontation or crisis.