



Chapter 2 Operations Strategy

Questions

- 1) A focused factory can be implemented by:
- a) building large enough factories to produce all products and services the company offers.
- b) hiring more specialists and supervisors to control the operations.
- c) reorganizing existing facilities to a plant-within-plant approach.
- d) remodeling stores to create the effect of many small boutiques under one roof.
- e) introducing TQM practices.

Answer: c)

2) Which one of the following statements on the concept of the focused factory is TRUE? a) Focused factories maximize the amount of customization.

b) Small sizes of many focused factories make it difficult to compete on the basis of shorter lead times.

c) Plants within plants are different operations within a facility that can have individualized competitive priorities and processes.

d) Focused factories are large factories producing all the products that the company offers.

e) Focused factories provide complex working methods.

Answer: c)

3) A resource-based view of operations can be described as:

- a) product or service attributes that represent the needs of a particular market segment.
- b) another name for competitive priorities.
- c) various flow strategies.
- d) An assessment of the unique resources and processes of operations.
- e) A marketing strategy

Answer: d)

- 4) Which of the following would not be considered in a resource-based strategy?
- a) Workforce
- b) Competitive priorities
- c) Facilities
- d) Market and financial know-how
- e) Design skills

Answer: b)

- 5) An restaurant, in serving an expensive seven-course dinner is giving particular emphasis to which performance objective?
- a) Price
- b) Reliability
- c) Delivery speed
- d) Quality
- e) None of the above

Answer: d)

6) Quickly filling a customer's order is evidence of:a) delivery speed.b) lead time.c) development speed.d) variety.e) low cost

Answer: a)

7) A low-cost performance objective may be achieved by:

a) high worker productivity.

b) high equipment utilization.

c) low inventory levels.

d) low rents

e) All of the above.

Answer: e)

- 8) Which of the following statements about organisational missions is false?
- a) They reflect a company's purpose.
- b) They indicate what a company intends to contribute to society.
- c) They are formulated after strategies are known.

d) They define a company's reason for existence.

e) They provide guidance for functional area missions.

Answer: c)

9) Which of the following is **not** a key way in which business organisations compete with one another?

a) cost b) quality

c) product duplication

d) flexibility

e) speed

Answer: c)

10) Which of the following statements best characterizes delivery reliability?

a) deliver on the same day of the week

b) deliver at the promised time

c) deliver more frequently than its competitors

d) deliver faster than its competitors

e) a company that has a computerised delivery scheduling system

Answer: b)

11) Standardisation can be an appropriate strategy in which stage of the product life cycle?

- a) Introduction
- b) growth
- c) maturity
- d) decline
- e) retirement

Answer: c)

12) Cost minimisation can be an appropriate strategy in which stage of the product life cycle?

a) introduction

b) growth

- c) maturity
- d) decline
- e) retirement

Answer: d)

13) Which of the following statements is **true** about operations strategy?

- a) It should support the corporate strategy.
- b) It should help achieve the operation's mission.
- c) It should be integrated with the other functional areas' strategies.
- d) It should promote competitive advantage.
- e) All of the above are true.

Answer: e)

14) One of the most important questions to ask when implementing a operations strategy is

a) What will this strategy cost?

- b) Will the strategy improve firm responsiveness?
- c) Which elements of this strategy affect the quality of the product?
- d) What activities must be done particularly well for this strategy to succeed?

e) Which elements of this strategy enhance flexibility?

Answer: d)

15) When developing the operations strategy one of the most important considerations is that it:

- a) requires minimal capital investment
- b) utilises as much automation as possible
- c) utilises an equal balance of labour and automation
- d) supports the overall competitive strategy of the company
- e) none of the above

Answer: d)

16) Based on experience, knowledge, and know-how: Hard-to-copy strategies, core competencies represent:

- a) Sustainable competitive advantages
- b) Unique selling propositions
- c) Non-compete clauses
- d) Performance objectives
- e) None of the above

Answer: a)

17) A firm who is adept at recognizing global windows of opportunity, acting on those very quickly, with tight linkages can be said to be competing on:

- a) Cost
- b) Flexibility
- c) Quality
- d) Speed
- e) dependability

Answer: d)

- 18) Which of the following is *not* considered one of the four broad categories of *competitive priorities*?
- a) technology
- b) cost
- c) quality
- d) flexibility
- e) time

Answer: a)

- 19) Which of the following *competitive priorities* typically requires the use of more generalpurpose equipment?
- a) technology
- b) cost
- c) quality
- d) flexibility
- e) time

Answer: d)

20) Highly-skilled hourly workers would be *most* needed by companies employing which of the following *competitive priorities*? a) location

- b) cost
- c) flexibility
- d) development speed
- e) time

Answer: c)

21) Decisions regarding which of the following are *not* part of the production process *infrastructure*?

a) organization of workers

b) facilities

c) worker pay

d) quality control measures

e) management policies

Answer: b)

- 22) Decisions regarding which of the following are *not* part of the production process *structure*?
- a) management policies
- b) facilities
- c) robots
- d) flow of goods and services through the facility
- e) flexible manufacturing system (FMS) machines

Answer: a)

True/False Questions

23) An *operations strategy* covers a relatively short time horizon, whereas a *business strategy* covers a relatively long time horizon.

a) True

b) False

Answer: b)

24) Companies that compete based on *cost* generally also allow a lot of product customization. a) True

b) False

Answer: b)

25) Firms that focus on *quality* as their primary competitive priority usually implement either *product design quality* or *process quality*, but not both.a) Trueb) False

Answer: b)

26) Companies that compete based on *flexibility* often cannot compete based on *cost*. a) True

b) False

Answer: a)

27) Facilities decisions are part of the production process infrastructure.

a) True

b) False

Answer: b)

28) Decisions regarding flow of goods and services through the facility are part of the production process *structure*.a) Trueb) False

Answer: a)

29) Worker pay decisions are part of the production process *structure*.a) Trueb) False

Answer: b)

30) Quality control approaches are part of the production process *infrastructure*.a) Trueb) False

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Answer: a)