

**BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION  
FACULTY OF COMMERCE**

JUN 2025

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS  
PROGRAMME: BCOM SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT DEGREE  
EXAMINATION**

**COURSE: HUMANITARIAN LOGISTICS SCM209**

<b>DURATION:</b>	<b>3 HOURS</b>
<b>TOTAL MARKS</b>	<b>100</b>

**Instructions to Candidates**

1. Answer ALL Questions in this section A.
2. Answer ALL Questions in section B.
3. Answer any two (2) questions in section C.

**Section A: Multiple Choice Questions**

**Answer ALL Questions in this section.**

**Question 1.** Which of the following is NOT a key objective of humanitarian logistics?

- a) Minimizing response time
- b) Maximizing cost efficiency
- c) Ensuring supply chain visibility
- d) Achieving sustainability

**Question 2.** Which of the following is a common challenge in humanitarian logistics?

- a) Limited resources and infrastructure
- b) Well-established supply chain networks

- c) Abundance of skilled labour
- d) Stable political environment

**Question 3.** Which approach is commonly used in humanitarian logistics to manage uncertainty and variability in demand?

- a) Reactive approach
- b) Push-based approach
- c) Lean manufacturing approach
- d) Agile approach

**Question 4.** Which of the following is an example of a pre-positioning strategy in humanitarian logistics?

- a) Distributing relief supplies during an ongoing disaster
- b) Sending relief supplies immediately after a disaster occurs
- c) Storing relief supplies in strategic locations before a disaster
- d) Coordinating volunteers for disaster response

**Question 5.** Which technology is commonly used to improve supply chain visibility in humanitarian logistics?

- a) Blockchain
- b) Radio-frequency identification (RFID)
- c) Artificial intelligence (AI)
- d) Virtual reality (VR)

**Question 6.** Which of the following is a crucial factor in ensuring effective coordination in humanitarian logistics?

- a) Centralized decision-making
- b) Lack of communication channels
- c) Autocratic leadership style

- d) Collaborative partnerships

**Question 7.** Which of the following is a primary consideration in humanitarian logistics when selecting transportation modes?

- a) Maximizing profitability
- b) Minimizing response time
- c) Reducing carbon emissions
- d) Maximizing cargo capacity

**Question 8.** What is the "last mile" in humanitarian logistics?

- a) The distance between two distribution centers
- b) The final stage of product delivery to affected communities
- c) The transportation of goods by air
- d) The coordination of volunteers during disaster response

**Question 9.** Which of the following organizations is responsible for coordinating international

humanitarian logistics efforts?

- a) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- b) World Health Organization (WHO)
- c) International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
- d) World Trade Organization (WTO)

**Question 10.** Which metric is commonly used to measure the performance of humanitarian logistics operations?

- a) Return on investment (ROI)
- b) Customer satisfaction rating

- c) On-time delivery percentage
- d) Employee turnover rate

**Question 11.** Which technology can be used for real-time tracking and monitoring of relief shipments in humanitarian logistics?

- a) Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
- b) Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs)
- c) Internet of Things (IoT)
- d) Augmented Reality (AR)

**Question 12.** Which of the following is a key consideration in selecting warehouses for humanitarian operations?

- a) Proximity to suppliers
- b) Cost of rent
- c) Availability of advanced technology
- d) Capacity for storage and handling

**Question 13.** Which transportation mode is often used for rapid response in humanitarian logistics?

- a) Rail transportation
- b) Air transportation
- c) Road transportation
- d) Water transportation

**Question 14.** Humanitarian logistics involves the management of the flow of:

- a) Financial resources
- b) Information

- c) People
- d) All of the above

**Question 15** Which of the following is a key challenge in humanitarian logistics?

- a) Abundance of resources
- b) Stable political environment
- c) Limited infrastructure
- d) Well-established supply chains

## **SECTION B: CASE STUDY**

**Answer ALL Questions in this section.**

### **Question 16**

The heavily laden truck almost comes to a complete halt at the bottom of the gully, turns to the left to avoid a pothole then slowly works its way up the incline. The road to Chimanimani was badly damaged in the aftermath Cyclone Idai Disaster. The driver breathes a sigh of relief - the worst part of the journey is over. Half an hour later he pulls in to the improvised camp where a small crowd of people are waiting expectantly. A number of tents are up and he sees the flags of a well-known relief organization on some of them. It is quite obvious that the camp is far from complete, but the camp is not his responsibility. The delivery of a little over a thousand plastic jerry-cans is.

Helped by some of the camp personnel and locals he opens the back of the truck and makes ready to start unloading. Everyone stops, and the driver is puzzled. After a couple of minutes, the camp manager arrives. "What is wrong?" the driver asks. The camp manager shakes his head "Let me show you," he says and the driver follows to a large tent a little walk away from the rest. He pulls the flap to the side and the driver immediately realizes what is wrong, as he stands watching a pile of several thousand identical jerry-cans. "We're still waiting for clean water," the camp manager says.

### **Question**

a) Discuss the main problem of the response to disaster in the background story and explain the concept that can be applied to resolve the problem. (15 marks)

b) State and explain any four factors that can ensure the effectiveness of the concept you explained in question (a) above. (15 marks)

### **SECTION C**

**Answer any two (2) question in this section.**

#### **Question 17**

a) Explain how logistics decisions regarding efficiency and responsiveness are made in a major in-kind aid distribution. (14 marks)

b) Explain how unpredictability of demand and earmarking of funds can be a significant challenge in responding to sudden onset disasters like Cyclone Idai. (6 marks)

#### **Question 18**

Explain the dimensions of Market Functionality Index to be considered for a major Cash Based Transfer program in Zimbabwe's urban areas. (20 marks)

#### **Question 19**

a) State four stakeholders in humanitarian supply chain and explain their interest. (10 marks)

b) Discuss the key issues to be carried out by supply chain unit in the three phases of disaster response. (10 marks)