



PG – 889

**IV Semester M.B.A. Degree Examination, July 2017
(CBCS)**

MANAGEMENT

4.4.3 : Talent and Knowledge Management

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 70

Instruction : Answer all Sections.

SECTION – A

Answer **any five** of the following. **Each** question carries **five** marks. **(5×5=25)**

1. What are the elements of Talent Friendly Organizations ?
2. What is Knowledge Management ? Describe the different types of Knowledge.
3. Briefly explain Talent Value chain.
4. What is the difference between Talent Workers and Knowledge Workers ?
5. Explain the benefits of a Talent Management System.
6. Succession Planning is a better than Replacement. Briefly explain.
7. Explain return on Talent.

SECTION – B

Answer **any three** of the following. **Each** question carries **ten** marks. **(3×10=30)**

8. What are Cross Functional Teams ? What are its advantages and disadvantages ?
9. What are the issues and challenges in Knowledge Management ?
10. Explain the building blocks of a Talent Management System.
11. What are the trends in Social Media for Talent Management.

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SECTION – C

12. Case Study (Compulsory) :

(1×15=15)

Difficult Transitions

Tony Stark had just finished his first week at Reece Enterprises and decided to drive upstate to a small lakefront lodge for some fishing and relaxation. Tony had worked for the previous ten years for the O'Grady Company, but O'Grady had been through some hard times of late and had recently shut down several of its operating groups, including Tony's, to cut costs. Fortunately, Tony's experience and recommendations had made finding another position fairly easy. As he drove the interstate, he reflected on the past ten years and the apparent situation at Reece.

At O' Grady, things had been great. Tony had been part of the team from day one. The job had met his personal goals and expectations perfectly, and Tony believed he had grown greatly as a person. His work was appreciated and recognized; he had received three promotions and many more pay increases.

Tony had also liked the company itself. The firm was decentralized, allowing its managers considerable autonomy and freedom. The corporate culture was easygoing. Communication was open. It seemed that everyone knew what was going on at all times, and if you didn't know about something, it was easy to find out.

The people had been another plus. Tony and three other managers went to lunch often and played golf every Saturday. They got along well both personally and professionally and truly worked together as a team. Their boss had been very supportive, giving them the help they needed but also staying out of the way and letting them work.

When word about the shutdown came down, Tony was devastated. He was sure that nothing could replace O'Grady. After the final closing was announced, he spent only a few weeks looking around before he found a comparable position at Reece Enterprises.

As Tony drove, he reflected that "comparable" probably was the wrong word. Indeed, Reece and O'Grady were about as different as you could get. Top managers at Reece apparently didn't worry too much about who did a good job and who didn't. They seemed to promote and reward people based on how long they had been there and how well they played the never-ending political games.



Maybe this stemmed from the organization itself, Tony pondered. Reece was a bigger organization than O'Grady and was structured much more bureaucratically. It seemed that no one was allowed to make any sort of decision without getting three signatures from higher up. Those signatures, though, were hard to get. All the top managers usually were too busy to see anyone, and interoffice memos apparently had very low priority.

Tony also had some problems fitting in. His peers treated him with polite indifference. He sensed that a couple of them resented that he, an outsider, had been brought right in at their level after they had to work themselves up the ladder. On Tuesday he had asked two colleagues about playing golf. They had politely declined, saying that they did not play often. But later in the week, he had overheard them making arrangements to play that very Saturday.

It was at that point that Tony had decided to go fishing. As he steered his car off the interstate to get gas, he wondered if perhaps he had made a mistake in accepting the Reece offer without finding out more about what he was getting into.

Questions :

- a) Is it possible to find an "ideal" place to work ? Explain.
- b) Must Reece Enterprises change about themselves. Why ?