

# New L5M7 Test Blueprint, L5M7 Latest Study Plan



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## CIPS L5M7 Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Understand Improvement Methodologies that Can Be Used in Supply Chains: This section of the exam measures the skills of Procurement Managers and focuses on the tools and methodologies used to enhance supply chain performance and efficiency. It highlights the principles of total quality management (TQM), including quality assurance and inspection, and their role in ensuring product and process consistency. Candidates must understand how to use statistical methods such as KPIs, data analysis, and Six Sigma to drive continuous improvement. The section also explores lean thinking, agile processes, Just-in-Time (JIT) systems, and the 5S methodology as frameworks for optimizing operations. Furthermore, it covers the application of business process re-engineering (BPR) and benchmarking to evaluate and redesign supply processes for better performance and competitiveness.</li></ul>
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Understand the Dynamics of Supply Chains: This section of the exam measures the skills of Supply Chain Analysts and covers the foundational understanding of how supply chains operate, interact, and add value to organizations. It examines the differences between supply chains, supply networks, and supply chain management while exploring the concept of supplier tiering and network sourcing. Candidates are expected to understand how effective supply chain management improves quality, reduces costs and lead times, and fosters innovation while mitigating risks. Additionally, this section emphasizes the connection between an organizational infrastructure, culture, and process management in achieving efficient supply chains. It also compares various improvement approaches, including collaborative and competitive models, outsourcing, offshoring, and global procurement.</li></ul>

Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand Measures Required to Achieve Competitive Advantage in Supply Chains: This section of the exam measures the skills of Strategic Sourcing Specialists and focuses on achieving and maintaining competitive advantage through strategic supply chain practices. It assesses knowledge of how organizations can leverage cost leadership or differentiation strategies to outperform competitors. Candidates are expected to understand pricing mechanisms such as fixed and variable pricing, open book costing, and risk</li> <li>reward arrangements that drive efficiency and transparency. The section also includes cost reduction techniques like supplier rationalization, value analysis, and negotiation strategies that enhance profitability. Finally, it examines collaborative approaches such as partnership sourcing, building supplier trust, and managing relationship life cycles to ensure long-term strategic advantages within the supply chain.</li> </ul>
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### **CIPS Achieving Competitive Advantage Through the Supply Chain (L5M7) Sample Questions (Q18-Q23):**

#### **NEW QUESTION # 18**

Which approach to quality involves manufacturing only what is required, when it is required?

- A. Just-in-Time**
- B. Zero Defects
- C. Total Quality Control
- D. Total Quality Management

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

Just-in-Time (JIT) manufacturing produces goods only when required, eliminating excess inventory and waste, ensuring smooth, efficient flow.

Short cited term: "make only what is needed, when needed" (L5M7 Study Guide, p. 30).

Reference:CIPS L5M7 Study Guide, p. 30.

#### **NEW QUESTION # 19**

An agile supply chain focuses on the elimination of waste. Is this true?

- A. Yes - an agile supply chain reduces waste and defects
- B. Yes - it introduces TQM to remove inefficiencies
- C. No - it focuses on responsiveness to changing customer demand**
- D. No - it incorporates continuous improvement until errors cease

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

Agile supply chains prioritise flexibility and responsiveness to change, whereas Lean focuses on waste elimination.

Short cited term: "agile = responsive to demand; lean = waste removal." (L5M7 Study Guide, p. 155) Reference:CIPS L5M7 Study Guide, p. 155.

## NEW QUESTION # 20

When analysing a series of data, the number which occurs most frequently is known as what?

- A. Average
- B. Median
- C. Mode
- D. Mean

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

The Mode is the value that appears most often in a dataset, distinguishing it from the mean (average) and median (middle value).

Short cited term: "mode = most frequent value." (L5M7 Study Guide, p. 149) Reference: CIPS L5M7 Study Guide, p. 149.

## NEW QUESTION # 21

In a confectionery factory, quality inspection occurs before packaging. If a product is found defective, which type of cost of quality is incurred?

- A. Appraisal cost
- B. Internal failure cost
- C. External failure cost
- D. Prevention cost

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

Defects discovered before dispatch are classified as internal failures, including rework, scrap, or re-inspection.

Short cited term: "internal failure = defects found before reaching customer." (L5M7 Study Guide, p. 128) Reference: CIPS L5M7 Study Guide, p. 128.

## NEW QUESTION # 22

Trust is a dynamic concept required in partnership relationships. Which of the following are part of the five trust components important in supply chains?

- A. Loyalty
- B. Competence
- C. Charm
- D. Integrity
- E. Power

**Answer: A,B,D**

Explanation:

Trust in supply chains is built on components including integrity, competence, loyalty, openness, and fairness.

Short extract: "key trust components: integrity, competence, loyalty, openness, fairness." (L5M7 Study Guide, Domain 3.4 section) Reference: L5M7 Study Guide, Domain 3.4 (Relationship/Trust components).

## NEW QUESTION # 23

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