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Chapter 2: Strategy Driven Human Resource Management

Applying the Concept 2-1: The External Environment

Read each statement and write in the letter corresponding to the external environmental factor it refers to.

- a. customers
- b. competition
- c. suppliers
- d. labor force
- e. shareholders
- f. society
- g. technology
- h. the economy
- i. governments
- 1. The CEO was fired by the owners because our company is not profitable.
- E. Shareholders. They own the company and appoint top managers.
- 2. GE wanted to acquire our company, but the SEC said that would be in violation of antitrust laws, thereby preventing the deal.
- H. Governments. The government can stop mergers and acquisitions when it believes society will be harmed by the business transaction.
- 3. Karen bought a new oven that will cook our pizza in half the time and make it taste even better.
- G. Technology. A new improved faster oven is a technology change.
- 4. eHarmony online dating service is losing some customers to other services focusing on Christian, African-American, and older people seeking matches.
- B. E-Harmony has more competition now.

- 5. Our purchasing agent just closed a deal that will let us buy sugar for a few cents less per pound, saving us thousands of dollars per year.
- I. Suppliers. The company purchases sugar from a supplier.

Applying the Concept 2-2: Writing Objectives

For each objective, write in the letter corresponding to which "must" criteria is not met.

- a. single result
- b. specific
- c. measurable
- d. target date
- 6. To start working out aerobically within a few weeks
- D. Target date. What is the date by which the workouts will actually start?
- 7. To double ticket sales
- D. Target date. By when will the objective be met, a day, months, years?
- 8. To sell 7% more sandwiches and 15% more chips in 2016
- A. Single result. Put sales of each in separate objectives.
- 9. To decrease the number of sales returns by year end of 2016
- B. Specific. By how much, one, 50, 100?
- 10. To be perceived as the best restaurant in the Boston area by 2017
- C. Measurable. How will you know if you are perceived as the best or not?

Applying the Concept 2-3: Strategies

Identify which strategy is used by each brand or company listed and write the letter corresponding to the company's strategy by the company's name.

- a. cost leadership
- b. differentiation
- c. focus or niche
- 11. Gucci hand bags
- $B.\ Differentiation.\ iP hones\ are\ high\ priced\ differentiated\ smart\ phones.$
- 12. Bodybuilder magazine
- C. Focus. It focuses on selling to bodybuilders.
- 13. Rolex watches
- C. Focus. It focuses on selling to wealthy people.
- 14. TOMS shoes
- B. Differentiation. The TOMS logo differentiates it from other brands, and TOMS has a social mission of giving away free shoes for every pair you buy.
- 15. Target stores

A. Low cost. Walmart emphasizes low every day prices.

Applying the Concept 2-4: The Internal Environment

Identify which internal environmental factor is referred to in each statement and then write the letter corresponding to that factor before the statement.

- a. strategy
- b. structure
- c. culture
- 16. "At Victoria's Secret, we focus on selling clothes and other products to women."
- A. Strategy. This is a focus strategy targeting women.
- 17. "At the SEC, we have several layers of management."
- B. Structure. This statement refers to performing a formalization type of standard job.
- 18. "At Ford, quality is job one."
- C. Culture. This is a statement regarding the value of quality.
- 19. "Walking around the office at Bank of America, I realized that I would have to wear a jacket and tie every day."
- C. Culture. Everyone wearing a jacket and tie is a cultural aspect.
- 20. "I work in the production department at Ford, and she works in the marketing department."
- B. Structure. Departments are part of the structure.