Number of Math M.C. Questions: 45 Questions on Page Numbers 1 to 9

Time Allowed: 80 minutes
Negative Marking: No

function f is

- 1. If f(x) > 0 for all $x \in [a, b]$. Then for the interval [a, b], function f is
 - A) Concave up
 - B) Concave down
 - C) Increasing
 - D) Decreasing
- 2. $\int_0^1 \int_1^0 \int_0^1 dx dy dz = ?$
 - A) -1
 - B) 1
 - C) 0
 - D) $\frac{1}{2}$
- 3. Which of the following statement is correct?
 - A) A curve that crosses the x-axis at two different points cannot be the graph of a function.
 - B) The range of the absolute value function is all positive real numbers.
 - C) The natural domain of a real-valued function defined by a formula consists of all those real numbers for which the formula yields a real value.
 - D) Concavity of the curve is decided by the sign of first derivative of the curve.
- 4. Which of the following function is symmetric about origin?
 - A) Onto function (surjective)
 - B) One-to-One function (injective)
 - C) Bijective function
 - D) Odd function
- 5. Which of the following is correct about two lines y = 2x + b and y = 2x.
 - A) Both lines are parallel
 - B) Both lines are perpendicular
 - C) Both lines pass through the origin
 - D) They are perpendicular to each other if b=0

6. What is the natural domain of a polynomial?

- A) $[-\infty, +\infty]$
- B) $(-\infty, +\infty)$
- C) $(-\infty, 0]$
- D) $[0, +\infty)$

7. The function $y = \ln(1-x)$ has domain equals

- A) $(-\infty, 1]$
- B) $(-\infty, +\infty)$
- C) $(-\infty,1)$
- D) $[0, +\infty)$

8. The slope of the tangent line to the curve $y = x^2 + 4x + 7$ at x = 1 is

- A) -6
- B) 1
- C) -1
- D) 6

9. If for x > 0 and for a real valued function, we have $2f(x) + 3f\left(\frac{100}{x}\right) = 4x$, then f(5) =

- A) 12
- B) 10
- C) 0
- D) 1

10. If f''(a) exists and f has an inflection point at x = a, then f''(a) is

- A) Positive
- B) Negative
- (C) (C)
- $D) \infty$

- 11. Which of the following Measure of averages is affected by extreme values in data set?
 - A) Mode
 - B) Median
 - C) Geometric Mean
 - D) Arithmetic Mean
- 12. In Statistics, a population consists of:
 - A) All subjects or objects whose characteristics are being studied
 - B) All People living in a country
 - C) All People living in the are under study
 - D) None of the above
- 13. The data collected by NADRA to issue National Identity cards are
 - A) Primary data
 - B) Secondary data
 - C) Official data
 - D) un-official data
- 14. Statistic is a numerical quantity, which is calculated from
 - A) Sample
 - B) Population
 - C) Data
 - D) Observation
- 15. Which one is not the measure of dispersion?
 - A) Range
 - B) Quartile
 - C) Variance
 - D) Inter-quartile range
- 16 Let f be a function such that g(a+b)=g(a)g(b) for all integers a and b. If g(1)=1/2, find the value of g(0) + g(1) + g(2) + g(3)
 - A) 1/8
 - B) 3/2
 - C) 15/8
 - D) 5/2

17.	Total Area under the normal curve is
	A) > 1 B) < 1 C) 0 D) 1
18.	The standard deviation of standard normally distributive curve is
	A) 1 B) 0 C) 2 D) -1
19.	If X is the random variable in a binomial distribution and the probability of success is p for n -trials. Then $E(X)$ is
	A) $np(1-p)$ B) $p(1-p)$ C) $n(1-p)$ D) np
20.	The function $f(x) = px$ satisfies the equality $f(f(f(1))) = 27$. What is the value of p ?
	A) 1 B) 2 C) 5 D) 3
21.	In a certain normal distribution the mean is 4 and standard deviation is 2 then what is mode of the the distribution?
<	A) 0 B) 1
/	D) 2

22.	Six	weeks	is n	seconds.	What	is	n?
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- A) 6
- B) 7
- C) 8
- D) 10

23. In a colony, there are 55 members. Every member posts a greeting card to all the members. How many greeting cards were posted by them?

- A) 990
- B) 890
- C) 1980
- D) 2970

24. If ${}^{16}P_{r-1}: {}^{15}P_{r-1} = 16:7$ then find r.

- A) 8
- B) 7
- C) 12
- D) 10

25. If in a binomial distribution $n \leftarrow 1$ then E(X) is

- A) q
- B) p
- C) 1
- D) 0

26. In a Poisson probability distribution

- A) It always contains a contingency table
- B) The number of trials is always less than 5
- The probability of success is always greater than 5
- D) The mean and variance of the distribution are the same

- 27. What is the probability of a type II error when $\alpha = 0.05$?
 - A) 0.025
 - B) 0.05
 - C) 0.95
 - D) Cannot be determined without more information
- 28. $1-\alpha$ is the probability of
 - A) Type-II Error
 - B) Type-I Error
 - C) Rejection Region
 - D) Acceptance Region
- 29. Which of the following is a true statement, for comparing the t-distributions with standard normal distribution
 - A) The Normal Curve is symmetrical whereas the t-distributions are slightly skewed.
 - B) The proportion of area beyond a specific value of t is less than the proportion of normal curve.
 - C) Greater the degree of freedom, the more the t-distribution resembles the standard normal distribution.
 - D) The standard deviation is the same for both distributions
- 30. Which of the following test use Rank Sums
 - A) F-test
 - B) Wilcoxon test
 - C) Runs test
 - D) Chi-Square
- 31. In statistical hypothesis test of equality of means, such as $H_0: \mu = 10$, if $\alpha = 5\%$
 - A) 95% of the time we will make an incorrect inference
 - B) 95% of the time the null hypothesis will be correct
 - C) 5% of the time we will say that there is a real difference when there is no difference (Type I error)
 - D) 5% of the time we will make a correct inference

32. There are 10 true-false questions. The number of ways in which they can be answered is

- A) 10^2
- B) 10
- C) 10!
- D) 2^{10}

33. If u = (-2, 0, 4), v = (3, -1, 6) and w = (2, -5, -5) then find ||u + v + w||

- A) $\sqrt{70}$
- B) $2\sqrt{70}$
- C) $\sqrt{35}$
- D) $2\sqrt{35}$

34. Use data of question above, then find $u \cdot (v \times w)$

- A) 101
- B) 122
- C) -122
- D) -101

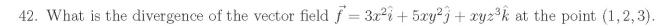
35. Find the distance between the point P(-3,1,3) and the plane 5x + z = 3y - 4

- A) $\frac{35}{\sqrt{35}}$
- B) $\frac{11}{\sqrt{11}}$
- C) $\frac{11}{\sqrt{35}}$
- D) $\frac{35}{\sqrt{11}}$

36. If a card is chosen from a standard deck of cards, what is the probability of getting a five or a seven?

- A) 8/52
- B) 1/26
- C) 1/169
- D) 4/52

- 37. A five digit number is formed by the digits 1,2,3,4,5 without repetition. What is the probability that the number formed is divisible by 4?
 - A) $\frac{4}{5}$
 - B) $\frac{1}{5}$
 - C) $\frac{3}{5}$
 - D) $\frac{1}{120}$
- 38. Binomial distribution is negatively skewed when
 - A) p = -1/2
 - B) p < 1/2
 - C) p = 0
 - D) p > 1/2
- 39. Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix, and let v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n be linearly independent vectors in \mathbb{R}^n expressed as $n \times 1$ matrices. What must be true about A for Av_1, Av_2, \ldots, Av_n to be linearly independent?
 - A) A must be column matrix
 - B) A must be row matrix
 - C) A must be invertible matrix
 - D) $\det A=1$
- 40. Let A be a square matrix such that $A^3 = A$. What can you say about the eigenvalues of A?
 - A) All are 1
 - B) 1,2,3
 - C) $0,\pm 1$
 - D) 0,1,1
- 41. Find the gradient of a function V if V = xyz.
 - A) yi + zj + xk
 - B) xyi + yzj + zxk
 - C) xi + yj + zk
 - D) yzi + xzj + xyk



- A) 89
- B) 100
- C) 124
- D) 80

43. Find the curl for $\vec{r} = x^2 y z \vec{i} + (3x + 2y) z \vec{j} + 21z^2 x \vec{k}$.

A)
$$\vec{i}(3x+2y) - \vec{j}(11z^2 - x^2y) + \vec{k}(3z - x^2z)$$

B)
$$\vec{i}(x+2y) - \vec{j}(21z^2 - x^2y) + \vec{k}(3z - x^2z)$$

C)
$$-\vec{i}(3x+2y) - \vec{j}(21z^2 - x^2y) + \vec{k}(3z - x^2z)$$

D)
$$\vec{i}(3x+2y) - \vec{j}(21z^2 - x^2y) + \vec{k}(3z - x^2z)$$

44. Find the value of $\int \int xye^{x+y}dxdy$.

- A) $ye^y(xe^x e^x)$
- B) $(ye^y e^y)(xe^x e^x)$
- C) $(ye^y e^y)xe^x$
- $D) (ye^y e^y)(xe^x + e^x)$

45. Find the value of $\int \frac{\ln x}{x} dx$

- A) $\ln x$
- B) $\frac{1}{2} \ln^2 x$
- C) $\frac{3}{2} \ln x$
- D) $\ln^2 x$

Congratulations! You've finished math MCQs.

Please cross (\times) Option E in the answer sheet corresponding to all unanswered MCQs.

(Stop. Do not turn over the next page until you are told to do so.)

English M.C.Qs

No. of Questions: 45 (from 46 to 90) Time: 60 Minutes

Questions on Page Numbers: 10 To 23 Negative Markings: **No**

Questions 46-54

The following set of questions have paragraphs given in jumbled order.

Select the option that best represents the logical order of para.

46.

- a. In rejecting the functionalism in positivist organization theory, either wholly or partially there is often a move towards a political model of organization theory.
- b. Thus the analysis would shift to the power resources possessed by different groups in the organization and the way they use these resources in actual power plays to shape the organizational structure.
- c. At the extreme, in one set of writings, the growth of administrators in the organization is held to be completely unrelated to the work to be done and to be caused totally by the political pursuit of self-interest.
- d. The political model holds that individual interests are pursued in organizational life through the exercise of power and influence.
- A. adbe
- B. cbad
- C. dbca
- D. abde

47.

- a. Group decision making, however, does not necessarily fully guard against arbitrariness and anarchy, for individual capriciousness can get substituted by collusion of group members.
- b. Nature itself is an intricate system of checks and balances, meant to preserve the delicate balance between various environmental factors that affect our ecology.
- c. In institutions also, there is a need to have in place a system of checks and balances which inhibits the concentration of power in only some individuals.
- d. When human interventions alter this delicate balance, the outcomes have been seen to be disastrous.
- A. cbad
- B. bead
- C. cabd
- D. bdca

48.

- a. He was bone-weary and soul-weary, and found himself muttering, "Either I can't manage this place, or it's unmanageable."
- To his horror, he realized that he had become the victim of an amorphous, unwitting, unconscious conspiracy to immerse him in routine work that had no significance.
- c. It was one of those nights in the office when the office clock was moving towards four in the morning and Bennis was still not through with the incredible mass of paper stacked before him.
- d. He reached for his calendar and ran his eyes down each hour, half-hour, and quarter-hour, to see where his time had gone that day, the day before, the month before.

- A. abcd
- B. cadb
- C. bdca
- D. deba

49.

- a. With that, I swallowed the shampoo, and obtained most realistic results on the spot.
- b. The man shuffled away into the back regions to make up a prescription, and after a moment I got through on the shoptelephone to the Consulate, intimating my location.
- c. Then, while the pharmacist was wrapping up a six-ounce bottle of the mixture, I ground and inquired whether he could give me something for acute gastric cramp.
- d. I intended to stage a sharp gastric attack, and entering an old-fashioned pharmacy, I asked for a popular shampoo mixture, consisting of olive and flaked soap.
- A. deba
- B. dacb
- C. bdac
- D. beda

50.

- a. Since then, intelligence tests have been mostly used to separate dull children in school from average or bright children, so that special education can be provided to the dull.
- b. In other words, intelligence tests give us a norm for each age.
- c. Intelligence is expressed as intelligence quotient, and tests are developed to indicate what an average child of a certain age can do: what a 5-year-old can answer, but a 4-year-old cannot, for instance.
- d. Binet developed the first set of such tests in the early 1900s to find out which children in school needed special attention.
- e. Intelligence can be measured by tests.
- A. cdabe
- B. decab
- C. edacb
- D. cbade

51.

- a. This is now orthodoxy to which I subscribe—up to a point.
- b. It emerged from the mathematics of chance and statistics
- c. Therefore the risk is measurable and manageable.
- d. The fundamental concept: Prices are not predictable, but the mathematical laws of chance can describe their fluctuations.
- This is how what business schools now call modern finance was born.
- A. adebe
- B. ebdca
- C. abdce
- D. dcbea

52.

- a. Similarly, turning to caste, even though being lower caste is undoubtedly a separate cause of disparity, its impact is all the greater when the lower-caste families also happen to be poor.
- b. Belonging to a privileged class can help a woman to overcome many barriers that obstruct women from less thriving classes.
- c. It is the interactive presence of these two kinds of deprivation—being low class and being female—that massively impoverishes women from the less privileged classes.
- d. A congruence of class deprivation and gender discrimination can blight the lives of poorer women very severely.
- e. Gender is certainly a contributor to societal inequality, but it does not act independently of class.
- A. eabdc
- B. ebdca
- C. daebc
- D. becda

53.

- a. When identity is thus 'defined by contrast', divergence with the West becomes central.
- b. Indian religious literature such as the Bhagavad Gita or the Tantric texts, which are identified as differing from secular writings seen as 'western', elicits much greater interest in the West than do other Indian writings, including India's long history of heterodoxy.
- c. There is a similar neglect of Indian writing on non-religious subjects, from mathematics, epistemology and natural science to economics and linguistics.
- d. Through selective emphasis that point up differences with the West, other civilizations can, in this way, be redefined in alien terms, which can be exotic and charming, or else bizarre and terrifying, or simply strange and engaging.
- e. The exception is the Kamasutra in which western readers have managed to cultivate an interest.
- A. bdace
- B. deabc
- C. bdeca
- D. bceda

54.

- a. Luckily the tide of battle moved elsewhere after the American victory at Midway and an Australian victory over Japan at Milne Bay.
- b. If could have been no more than a delaying tactic.
- c. The Australian military, knowing the position was hopeless, planned to fall back to the south-east in the hope of defending the main cities.
- They had captured most of the Soloman Islands and much of New Guinea, and seemed poised for an invasion.
- Not many people outside Australia realize how close the Japanese got.
- A. edcba
- B. ecdab
- C. adcbe
- D. cdbae

For questions 55-61, select the best option.

55.	We knew Jana had motives for running for class president: She wanted the
	parking space that came with the office.
A. anter	rior
B. inter	ior
C. poste	
D. ulter	
D. unci	
56.	The town board heard many outraged and arguments from the citizens against the
docterrat	tion of some wooded areas in order to build a new mall.
A. tenuc	
B. vocif	
C. vacue	
D. egre	gious
57.	The villainous gang's hideout was a den of that no one would dare to enter.
A. inno	cence
B. habit	ants
C. iniqu	ity
D. acco	lades
58.	Indigestion is a common of participating in a hot-dog eating contest.
A. euph	
B. penc	
C. corol	
	position
D. Jukta	position
59.	Although it was so ridiculous that no one believed it to be true, the reporter's still
	governor his re-election.
A. hege	
B. sedit	
	pendium
D. calur	mny
60. I	People on the street stopped to over the artist's rendition of the Eiffel Tower,
	by his ability to capture the detail.
A. beda	
B. innov	
C. grati	
D. object	
D. Colice	orn y
61.	The mine minister was admined by all a(n) array in an environment of
	The prime minister was admired by all, a(n) even in an environment of
_	ion and disdain.
	onishment
B. allev	
C. nonp	
D. profa	anation

For questions 67-70, select the best version (A, B, C or D) of the underlined part of the sentence.

- 67. Go to sleep with your blinds at least halfway open when the sun flows in your brain will slow its melatonin production and start generating adrenaline, so you'll be half-awake by the time.
- A. at least halfway open, when the sun flows in your
- B. at least halfway open. When the sun flows in, your
- C. at least halfway open: When the sun flows in, your
- D. at least halfway open when the sun flows in your
- 68. If you've ever dropped your iPhone in the pool, run it through the washing machine or have it slip out of your hands and into the toilet you know the meaning of the word "panic."
- A. the washing machine, or have it slip out of your hands and into the toilet, you
- B. the washing machine or have it slip out of your hands and into the toilet: you
- C. the washing machine or have it slip out of your hands and into the toilet you
- D. the washing machine, or have it slip out of your hands and into the toilet; you
- 69. If you want a <u>pedicure book the first appointment of the day when</u> the equipment is cleaner.
- A. pedicure. Book the first appointment of the day, when
- B. pedicure, book the first appointment of the day: when
- C. pedicure- book the first appointment of the day, when
- D. pedicure, book the first appointment of the day when
- 70. Oprah Winfrey, TV legend and CEO of Harpo <u>Productions told graduates</u> to dream big and always do the right thing.
- A. Productions, told graduates to dream big and "always do the right thing."
- B. Productions, told graduates to dream big and "always do the right thing".
- C. Productions: told graduates to dream big and, always do the right thing.
- D. Productions "told graduates to dream big and always do the right thing".

For questions 71-75, select the best option (A,B,C or D).

71.

The novel is admittedly not the finest example of its genre, but I object to the ____ preface written by a supposed expert on detective fiction from whom we might have expected at least one or two perceptive comments.

I.egregious

II.inane

III.pretentious

IV subliminal

V.vacuous

VI.unexamined

A. I &V

B. I & III

C. II & IV

D. III & VI

To the layman, a philosopher who attempts to elucidate a complex moral dilemma by reducing it to a simple yet apparently ridiculous test case seems rather to _____ the issue.

I. ridicule

II. obfuscate

III. over-simplify

IV. denigrate

V. becloud

VI. Attenuate

A. III & IV

B. III & II

C. V & VI

D. II & V

Po For Questions 76-85, read the given case and answer the appended questions. Paragraphs are numbered to facilitate reading. [15 minutes]

1. Introduction

British Petroleum Plc (BP) is the world's third-largest oil and gas company headquartered in London, UK. Its mission is to be "innovative, progressive, safe and friendly for both its employees and the environment". BP tries to increase its profitability, aiming to achieve and sustain competitive advantage, through various routes, including the creation of a reputation which generates value (Porter, 1985/2004). [1]

However, BP is responsible for several oil spills since 2005 (e.g. 23 March 2005 in Texas and 2 March 2006 in Alaska) causing a number of deaths and injuries among its employees and incalculable disaster to the environment. The biggest environmental disaster in the history of the USA and the largest marine oil spill in the history of the oil industry took place on 20 April 2010, when an explosion occurred in the Deep water Horizon oil drilling rig leased by BP in the Gulf of Mexico. The result of this tragedy was the death of 11 workers and the injury of 17 out of 126 workers who were on board (Robertson and Kaufman, 2010; Chakraborty, 2011). After the tragedy in the Gulf of Mexico, BP's efforts to regain superior performance have been unsuccessful, leading to a drastic decline in its financial profitability by the end of 2010. Along with BP's history of crises, many reasons led to the Gulf of Mexico disaster, including unkempt safety issues and management failures (Qumer and Purkayastha, 2010). During this crisis another weak point in BP's management became obvious: that of effective crisis communication for the protection of its corporate image and reputation among its stakeholders. Crisis communication is a significant issue in oil industries disasters and demands strategic genius for combating emergencies. [2]

Rham Emanuel, President Obama's Chief of Staff, described BP's crisis communication strategy as 'a long line of PR gaffes and mistakes' (BBC News, 2010). The purpose of the present study is to provide a detailed outline of BP's communication failures. Coomb's (2007) situational crisis communication theory (SCCT) would be the basis of analysis. The research investigates the following:

RQ1. What crisis communication measures did BP take during the Gulf of Mexico spill? Were they successful?

RQ2. What changes should BP employ, in its management, in order to lead successful communication strategies during a crisis? [3]

2. BP's crisis communication problems during the spill

Over the years, BP had managed to increase its reputation through successful sustainable strategies, despite its history of oil spillage crises. According to SCCT, the threat posed by the Gulf of Mexico crisis was large because it was something between an accident and an intentional event (with moderate to strong responsibility) intensified by a history of similar crises. During these crises, Coombs (2007) suggests apologetic communication strategies accepting responsibility. So, very soon after the Gulf of Mexico disaster, BP's CEO accepted responsibility saying:

[...] BP assumes full responsibility for the oil spill (Hichri, 2010).

BP seemed to grasp the importance of the internet by quickly setting up a special website in order to stay in touch with its stakeholders www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com), while Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Flickr accounts were swiftly created in order to function as reminders and ingratiation strategies supplementing its operational response, engaging the public as well in the communication process. [4]

BP's communication failure with the public, the US Government and its employees

In spite of BP's seemingly effective initial crisis communication strategies, it did not maintain its credibility, establishing a dishonest, unreliable and inconsistent profile through their later statements that contradicted the initial position. [5]

Also, Hayward's scapegoat strategies appeared too obvious and seemed as denying responsibility when he said on 25 May 2010: "The spill wasn't really BP's fault, since another company entirely owned and staffed the rig. Transocean, the operator of the rig, has the blame for the mess" (Reguly, 2010). Ironically though he concluded: "This is not our accident, but it's our responsibility" (Adubato, 2010). Stakeholders were left with the question: how can BP assume responsibility of an accident not theirs? Clearly their statements did not show a <u>staid</u> approach and were not treated with a planned PR strategy. Svanberg's mistakes were not less important, especially when he said: "I hear comments sometimes that large oil industries are greedy companies and don't care, but that is not the case with BP. We care about the small people" (Clark, 2010). [6]

Five major gaffes were identified in Hayward's communication with the media, the US government and the public:

- 1. The fake image. Although BP was promoting its intense operational responses, everything collapsed when BP supplied fake images to the press. Scott Dean, a spokesman for BP, responded: "There was nothing *ominous* in the photo. A photographer working for the company had inserted the three images in spots where the video screens were blank" (Mufson, 2010). BP quickly supplied the original image, but this was the first serious crack in BP's image. [7]
- 2. Hayward "wants his life back". The second communication mistake came from Hayward on 31 May 2010 when he said on live TV "I want my life back". Many journalists, PR consultants and even President Obama himself mocked this statement, delivering a significant hit to the company's reputation (BBC News US and Canada, 2010).[8]
- 3. The incident with the yacht. Oil was still gushing into the Gulf when Hayward took time off so he could watch his yacht "Bob" compete in J.P. Morgan's Asset Management Round the Island Race at the Isle of Wight, England (Loki, 2011). [9]
- 4. BP had not been fully prepared for a deep-water oil leak. When speaking to the Financial Times in Houston, Hayward said: "What is undoubtedly true is that we did not have the tools you would want in your toolkit" (Crooks, 2010), creating a sense of insecurity to the public and doubts for BP's performance to deal with the oil spill. [10]

5. Hayward's self-interest. Hayward showed that he was only concerned for his position during the hearing with US Cabinet members, saying that: "I haven't watched the television or read a newspaper for two weeks because I don't want my judgment clouded by what's being written about either me or the company" (Quinn, 2010), adding that "I don't feel my job to be under threat at the moment. That of course may change. I will be judged by the nature of the response" (Webb, 2010). BP's general communication also with the US government was not as good as BP would have wanted. Hayward was criticised by President Obama for spending \$50 million on radio, TV and online advertising campaigns, stating that BP should spend its money on resolving the crisis rather than on financing advertisements (Sherwell, 2010). BP later clarified by ironically saying "not a cent" had been diverted from the oil spill response to pay for the advertising campaign (Pitney, 2010). The importance of monitoring media contents and avoiding advertising campaigns during a crisis is discussed in the recommendations section. BP also failed to communicate effectively with their employees when Hayward was noted diminishing oil-related health symptoms among employees working in the oil spillage cleanup, despite stressing how safe they should feel working at BP (Korosec, 2010). During their effort to clean up the Gulf, many employees had to be hospitalized for dizziness, headaches, nasal irritation and other respiratory symptoms. Hayward's obvious disinterest for his employees became apparent when he said:

I'm sure they were genuinely ill, but [I don't know] whether it had anything to do with dispersants and oil. You know, food poisoning is a really big issue when you've got a concentration of this many people (Martel, 2010). [11]

A journalist sarcastically commented on this saying: "Apparently in Tony Hayward Land, food poisoning of cleanup crews is a big issue just like the Gulf of Mexico is a very big ocean" (Martel, 2010). [12]

BP's communication with shareholders: an opposite strategy

BP's communication strategies with its shareholders were completely different from its communication with the public and employees. The obvious reasons are financial interests intertwining BP with its shareholders and BP's constant desire to keep a competitive advantage through stable investors. Remarkably, BP's response strategy was to remind them the past good deeds of the company. This was a crucial tactic from BP because shareholders can be affected by the organization's reputational change (Agle et al., 1999).[13]

Also, BP's strategy to blame other companies for the disaster was essential for ingratiating communication with its shareholders, since they would only become more dissatisfied if BP was deemed fully responsible. (Coombs, 2007). On June 4, Svanberg said to BP's shareholders: "I am keenly aware of the gravity of the disaster in which 11 people died [. . .] We deeply regret, and are sorry, for this tragic accident and the aftermath". He also ensured BP's long-term presence in the business world, commenting on the matter of dividend: "We know how important the dividend to shareholders is [. . .] We will meet our obligations to [ward them]" (Wearden, 2010).[14]

3. Causes of BP's crisis communication failure

The root cause in the Gulf of Mexico oil spill was "management failure". Cherry Murray, Harvard School of Engineering (Ireland, 2013) Bad communication leadership Hayward's failure in leadership started with his delay during the initial weeks of the spill to address the severity of the problem (Chen, 2010). Although BP had issued a crisis response strategy involving a public information officer who would be responsible for developing and releasing information about the incident and managing personnel issues due to accidents/injuries, in practice things took a different path. [15]

Research shows that in crises the most important <u>populaces</u> to be addressed are employees/members of the company followed by the mass media and the most effective PR tools to do so are personal media interviews (Nikolaev, 2010). [16]

Trained spokesmen and authority figures (e.g. CEO or Chairman) usually undertake these tasks. In BP's case, it was clear that Hayward was not only trained, but in many instances cynical and passed the opposite messages across. Culture BP's mechanistic corporate culture – a result of BP's previous CEO John Browne – did not allow employees lower in hierarchy to express their concerns, suggestions, and even medical symptoms. Although Hayward promised to provide a more organic culture with his appointment, things proved different:

When Tony Hayward came in as CEO, improving the health and safety record was [promoted as a value] but so was rooting out inefficiency, which rooted out a lot of costs that were related to improving the safety culture says Wayne Cascio of he University of Colorado-Denver (Ciccarelli, 2011). BP's consideration of national culture matters was also defective. Hence, BP suffered hugely because it had too few Americans leading its communication strategy, signifying the importance to employ more Americans into PR for damage control. [17]

4. Solutions and strategic recommendations

Although BP swiftly understood the importance of internet crisis communication, and followed compensation, apology and ingratiation response strategies, BP's communication strategies proved insufficient or better inappropriate, resulting in Hayward's replacement by Robert Dudley on 1 October 2010 (The Guardian, 2010). This was a positive sign showing that BP cares for having the right people in the right positions. We describe below certain communication strategies BP should apply to rebuild positive relationships with its stakeholders and execute successful future crisis communication plans. [18]

Pre-crisis strategies

- 1. Change in organizational culture. This can be done through empowerment strategies, teambuilding and team-working workshops within the company.
- 2. Creation of a pre-crisis communication plan. This must be tested at least once a year. Employees and managers should undergo preparedness programmes BP should immediately appoint at least two spokespersons. BP's communication with its stakeholders must be done from experienced and responsible spokespersons. [19]

During- and after-crisis strategies

- 1. BP should attempt direct and sincere communication with the media.
- 2. Do not run an advertising campaign; it is not a good time to promote your image.
- 3. Close monitoring of media content. Monitoring news allows for immediate response and clarification of any unclear point or comment on BP's crisis response operations. [20]

5. Conclusion

It has clearly been shown that BP's crisis communication – especially with the public, the US government and its employees – was a weak link in its crisis management strategy; CEO Tony Hayward was largely responsible for this. There was a slight differentiation in communication with shareholders, most possibly due to financial interests with them, but at the end Hayward's mistakes were too serious for him to remain as CEO. The lessons to learn are various, both for practitioners and researchers. Practitioners should learn from the leadership, culture and PR mistakes made by BP and avoid them in a crisis of their organisation. They should select those strategies that foster their organization's strengths and correct its weaknesses in order to take advantage of external opportunities and counter external threats (Porter, 1985/2004). For researchers, there is a need to study the role of the company's CEO in crisis communication and the development of theoretical

frameworks with philosophies and guidelines for CEOs to effectively address communication without cynicism but with empathy. [21]

- " Companies have to develop effective and efficient crisis communication strategies 76. dealing with the complexity of the crisis". Which of the following is true for the given statement:
- Stated and implied A.
- Neither stated nor implied В.
- C. Implied but not stated
- Stated bur rejected D.
- 77. What is not a key aspect of the case
- crisis communication A.
- strategic failure В.
- C. ethical dilemma
- D. legislation
- 78. CEO's attempt to blame others was an attempt to:
- Α. Denial
- Scapegoating В.
- Self-Actualization C.
- D. Sublimation
- The passage suggests that BP was at its best in crisis communication with the shareholders. Decide who could be the least affected by this strategy:
- Shareholders A.
- **Employees** В.
- C. US government
- Environmentalists D.
- 80. SCCT core components are Crisis Responsibility and Understanding the Threat. Which of the following denote that the management failed in both.
- Shareholder management A.
- Media management В.
- Asset management C.
- D. Human Resources Management
- 81. BP's stocks are likely to be effected by the aftermaths of the tragedy. Which of the following could be the least effective strategy to counter falling shares:
- working on the confidence building of the shareholders.
- avoiding the controversy in public discourse B.
- winning the confidence of the employees
- overhauling the management team
- unkempt [paragraph 1] is nearest in meaning to:
- cumbersome A.
- В. gruesome
- C. neglected
- D. conscientious

83.	staid [paragraph 6] is nearest in meaning to:
A.	grim
B.	calm
C.	threatening
D.	serious
84.	ominous [paragraph 7] is nearest in meaning to :
A.	preposterous
В.	solemn
C.	sinister
D.	amiable
85.	Populaces [paragraph 16] is nearest in meaning to :
A.	publics
В.	commoners
C.	poor
D.	bourgeoisies
86.	questions 86-90, select the best option (A, B, C or D).
prosp	success of the business venture his expectations; he never thought that the firm would per.
A. co	nfirmed
B. be	lied
C. nu	llified
D. fu	lfilled
87.	
The j	ournalist (i) the efforts of the drug squad to control drug peddling, claiming that they
had a	ctually (ii) the problem.
Blan	k (i) Blank (ii)
I. co	mmended IV. delineated
II. de	eprecated V. mollified
	Noted VI. exacerbated
Y	
A. I	& III
B. II	
	& V & VI
U. 11	ex vi

D. III & V

88. To Simon, not usually s masked underlying (iii)	`/	ng talk seemed (ii)	. Actually their exchanges
		00000020 14 0044400	1

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
I. inscrutable	IV. amicable	VII. antagonism
II. unperceptive	V. exasperating	VIII. assumptions
III. Perspicacious	VI. Hostile	IX. geniality

A. I, V & VII

B. II, IV &VII

C. III, IV & VIII

D. I, VI & IX

89.

The new systematic nomenclature was so (i) that many chemists preferred to (ii) the older trivial names that were at least shorter. At least, that is the ostensible reason. Actually, tradition seems to carry more weight than (iii) with some scientists.

	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
I succinct	IV. revert to	VII. chronology
II. cumbersome	V. adopt	VIII. longevity
III. Irrational	VI. suspend	IX. System

A. I, V & VII

B. II, IV &VII

C. II, IV & IX

D. I, VI & IX

90.

He was normally entirely (i) , but in the embarrassing situation in which he found himself he felt compelled to (ii) .

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
I. equable	IV. concede
II. considerate	V. prevaricate
III. Forthright	VI. capitulate

A. III & V

B. I &VI

C. III & IV

D. None of the above

THE END