

# Valid CIPS L5M5 Exam Objectives | L5M5 Exam Tutorial



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## CIPS L5M5 Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand initiatives and standards related to ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) that support ethical and sustainable procurement and supply: This section of the exam measures the skills of Procurement Leaders and covers the global frameworks and standards that shape ethical supply practices. It explores international labour standards set by organizations such as the UN and ILO, and labour codes like the Ethical Trading Initiative and SA800. Candidates also examine external environmental frameworks, industry accreditations, and their role in meeting ESG goals. Finally, this section addresses fair trade principles, organizations such as WFTO and Fairtrade International, and the need to align internal governance with global standards.</li> </ul>
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand the impact of ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) considerations on ethical and sustainable supply chains: This section of the exam measures the skills of Procurement Managers and covers how ESG principles are applied to secure ethical and sustainable supply chains. It looks at the role of environmental, social, and governance factors in procurement decisions, alongside risks and benefits of ESG adoption. Learners also explore issues such as modern slavery, bribery, and human rights, as well as the importance of diversity, inclusion, and stakeholder management. The section highlights how globalization, culture, and labour practices shape supply strategies and examines potential conflicts that may arise when balancing ESG priorities with business demands.</li> </ul>

Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand the importance of compliance with ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) factors to achieve ethical and sustainable procurement and supply arrangements: This section of the exam measures skills of Supply Chain Specialists and covers methods to ensure compliance with ESG standards in procurement. It includes the use of supply chain mapping, risk management, stakeholder engagement, and contractual terms to secure sustainable practices. Candidates also learn how to monitor supplier performance, handle non-compliance, and utilize third-party auditors to maintain ethical standards. Relationship management strategies, corrective actions, and escalation processes are emphasized as part of ensuring suppliers meet ESG expectations.</li> </ul>
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### CIPS Managing Ethical Procurement and Supply (L5M5) Sample Questions (Q43-Q48):

#### NEW QUESTION # 43

Which of the following are tools that can be used by procurement professionals to evaluate the sustainability risk of contracts, their relative linkages, complexity and also help to identify potential improvements?

1. Macro environmental audit
2. Supplier preferencing
3. Portfolio analysis
4. Supply chain mapping

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 3 and 4 only
- D. 2 and 4 only

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

Option 3- Portfolio analysis (e.g., Kraljic Matrix) categorizes purchases based on risk and value. It highlights complexity and prioritizes contracts needing attention but is less focused on sustainability unless explicitly incorporated into criteria.

Option 4- Supply chain mapping provides a visual representation of the supply chain, identifying sources of risk, including sustainability challenges. This is a direct and practical tool for assessing the complexity of contracts, linkages, and areas for improvement.

The most relevant tools for assessing sustainability risks and complexities in contracts are portfolio analysis and supply chain mapping. Therefore, the correct answer is Choice C.

Incorrect answer:

Option 1- This tool involves assessing external factors such as political, economic, social, technological, legal, and environmental (PESTLE) influences on procurement activities. It helps identify sustainability risks associated with external conditions, but it is not contract-specific.

Option 2- Supplier preferencing evaluates how suppliers perceive a buyer's business, determining whether the buyer is a core, strategic, nuisance, or exploitable customer. While useful for relationship management, it does not directly assess sustainability risks or contract linkages.

Reference:

LO-2.1; Page 155-163; Assess methods to achieve ESG standards to secure ethical and sustainable supply chains

#### NEW QUESTION # 44

When developing an ESG policy, which of the following steps should be taken first?

- A. Consult with stakeholders
- B. Gather Information
- **C. Identify the need**
- D. Draft the policy

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

Steps to take to develop an ESG policy:

- 1) Identify the need
- 2) Identify who will take lead responsibility
- 3) Gather information
- 4) Draft the policy
- 5) Consult with stakeholders
- 6) Approve the policy
- 7) Procedures
- 8) Implement the policy
- 9) Monitor

So the correct answer is D.

Reference:

LO-1.1; Page 32-33; The development of ESG focused procurement and supply policies in securing ethical and sustainable procurement and supply arrangements

#### **NEW QUESTION # 45**

Which of the following best demonstrates how implementing ISO standards can result in direct cost savings?

- A. Artificial intelligence for predictive customer behavior analysis
- B. Enhancing brand image and reputation in the global market
- **C. Cloud-based document management systems for paperless operations**
- D. Gaining new customers by showcasing compliance with international standards

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

Option D- This is the correct answer, as cloud-based document storage systems reduce paper, printing, and storage costs. ISO standards often encourage sustainable practices like digitizing documents, which directly saves on operational costs related to printing and paper use.

Incorrect answer:

Option A- While AI can improve business efficiency and decision-making, it is more focused on optimizing customer engagement and marketing strategies. It does not directly lead to cost savings.

Option B- Improving brand image is a long-term strategic benefit but does not directly reduce costs. It may contribute to business growth but not immediate cost savings.

Option C- ISO certification can attract new customers and boost business credibility, but this is more about increasing revenue rather than reducing costs.

Reference:

LO-3.2; Page 277-278; The benefits and challenges of independent standards in securing ESG objectives in ethical and sustainable procurement and supply arrangements

#### **NEW QUESTION # 46**

SA8000 measures an organisation's social accountability. Which of the following is a disadvantage of this standard?

- A. It is industry specific
- **B. It requires a management system which can be costly to implement**
- C. It is only applicable to larger organisations
- D. It is not recognised in some countries

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation From Exact Extract of Documents:

SA8000 is an internationally recognised certification standard for social accountability. It requires organisations to adopt management systems to monitor compliance with social standards, including child labour elimination, safe working conditions, and fair wages. According to the L5M5 study guide (p.264), one disadvantage is the cost of implementing and maintaining the management system, which can be resource-intensive for smaller organisations. SA8000 is not industry-specific, is recognised globally, and is applicable to both large and small organisations. However, the investment in audits, training, and compliance documentation can be significant, making this a barrier for some companies.

Reference: Managing Ethical Procurement and Supply (L5M5) Study Guide, p.264

#### NEW QUESTION # 47

XYZ Corp is seeking industry certification and has hired an external firm to assess its compliance with regulatory requirements and industry standards. The firm will provide an unbiased evaluation and recommend improvements. What type of audit is XYZ Corp conducting?

- A. Financial audit
- B. Internal audit
- C. Compliance audit
- D. Third-party audit

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

Choice B- While the audit focuses on compliance (option C), the key detail in the scenario is that the audit is being conducted by an external firm. This makes it a third-party audit. A compliance audit (option C) could be conducted either internally or externally, depending on the organization's approach.

Incorrect answer:

Choice A- Internal audits are conducted by the organization's own employees or an internal audit team to assess compliance, risks, and processes. Since XYZ Corp hired an external firm, this is not an internal audit.

Choice C- Although the audit involves assessing compliance with regulatory and industry standards, the key point in the scenario is the use of an external firm. This makes it a third-party audit. A compliance audit can be conducted internally, externally, or by a third party. Incorrect (in this context) Choice D- A financial audit focuses on verifying the accuracy of an organization's financial statements and records. The scenario does not mention financial data but instead focuses on regulatory and industry compliance. Therefore, this is not a financial audit.

Reference:

LO-2.3; Page 207-208; Sourcing third parties for auditing services

#### NEW QUESTION # 48

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