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Supply Chain Management: From Vision to Implementation by Stanley Fawcett, Lisa Ellram, and Jeffrey Ogden

Test Item File - Chapter 2: Customer Fulfillment Strategies

Multiple Choice

1. All of the following are opportunity considerations for businesses to create customer value
except
A) quality
B) cost
C) flexibility
D) location
Easy
2. The real measure of quality is whether or not a product or service lives up toexpectations.
A) customer
B) design
C) company
D) supply chain
Easy
3. Motorola established its 6-sigma quality improvement program more than a decade ago. The numerical value of 6-sigma is A) 99.98% defect free
B) 3.4 PPM
C) 6 PPM
D) 1000 PPM
Difficult
4. One of Garvin's 8 factors that comprise quality as viewed by the customer is <i>performance</i> . Performance refers to the
A) primary operating characteristics of the product or service
B) delivery speed of the product or service
C) number of product or service features
D) customer viewed dependability of the product or service
Moderate
5. One of Garvin's 8 factors that comprise quality as viewed by the customer is <i>reliability</i> . Reliability is defined as
A) the difficulty of the product to be repaired
B) a product or service characteristic where it can be counted upon not to fail
C) how well a product or service matches established specifications
D) the delivery speed of the product or service
Moderate
6. One of Garvin's 8 factors that comprise quality as viewed by the customer is <i>serviceability</i> .
Serviceability refers to the
A) product or service characteristic where it can be counted upon not to fail
B) customer viewed dependability of the product or service
C) speed of repair when quality problems arise
D) the frequency of repair

Moderate

 7. There are four supply chain cost-reduction strategies employed by competent procurement functions as cited in the text. They include (1) productivity enhancement, (2), (3) locating facilities in countries with low-cost inputs, and (4) sourcing from the world's most efficient suppliers A) placing large quantity purchase orders B) sourcing from past suppliers C) adoption of advanced process technology D) sourcing from local suppliers Difficult
 8. Supply chain managers include quality, cost, flexibility, delivery and innovation as the most significant business contributors when creating A) revenue B) customer value C) strategic plans D) process maps Moderate
 9. All of the following are steps critical to creating a "flexibility" culture except A) make cycle time a priority throughout the organization B) benchmark against customer requirements and competitors' capabilities C) build learning loops into every process throughout the organization D) train workers for few but selective tasks and organize work in single function teams Difficult
 10 (ESI) is a key element of innovation strategies at industry leaders like Canon, Honda, and 3M. A) Enterprise source information B) Early supplier involvement C) Environmental strategy implementation D) Export sourcing interface Easy
 11. When managers emphasize efficient operations over appropriate customer satisfaction requirements, discrepancies in service quality can lead to A) service gaps B) customer feedback C) higher operating costs D) higher fill rate targets Easy
 12. When developing customer satisfaction strategies, customer feedback helps managers with all of the following except: A) align measures to customer expectations B) benchmark the performance of the competition C) allocate resources and reevaluate priorities D) adopt new customer satisfaction policies or practices Moderate
13. A is something that your company does so well that it provides the business a competitive advantage.A) Pareto principle

	B) customer segmentation C) fulfillment strategy D) core competency Moderate
14.	An effective customer service feedback system addresses all of the following questions except: A) Does our current performance meet our customers' requirements? B) Would an improvement in our performance really be valued by our customers? C) Are customers' performance measurements adequate? D) How do important customers define quality, on-time delivery, responsiveness, and other key value areas? Moderate
	Identifying specific customer needs and then matching the company's
cate	The text suggests that customers can be segmented by percent of sales into an A, B and C egories. Applying the Pareto principle, approximately 80% of sales is provided by 20% of the tomers. This segment is defined as the A segment. What statement below best characterizes the ationship? A) Members of this group often become tomorrow's "customers of choice". B) The business operation provides high levels of standardized service excellence. C) Dedicated customer account teams are used to establish a consistent point of contact and a personal touch. D) Frequent communication occurs between the two firms at many levels, including marketing, engineering, logistics, and senior management. Moderate
	All of the following are the primary reasons why a business's customer service may not fulfill tomer needs except A) the level of service provided is based on the customer's level of value to the business B) improvements are directed at efforts that add no customer value C) claims of improved service do not match the business's actual performance D) the business treats each customer contact as an opportunity to make an unprofitable customer profitable or make a profitable customer more profitable Moderate
18.	Which of the following are the top four causes of customer fulfillment dissatisfaction? A) employee training, budget constraints, policies and customer expectations B) employee training, measurement, empowerment and policies C) employee training, measurement, policies and customer expectations D) employee training, budget constraints, customer expectations and policies Moderate
	The term was coined to signify that 15 to 40 percent of a firm's capacity is used to find fix poor-quality work. A) Kaizen B) hidden plant

- C) core competency
- D) Pareto principle

Moderate

- 20. Considering a competency-success factor alignment matrix, when customer success factors are high and competencies are high, this condition will most likely result in _____.
 - A) diminished focus and dissipated capabilities
 - B) resources expended here are wasted
 - C) effective alignment results in Profitable Customer Takeaway
 - D) effort and resources dedicated to non-valued activities result in low customer takeaway Difficult

True/False

- 1. One of the major characteristics of today's customers is that they are empowered with a broad range of product and pricing information. True Moderate
- 2. Customer empowerment means that businesses up and down the supply chain must decrease their ability to deliver value. False Easy
- 3. A major goal of the supply chain manager is to assure that operations creates processes that meet customer needs. False Easy
- 4. The following are the 5 basic areas of customer value: quality, flexibility, innovation, delivery and cost. True Moderate
- 5. Quality is most often defined by the customer as meeting customer specifications. False Moderate
- 6. Best-in-class companies manage quality and achieve a very low defective parts per million. True Moderate
- 7. Six-sigma, the quality level that many companies strive to achieve is quality that is equal to or less than 34 defects per million parts produced. False Easy
- 8. "Performance" refers to the product's mean time between failures and its overall life expectancy. False Difficult
- 9. "Serviceability" refers to the speed of repair when quality problems arise. True Moderate
- 10. Since customers in these economic times demand high quality products and services, this is achieved through extensive inspections. False Moderate
- Globalization has increased factor mobility and market access, requiring local companies to match the cost position of global rivals who often possess low-cost labor advantages. True Difficult
- 12. A typical cost reduction technique employed by a manufacturer is to improve the productivity of their manufacturing processes. True Moderate
- 13. Flexibility is a supply chain strategy that is often avoided since it requires increases in capital and people. False Moderate
- 14. Fast, reliable delivery requires the reduction of order cycle time and the elimination of variability. True Easy
- 15. One of the key benefits of "Innovation" is the ability to capture market share. True Easy
- 16. Leading companies have found that shared information, the elimination of restrictive work rules, and proactive measurement enable cost, quality, flexibility, delivery, and innovation to work together to move businesses forward to a stronger competitive position. True Moderate
- 17. The American Customer Satisfaction Index shows that companies have made great progress in recent years in living up to customer expectations. False Moderate
- 18. "Traditional" customer service efforts focus primarily on external service levels and goals. False Difficult

- 19. Customer satisfaction initiatives that focus too much on what has worked in the past leave the supply chain vulnerable to the dynamics and competition of a global marketplace. True Moderate
- 20. Regarding a customer-centric fulfillment strategy, not all customers are equal and they do not all deserve the same high level of service. True Difficult
- 21. In order to identify a core competency, two questions should be asked: "What are we known for that makes us uniquely good?" and "What do we do as good as anyone else?" False Difficult
- 22. The Pareto principle when applied to sales suggests that about 20 percent of sales area generated by about 80 percent of all customers. False Moderate
- 23. One of the major reasons why customer service in America does not product a high level of customer satisfaction is that many companies claim to be service oriented, but fail to deliver on their promises. True Moderate
- 24. Regarding customer relationships, managers need to treat each customer contact as an opportunity to make an unprofitable customer profitable or make a profitable customer more profitable. True Difficult
- 25. In well-managed customer-of-choice relationships, information systems of the supplier and customer are linked to enable real-time information exchange on inventory levels, order status, and future demand. True Moderate

Essay

- Identify each of the five areas of customer value and explain how each is important in developing a distinctive advantage with regard to the competition. Quality, cost, flexibility, delivery, and innovation. Moderate
- 2. The text suggests that early supplier involvement (ESI) is a key element of innovation strategies of industry leaders. Please explain. Bringing your supplier into the customer's new product development process to tap their expertise in product and process design often results in lower material cost and improved quality.

 Difficult
- Explain how customer information feedback helps supply chain managers reduce/eliminate
 service gaps in supporting customers. A service gap may occur due to a lack of information
 regarding customer expectations. Improved communications will reduce or eliminate a limited
 understanding of customer requirements.
 Moderate
- 4. The text makes the statement "As managers gain knowledge of downstream requirements, they become consultants to their customers." Please explain this statement.

 The "knowledge" or information regarding downstream requirements of the customer helps suppliers design appropriate customer fulfillment strategies.

 Difficult
- 5. Identifying specific customer needs and then matching the company's promises and capabilities to those needs is the key to implementing a successful customer fulfillment strategy. Explain in detail a minimum of 3 of those typical customer needs. Quality, delivery, flexibility, innovation and cost.

 Moderate
- 6. Customers continue to complain about poor service. Sources of dissatisfaction include a lack of managerial commitment, poor training of service personnel, poor measurement, and inflexible policies. As a manager, what are some of the strategies you would consider/study to improve customer satisfaction? Answers will vary.
 Moderate

- 1. Opportunities to deliver customer value occur in five areas: cost, flexibility, delivery, innovation and quality. Easy
- 2. A negative gap between customer expectations and customer experience leads to customer dissatisfaction. Easy
- 3. Customer success is driven by knowledge and capability. It relies on the strength of upstream suppliers while working to enhance the competitiveness of downstream customers. Moderate
- 4. Sourcing, operations, and logistics play key roles in building a delivery capability. Easy
- 5. When a customer makes a purchase, he/she is buying a set of "satisfactions." Easy
- 6. The key to satisfying customers is to understand their needs so that unique products and services can be developed to meet those needs. Easy
- 7. When managers emphasize efficient operations over appropriate customer understanding of performance, quality or other key desirable attributes, service gaps will occur. Easy
- 8. Customer success strategies consist of (1) a clearly communicated goal to help customers succeed, (2) a clear understanding of downstream requirements, (3) investments in customer-valued capabilities, (4) training provided to customers, and (5) resources shared with customers. Easy
- 9. Identifying specific customer needs and then matching the company's promises and capabilities to those needs is the key to implementing a successful customer fulfillment strategy. Easy
- 10. Customer segmentation, the identification of unique groups of customers who possess similar needs, helps managers develop the products and establish the systems needed to fulfill the needs of different customer groups. Easy
- 11. Customer success factors are the capabilities that first-tier customers need to satisfy their downstream customers. Easy
- 12. A core competency is something that your company does so well that it provides the company a competitive advantage. Easy
- 13. Pareto principle suggests that about 80 percent of sales are generated by about 20 percent of all customers. Moderate
- 14. A method of determining actual costs of a product or process cited in the text as activity-based costing ties specific costs directly to the customers that create them. Moderate
- 15. Customer relationship management (CRM) software has increased the sophistication of customer segmentation by incorporating data-capturing, storage, and analysis capabilities to help companies create customer profiles. Easy
- 16. Meeting customers' needs better than the competition creates loyalty and yields valuable long-term relationships. Easy
- 17. Experience has shown that simplifying the operating environment and creating a fluid organizational culture promotes synergies regarding customer value trade-offs. Easy
- 18. The following are several key steps that are critical to creating a supply chain flexibility culture.
 - Make cycle time a priority throughout the organization.
 - Map processes to make them visible.
 - Benchmark against customer requirements and competitors' capabilities

Moderate

- 19. The following are several key steps that are critical to creating a supply chain flexibility culture.
 - Cross-trained workers and organize work in multifunctional teams.
 - Design performance measures to value fast-cycle capabilities.
 - Develop information systems to track activities and share information.

Easy

The following are the eight attributes developed by Garvin that define product quality:

20. Performance—refers to the primary operating characteristics of the product. Moderate

- 21. Features—are the "bells and whistles" or extras that distinguish a product from competitors' offerings. Moderate
- 22. Reliability—represents the notion that a product can be counted on not to fail. Moderate
- 23. Conformance—measures how well a product matches established specifications. Moderate
- 24. Durability—refers to the product's overall life expectancy. Moderate
- 25. Serviceability—refers to the speed of repair when quality problems arise. Moderate
- 26. Aesthetics—deals with perceptions of fit and finish or artistic value. Moderate
- 27. Perceived quality—deals with overall perceptions of a product or brand's quality reputation. Moderate
- 28. SC manager's goal is to design and manage processes to meet customer needs. To do so, they need to understand how customers view *value* and define *satisfaction*. Moderate
- 29. A performance metric used to measure the percent of products ordered that are actually delivered from distribution centers is called the fill rate. Difficult