



**RPSC AEn-2024
Main Test Series**

**STREAMS:
CE, ME, EE**

Test 14

Test Mode : • Offline • Online

**Subject : Social Aspects of Engineering
(FULL SYLLABUS TEST)**

DETAILED EXPLANATIONS

- 1. Solution:**
Gross Value Added (GVA) measures the individual contribution of a sector or producer to the economy by deducting intermediate consumption from the gross value of output.
- 2. Solution:**
GDP measures the value of goods produced within a country's borders, while GNP includes the net income earned by citizens from domestic and foreign investments.
- 3. Solution:**
Deforestation is the permanent removal or clearing of forest cover, primarily for agricultural expansion, logging, or urban development, leading to ecological imbalance.
- 4. Solution:**
It is achieved by creating mechanical windbreaks or micro-fencing, planting drought-resistant vegetation, and using chemical mulching to bind loose sand particles.
- 5. Solution:**
The key limitations of solar energy include high initial installation costs, intermittency i.e., being weather-dependent, requirement of large land areas, and the current inefficiency of energy storage systems.
- 6. Solution:**
Universal Accommodation refers to designing infrastructure and environments that are accessible, usable, and safe for all people, regardless of age, size, ability, or disability.

- 7. Solution:**
The examples of capital resources include machinery, tools, factories, transport vehicles, communication systems, and physical infrastructure used by engineers to produce other goods or services.
- 8. Solution:**
The Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) refers to a financing and project implementation model used primarily in infrastructure development projects such as roads, bridges, and highways.
- 9. Solution:**
Artificial Intelligence enhances efficiency through automation, improves predictive maintenance in engineering, enables data-driven decision-making, and optimizes complex system operations with high precision.
- 10. Solution:**
Bitcoin mining is the decentralized process of validating transactions, securing the network, and releasing new bitcoins into circulation by solving complex computational puzzles.
- 11. Solution:**
Key elements of Smart Cities include smart governance, sustainable infrastructure, efficient waste management, digital connectivity, intelligent transport systems, and improved quality of life through technology.
- 12. Solution:**
Resource smoothing is a project management technique that balances resource demand (e.g., personnel, equipment) to avoid peaks and troughs without changing the project duration.
- 13. Solution:**
Life Cycle Costing (LCC) is a financial evaluation method that estimates the total cost of an asset or project over its entire lifespan, including acquisition, operation, maintenance, and disposal.
- 14. Solution:**
Tally ERP assists in tracking project budgets, managing payroll, maintaining inventory, and generating real-time financial reports for better cost control and auditing.
- 15. Solution:**
Environmental pollution causes respiratory diseases, cardiovascular issues, skin irritation, hearing loss, and waterborne diseases like cholera or typhoid.

16. Solution:

Biodiversity impediments include habitat fragmentation from large dams, bird mortality from wind turbines, and ecosystem disruption due to massive solar farm land use.

17. Solution:

Reuse involves using an item again for its original function, while Re-purpose involves using a discarded item for a completely different function.

18. Solution:

A Geographical Indication (G.I.) tag is a sign used on products - typically agricultural, natural, or manufactured goods - that have a specific geographical origin and possess distinct qualities.

19. Solution:

It is the gap in access to modern information and communication technology (ICT), internet connectivity, and digital literacy between urban and rural inhabitants.

20. Solution:

It facilitates farmer education, provides market price updates, enables community mobilization, and offers a platform for grievance redressal and government scheme awareness.

21. Solution:

Malnutrition refers to deficiencies, excesses, or imbalances in a person's intake of nutrients. It is broadly categorized into two groups:

1. Undernutrition:

- i. Wasting:** Low weight-for-height, often indicating severe weight loss due to acute food shortage or disease.
- ii. Stunting:** Low height-for-age, resulting from chronic or recurrent undernutrition, usually associated with poverty.
- iii. Underweight:** Low weight-for-age, which can reflect both wasting and stunting.

2. Overnutrition:

- i. Overweight:** Defined as having a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 25 or higher.
- ii. Obesity:** A more severe accumulation of body fat, defined as a BMI of 30 or higher.

22. Solution:

Solar-powered desalination converts seawater or brackish water into freshwater by harnessing sun-derived energy, either thermally or through PV-powered reverse osmosis (RO). These systems use solar panels to run high-pressure pumps (RO) or use thermal collectors to evaporate and condense water, removing salt and pollutants to provide clean water, especially in arid, remote areas.

23. Solution:

Climate-Resilient Seeds are genetically modified or selectively bred seeds to withstand extreme weather.

- **Benefits:** Increased food security, resistance to drought, salinity, and heat, and reduced need for chemical inputs.
- **Limitations:** High initial cost for farmers, potential loss of traditional crop biodiversity, and the "yield gap" compared to high-input varieties. They are essential for sustainable agricultural engineering in fluctuating climates.

24. Solution:

- Swadeshi emphasizes self-reliance (Atmanirbharta) and the promotion of indigenous industries.
- Its key principles include prioritizing local production over imports, fostering community-based craftsmanship, and ensuring economic decentralization. For engineers, it translates to "Vocal for Local", developing homegrown technologies, utilizing local materials in construction, and reducing dependence on foreign intellectual property to strengthen the national economy.

25. Solution:

- Fraternity denotes a sense of brotherhood and emotional unity among all citizens, transcending barriers of caste, creed, or region. It is enshrined in the Preamble of the Indian Constitution to ensure the dignity of the individual and the unity of the Nation.
- In a diverse society like India, fraternity is vital for social stability, reducing conflicts, and fostering a collaborative environment for national development.

26. Solution:

Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) aims to harvest surplus water from the Chambal River basin and its tributaries (Kunus, Kul, Parvati, Kalisindh) during the monsoon.

It intends to provide drinking and industrial water to 13 districts of Eastern Rajasthan and irrigate nearly 2.8 lakh hectares. It represents a massive inter-basin water transfer project crucial for regional water security and economic upliftment.

27. Solution:

Blockchain technology offers a decentralized and secure framework for recording data, making it transformative for engineering sectors like supply chain and construction.

Advantages:

1. Decentralization
2. Immutability
3. Transparency
4. Enhanced Security
5. Efficiency

Limitations:

1. Scalability
2. High Energy Consumption
3. Technical Complexity
4. Data Modification Challenges
5. Regulatory Uncertainty

28. Solution:

- PERT (Program Evaluation and Review Technique) is a probabilistic model used for unpredictable activities (R&D projects), focusing on event-based timing using three-time estimates.
- CPM (Critical Path Method) is a deterministic model used for predictable activities (like Construction), focusing on activity-based timing with a single time estimate.
- CPM emphasizes cost-time trade-offs, while PERT focuses primarily on meeting deadlines.

29. Solution:

The major causes of air pollution include:

1. **Industrial Emissions:** Release of SO_x , NO_x and particulate matter.
2. **Vehicular Exhaust:** Carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons from fossil fuel combustion.
3. **Agricultural Practices:** Stubble burning and pesticide drift.
4. **Construction Dust:** High levels of PM10 and PM2.5.
5. **Domestic Factors:** Burning of biomass for cooking in rural areas.

30. Solution:

- Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) was launched by the Prime Minister of India at COP-26 in Glasgow in 2021. It is a global mass movement aimed at replacing "mindless consumption" with "mindful utilization" to combat climate change.
- The initiative promotes Pro-Planet People (P3), encouraging individual actions like energy saving and waste reduction. It serves as a blueprint for developing Circular Economy models and sustainable infrastructure that align with conscious consumer behavior and global climate goals.

31. Solution:

Critical thinking is the objective analysis and evaluation of an issue to form a judgment.

It addresses local challenges and its importance lies in:

- **Context-Specific Solutions:** It enables professionals to move beyond "one-size-fits-all" approaches, allowing them to adapt technical designs to local geography, climate, and resource availability.

- **Root Cause Identification:** It ensures that engineering interventions target the source of an issue rather than providing a temporary fix.
- **Resource Optimization:** It fosters innovation in utilizing locally available and low-cost materials.
- **Social & Ethical Alignment:** It allows to evaluate the socio-cultural impact of their work.

32. Solution:

- Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), including patents and trademarks, provide startups with a competitive edge by protecting their innovations from being copied. They act as intangible assets that increase valuation, attracting venture capital and investment.
- IPR encourages research and development by ensuring that engineers and entrepreneurs can monetize their inventions, fostering a culture of innovation and providing a legal framework for technology transfer.

33. Solution:

Introduction: Human values are the fundamental, guiding principles that dictate the behavior and moral choices of an individual. They serve as an internal compass, helping distinguish right from wrong. In the professional realm, particularly for engineers, these values ensure that technical expertise is always coupled with social responsibility and ethical conduct.

Basic Features of Human Values

- **Universality:** Values like truth, compassion, and integrity are universal, transcending geographical, cultural, and religious boundaries.
- **Inherent Nature:** They are intrinsic to human consciousness, defining our basic humanity rather than being mere external impositions.
- **Stability:** Unlike temporary opinions or interests, values are relatively permanent and provide consistency to an individual's character over time.
- **Normative Influence:** They set the standards for what is considered desirable or ethical within a social framework, guiding collective behavior.

Strengthening Indian Society: In a diverse nation like India, human values act as the primary glue for social cohesion. Values such as tolerance and mutual respect are essential for maintaining harmony in a multi-religious society, preventing communal friction.

Integrity and honesty in public life led to ethical governance, which is vital for the transparent execution of large-scale engineering projects. Furthermore, values of empathy and social justice drive the inclusive development of marginalized sections.

By prioritizing non-violence and dialogue over conflict, these values ensure the stability required for national growth. Ultimately, when citizens and professionals adhere to high moral values, it builds a resilient, trust-based society capable of overcoming modern challenges.

Conclusion: Human values are not just personal attributes but are the foundation of a stable nation. For the Indian society to progress, the integration of these values into education and professional ethics is indispensable.

34. Solution:

Introduction: The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a collection of 17 interlinked global objectives established by the United Nations in 2015. Known as the 2030 Agenda, they were designed as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030, all people enjoy peace and prosperity. They represent a global commitment to shift toward a sustainable and resilient path.

Understanding the Framework : The SDGs replaced the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and are unique because they are universal, applying to both developed and developing nations. They cover three pillars of sustainability: Economic Growth, Social Inclusion, and Environmental Protection.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals:

- SDG 1: No Poverty
- SDG 2: Zero Hunger
- SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being
- SDG 4: Quality Education
- SDG 5: Gender Equality
- SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
- SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
- SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure
- SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities
- SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
- SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
- SDG 13: Climate Action
- SDG 14: Life Below Water
- SDG 15: Life on Land
- SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
- SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Contribution to Global Development

1. **Standardized Roadmap:** They provide a common language and shared framework for 193 countries, allowing for coordinated global efforts.
2. **Resource Allocation:** They guide governments and private sectors to align their investments toward critical areas like clean energy and resilient infrastructure.
3. **Measurable Progress:** With 169 specific targets, the SDGs enable data-driven monitoring and global accountability.
4. **Technology Transfer:** The framework encourages international cooperation, facilitating the sharing of green technologies and engineering innovations between nations.
5. **Focus on Equity:** By emphasizing "leaving no one behind," they prioritize the needs of the most vulnerable populations.

Conclusion: The SDGs represent a comprehensive strategy for survival and prosperity. For engineers, they serve as a vital guide to designing projects that are not only technically sound but also environmentally sustainable and socially equitable.

35. Solution:

Introduction: Project planning is the foundational phase of project management that involves defining the project's scope, objectives, and the specific roadmap required to achieve them. For an engineer, it serves as a blueprint to ensure that a project is completed within the constraints of time, budget, and quality, minimizing risks and resource wastage.

Steps Involved in Project Planning

1. **Defining Objectives and Scope:** Establishing clear, measurable goals and identifying what the project will and will not include to prevent scope creep.
2. **Work Breakdown Structure (WBS):** Decomposing the total project into smaller, manageable tasks. This hierarchy facilitates easier assignment of responsibilities.
3. **Task Sequencing and Scheduling:** Determining the logical order of activities and their dependencies. Tools like Gantt Charts or Critical Path Method (CPM) are used to establish a realistic timeline.
4. **Resource Allocation:** Identifying and securing the necessary labor, machinery, and materials required for each task to ensure smooth execution.
5. **Cost Estimation and Budgeting:** Developing a detailed financial plan by aggregating the costs of resources, ensuring the project remains economically viable.

6. **Risk Management:** Identifying potential threats, such as technical failures or weather delays, and preparing mitigation or contingency strategies.
7. **Quality and Communication Planning:** Setting technical standards for inspection and establishing protocols for sharing progress with stakeholders.

Conclusion: Effective project planning is not a one-time event but a continuous process that provides the necessary control over complex engineering tasks. It ensures that the final output aligns perfectly with the initial vision while maximizing efficiency and stakeholder satisfaction.

36. Solution:

Introduction: Water pollution is the contamination of water bodies, such as lakes, rivers, and groundwater, by harmful substances. For a water-stressed state like Rajasthan, managing water quality is as critical as managing quantity, as pollution directly impacts public health, agriculture, and the industrial economy.

Types, Causes, and Consequences

- **Types:** It includes Surface Water Pollution, Groundwater Pollution (aquifer contamination), and Microbial Pollution caused by pathogens.
- **Causes:** The primary drivers are the discharge of untreated Industrial Effluents, Agricultural Runoff containing pesticides and fertilizers, and Domestic Sewage. In Rajasthan, high fluoride and nitrate levels in groundwater are also significant concerns.
- **Consequences:** Polluted water leads to the spread of waterborne diseases (cholera, typhoid), destroys aquatic ecosystems through Eutrophication, and causes bioaccumulation of heavy metals in the food chain. It also increases the cost of water treatment for municipal and industrial use.

Control Measures

1. **Technological Solutions:** Mandatory installation of Effluent Treatment Plants (ETP) for industries and Sewage Treatment Plants (STP) for urban centers.
2. **Legislative Action:** Strict enforcement of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, with heavy penalties for illegal dumping.
3. **Sustainable Practices:** Promoting organic farming to reduce chemical runoff and implementing Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) systems in industries.

4. **Public Awareness:** Educating communities on water conservation and the importance of not dumping solid waste into water bodies.

Conclusion: Water pollution is a multi-dimensional challenge that requires an integrated approach. Combining strict regulatory frameworks with innovative engineering solutions is essential to secure clean water for future generations.

37. **Solution:**

Introduction: An innovation-driven society is one where economic growth, sustainability, and social welfare are fueled by the continuous generation and application of new ideas. Transforming a traditional economy into an innovation-led one requires a synergistic. This model emphasizes the collective contribution of academia, industry, and the government, supported by civil society, to create a culture of constant advancement and problem-solving.

The Role of Stakeholders

1. **Academia:** Universities and technical institutions serve as the primary engines of research. Their role is to provide a high-skilled workforce and conduct fundamental R&D.
2. **Industry:** The industry acts as the bridge between lab research and commercial reality. It provides the necessary funding through R&D investments and creates innovation hubs to scale academic prototypes.
3. **Government:** The government creates the enabling environment through strategic policy frameworks. This includes protecting Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), providing tax incentives for R&D, and launching initiatives like Start-up India.
4. **Civil Society:** NGOs and citizens identify unmet needs, such as rural water scarcity or affordable housing. This ensures that innovation is inclusive, focusing on social equity and improving the quality of life for all sections of society.

Conclusion: Building an innovation-driven society is a collaborative marathon, not a solo sprint. When academia researches, industry scales, government facilitates, and society provides the direction, it creates a virtuous cycle. This is vital to lead projects that are not only technically superior but also socially and economically transformative.

