

APM Project Professional Qualification Sample – Oral exam questions – Assessment one

General notes

The oral exam is based on the Whiteline Domestic Project case study 2.3.

Candidates can refer to the case study during the oral exam.

This assessment is worth a total of 40 marks.

Four learning outcomes are assessed with 10 marks available per learning outcome.

There are 12 questions that assess learning outcomes across the three units.

Candidate number	
Exam date	
Exam location	

Command verbs used

Verb	Definition
<i>Critically evaluate</i>	To form a judgement backed by a range of reliable and valid sources of information and supporting analysis. A critical evaluation must use this backing to reach an informed suggestion, recommendation or finding.
<i>Critically analyse</i>	To examine in methodical detail a range of reliable and valid source of information to interpret or analyse a given subject. A critical analysis does not require any form of judgement (e.g. a recommendation or proposal).
<i>Demonstrate</i>	Exhibit by practical means. (Please note that all demonstrate assessment criteria will be assessed via means of the scenario assessment).

Oral exam brief

The oral exam will follow the basic format below:

- This oral exam is based on the project case study the candidate has already seen.
- Candidates can refer to the project case study during the time allocated.
- There will be two assessors, and both will ask questions based on the project case study.
- The questions are designed to assess candidate's knowledge in the role of Project Manager.
- The oral exam will last 50 minutes.
- This assessment is worth a total of 40 marks.

Oral exam questions

The oral exam questions will follow the basic format below:

- Each learning outcome is assessed with three questions that assess across the assessment criteria for that learning outcome.
- Marks are awarded for each learning outcome based on the answers to the three questions asked.
- Each learning outcome is allocated 12 minutes to answer.

Conducting the oral exam

- Assessors should advise candidates when there are five minutes remaining (i.e. after 45 minutes).
- If the candidate appears to have finished early, remind them how long is left and enquire if there is anything else they'd like to ask or add for any question, or whether they've finished.
- If they've finished, please remain silent and allow the candidate that time for reflection.
- Whilst there is time remaining in the assessment, the candidate can always add to what they have already said during the assessment.
- The assessment criteria being assessed are shown in the table below.

Assessment

The questions for each learning outcome are listed on the next pages. Assessors should refer to the marking guidance for each assessment criteria and arrive at a joint decision on the marks scored.

There are 10 marks for each learning outcome. Notes should be taken by the assessors to help inform the assessor discussion and decision.

Question 1

Learning Outcome	Maintain an engaged and constructive team through a positive approach to conflict management.	Unit 1, LO 3
Marks	10 marks	
Question part (a)	With reference to the case study, <u>critically analyse</u> two ways in which the Project Manager will ensure awareness of the conflicts within the project team.	AC 3.4
Question part (b)	<u>Critically analyse</u> two approaches you could take to manage the conflict between Gabrielle (HR Manager) and Toni (Admin Manager).	AC 3.2
Question part (c)	<u>Critically evaluate</u> two ways in which to minimise the impact of the conflict between the accelerated move date required by the Leadership team and the already delayed date.	AC 3.3

Notes

Question 2

Learning Outcome	Use information to inform reviews and help manage deviations from a project plan.	Unit 2, LO 2
Marks	10 marks	
Question part (a)	Alastair has fallen behind with the project documentation; <u>critically evaluate</u> two approaches to gather information you need in order to establish effective progress monitoring and reporting.	AC 2.1
Question part (b)	Project documentation is being saved to a private 'Dropbox' created by Alastair, <u>critically evaluate</u> how this may create problems aligning reviews with organisational requirements and two approaches you would take to improve this.	AC 2.2
Question part (c)	<u>Critically analyse</u> at least two problems you will encounter as a result of the project plan not being circulated to the team prior to Alastair's departure and how you would resolve this.	AC 2.3

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Question 3

Learning Outcome Respond to risks and minimise threats and increase opportunities. Unit 3, LO2

Marks 10 marks

Question part (a) Critically analyse the approach taken when compiling the existing Risk Register and discuss a minimum of two alternate approaches to risk identification and analysis which may be more appropriate. AC 2.1

Question part (b) Referencing Risk ID 1 and Risk ID 4, critically evaluate the validity of the Mitigation Actions. In your judgement, would there be a more appropriate response to these risks? AC 2.2

Question part (c) Critically evaluate two methods for reviewing how risks were managed during the project and why is it important that the management of risks should be reviewed? AC 2.4

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Question 4

Learning Outcome	Respond to issues in a way that supports the management of a project.	Unit 3, LO3
Marks	10 marks	
Question part (a)	<u>Critically evaluate</u> Alastair's approach to documenting and planning responses to issues and how you would manage issues in the future.	AC 3.1
Question part (b)	<u>Critically evaluate</u> the importance for you to review issues raised in Project 2.2 and their resolution when planning your approach to Project 2.3.	AC 3.3
Question part (c)	<u>Critically evaluate</u> the implementation of appropriate responses to the issue of seating arrangements in the project and justify your approach.	AC 3.2

End of questions

Notes



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