

ISEP Associate Exam Practice Questions: Sustainability

Introduction

This document is provided by ISEP to give guidance on the type of questions that will be in the multiple choice exam for the Associate (Sustainability). The practice questions cover the range of learning outcomes in the Associate standard (Sustainability).

The exam is an “open – book” exam which means that you can refer to text books, notes, internet sources to help answer questions.

In the exam there will be 30 questions in total. Each question has four answer options, one of which is correct.

Questions are worth one mark each. You will have one hour to complete the exam and will need to correctly answer 70% (21) questions to pass the exam.

This practice paper contains 18 questions; you should allow approximately 2 minutes per question maximum or 36 minutes in total to complete this paper. You need to correctly answer 70% (13) questions to pass this practice paper. The answers along with related learning outcome can be found at the back of the document.

ISEP Associate Exam Practice Questions: Sustainability

1. A manufacturing organisation decides to develop a sustainable development strategy based around the five capitals model. Identify the capital under which the organisation's health and safety strategy would sit.
 - a. Social capital
 - b. Natural capital
 - c. Human capital
 - d. Manufactured capital

2. Select the global mega-trend that directly applies to the use of fossil fuels for generating energy.
 - a. Resource scarcity
 - b. Urbanisation
 - c. Biodiversity loss
 - d. All of the above

3. Which of the following business/governance principles does an organisation's corporate sustainability report demonstrate?
 - a. Accountability
 - b. Inclusivity
 - c. Equalities
 - d. Cultural context

4. Which of the following statements applies to ethical decision making in business?

- a. What is considered ethical does not change over time
 - b. Ethics are an important part of the triple bottom line
 - c. Ethical values are the same in all countries
 - d. There is no legal basis for ethical decision making
5. The large scale discharge of effluent from automated dishwashers, when passed through a sewage treatment works to a river, is likely to have a significant negative impact on which of the following cycles?
- a. Phosphorous cycle
 - b. Nitrogen cycle
 - c. Carbon cycle
 - d. All of the above
6. Toxic fumes emitted to air by a factory would be classed as which of the following type of health determinant?
- a. Community
 - b. Physical environment
 - c. Individual characteristics and behaviours
 - d. All of the previously stated determinants
7. The imposition of a charge on the use (by shoppers) of single use carrier bags is an example of which of the following type of governmental policy instrument?
- a. Information and fiscal
 - b. Voluntary and fiscal
 - c. Legal and fiscal
 - d. Legal, voluntary and fiscal
8. Identify the policy principle that covers the development of a governmental scheme with food manufacturers to reduce salt in processed food.
- a. People centred
 - b. Dynamic
 - c. Responsive and participatory
 - d. Conducted in partnership
9. The development of a documented process to assess the environmental performance of suppliers prior to appointment, would be covered by which part of an ISO 14001:2015 environmental management system?
- a. Context of the organisation
 - b. Performance evaluation
 - c. Operation
 - d. Support
10. A multinational energy company decides to develop a corporate sustainability report. Which of the following issues are likely to be reported in the human rights section of the report?

- a. Biodiversity and greenhouse gas emissions
 - b. Customer privacy and non-discrimination
 - c. Collective bargaining and child labour
 - d. Anti-corruption & biodiversity
11. A national park visitor centre decides to reduce electricity consumption from lighting. Select the most cost-effective solution to achieve this goal.
- a. Implement a switch off scheme
 - b. Change lighting to energy efficient alternatives
 - c. Reduce amount of lighting where practicable
 - d. Fit motion detectors in corridors
12. The type of data collected through a questionnaire asking members of the public to rank their perceptions of access to essential healthcare using a scoring system of 1 to 5, would result in which of the following types of data?
- a. Quantitative
 - b. Subjective
 - c. Qualitative
 - d. Normalised
13. Identify the SMART objective from the list below.
- a. Ensure that all departments complete a risk assessment
 - b. Ensure that staff are more environmentally aware
 - c. Develop a plan to improve community engagement
 - d. Ensure that all staff attend a sustainability briefing by quarter 4 this year
14. Select the stakeholder group that would have the most interest in the ethics of the organisation, and the responsible business practices that are being undertaken.
- a. Employees
 - b. Regulators
 - c. Customers
 - d. Suppliers
15. Identify the most effective form of collaboration that a developer could undertake to reduce the impacts of the construction of a housing estate on the local community?
- a. Consultation
 - b. Information provision
 - c. Engagement
 - d. All options are equally effective
16. A local authority decides to develop housing on land that was formerly occupied by a steel works. Identify the correct time frame of the risk assessment process.
- a. Current and future activities
 - b. Past and current activities
 - c. Past, current and future activities
 - d. Past and future activities

17. Select the key reason for a large supermarket chain to adopt a formalised system of supply chain management.
 - a. Reduced risk of prosecution
 - b. Ensured security of supply
 - c. Opportunities for innovation
 - d. Increases in energy and raw material use
18. Identify the key element(s) for managing change within an organisation.
 - a. Sustained communication to those affected by the change
 - b. Appointing a change agent
 - c. Adopting a process approach to change
 - d. All of the above

ISEP New Associate Exam Practice Answers: Sustainability

2. A manufacturing organisation decides to develop a sustainable development strategy based around the five capitals model. Identify the capital under which the organisation's health and safety strategy would sit.
 - a. Social capital
 - b. Natural capital
 - c. Human capital**
 - d. Manufactured capital

L01: Fundamentals of Sustainability

2. Select the global mega-trend that directly applies to the use of fossil fuels for generating energy.
 - a. Resource scarcity**
 - b. Urbanisation
 - c. Biodiversity loss
 - d. All of the above

L01: Fundamentals of Sustainability

3. Which of the following business/governance principles does an organisation's corporate sustainability report demonstrate?
 - a. Accountability**
 - b. Inclusivity
 - c. Equalities
 - d. Cultural context

L02: Fundamentals Business and Governance Principles and Issues

4. Which of the following statements applies to ethical decision making in business?
 - a. What is considered ethical does not change over time

b. Ethics are an important part of the triple bottom line

- c. Ethical values are the same in all countries
- d. There is no legal basis for ethical decision making

L02: Fundamentals Business and Governance Principles and Issues

5. The large scale discharge of effluent from automated dishwashers, when passed through a sewage treatment works to a river, is likely to have a significant negative impact on which of the following cycles?

a. Phosphorous cycle

- b. Nitrogen cycle
- c. Carbon cycle
- d. All of the above

L03: Fundamental Issues and Principles: Environmental

6. Toxic fumes emitted to air by a factory would be classed as which of the following type of health determinant?

a. Community

b. Physical environment

- c. Individual characteristics and behaviours
- d. All of the previously stated determinants

L03: Fundamental Issues and Principles: Social & Economic

7. The imposition of a charge on the use (by shoppers) of single use carrier bags is an example of which of the following type of governmental policy instrument?

a. Information and fiscal

b. Voluntary and fiscal

c. Legal and fiscal

d. Legal, voluntary and fiscal

L04: Policy, Regulation and Legislation: Environmental

8. Identify the policy principle that covers the development of a governmental scheme with food manufacturers to reduce salt in processed food.

a. People centred

b. Dynamic

c. Responsive and participatory

d. Conducted in partnership

L04: Policy, Regulation and Legislation: Social & Economic

9. The development of a documented process to assess the environmental performance of suppliers prior to appointment, would be covered by which part of an ISO 14001:2015 environmental management system?
- a. Context of the organisation
 - b. Performance evaluation
 - c. Operation**
 - d. Support

L05: Management and Assessment Tools: Environmental

10. A multinational energy company decides to develop a corporate sustainability report. Which of the following issues are likely to be reported in the human rights section of the report?
- a. Biodiversity and greenhouse gas emissions
 - b. Customer privacy and non-discrimination
 - c. Collective bargaining and child labour**
 - d. Anti-corruption & biodiversity

L05: Management and Assessment Tools: Social & Economic

11. A national park visitor centre decides to reduce electricity consumption from lighting. Select the most cost-effective solution to achieve this goal.
- a. Implement a switch off scheme
 - b. Change lighting to energy efficient alternatives
 - c. Reduce amount of lighting where practicable**
 - d. Fit motion detectors in corridors

L06: Outline the application of innovation and other leading practices in developing sustainable products and services and providing sustainable solutions

12. The type of data collected through a questionnaire asking members of the public to rank their perceptions of access to essential healthcare using a scoring system of 1 to 5, would result in which of the following types of data?
- a. Quantitative
 - b. Subjective
 - c. Qualitative**
 - d. Normalised

L07: Analytical Thinking

13. Identify the SMART objective from the list below.
- a. Ensure that all departments complete a risk assessment
 - b. Ensure that staff are more environmentally aware
 - c. Develop a plan to improve community engagement
 - d. Ensure that all staff attend a sustainability briefing by quarter 4 this year**

L08: Research and planning to provide sustainable solutions

14. Select the stakeholder group that would have the most interest in the ethics of the organisation, and the responsible business practices that are being undertaken.
- a. Employees
 - b. Regulators
 - c. Customers**
 - d. Suppliers

L09: Effective Communication

15. Identify the most effective form of collaboration that a developer could undertake to reduce the impacts of the construction of a housing estate on the local community?
- a. Consultation
 - b. Information provision
 - c. Engagement**
 - d. All options are equally effective

L010: Engage with stakeholders

16. A local authority decides to develop housing on land that was formerly occupied by a steel works. Identify the correct time frame of the risk assessment process.
- a. Current and future activities
 - b. Past and current activities
 - c. Past, current and future activities**
 - d. Past and future activities

L011: Outline tools and techniques that identify opportunities and risks

17. Select the key reason for a large supermarket chain to adopt a formalised system of supply chain management.
- a. Reduced risk of prosecution
 - b. Ensured security of supply**
 - c. Opportunities for innovation
 - d. Increases in energy and raw material use

L012: Identify and propose ways to improve performance

18. Identify the key element(s) for managing change within an organisation.
- a. Sustained communication to those affected by the change
 - b. Appointing a change agent
 - c. Adopting a process approach to change
 - d. All of the above**

L013: Leadership for change and transformation