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20 One-Liners | Basics of Management & Planning CAIIB ABFM: Complete 2026 Guide with Q

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20 One-Liners to Remember

Quick-fire facts for last-minute revision.

- 1 Management means achieving organisational goals effectively and efficiently.**
Effectively means doing the right things; efficiently means doing them the right way.
- 2 The five functions of management are Planning, Organising, Staffing, Directing and Controlling.**
These functions form the core management framework tested in CAIIB ABFM.
- 3 Planning is the first and primary function of management.**
Every other management function flows from and depends on the plan set first.
- 4 The functional approach to management traces back to Henri Fayol.**
Fayol outlined foundational management principles still referenced in modern theory.
- 5 Planning answers where an organisation is now and where it wants to go.**
This two-part question defines the purpose of the planning process.

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- 6 The planning process includes setting objectives, developing premises, identifying alternatives, evaluating them, selecting, implementing and reviewing.**

This full sequence is a frequently tested list in CAIIB ABFM.

- 7 Standing plans are used repeatedly, such as policies, procedures and rules.**

A bank's KYC policy applied to every account is an example of a standing plan.

- 8 Single-use plans are made for a specific one-time purpose, such as a budget for a new branch.**

Single-use plans are not reused once their specific objective is achieved.

- 9 Strategic planning sets long-term objectives at the corporate level.**

It differs from operational planning, which handles short-term resource deployment.

- 10 Operational planning focuses on short-term resource deployment at business and functional levels.**

It translates strategic goals into day-to-day departmental actions.

- 11 Death by Plan describes excessive planning that delays or blocks actual execution.**

Over-planning without follow-through can be as harmful as under-planning.

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- 12 MBO stands for Management by Objectives, where goals are set jointly by manager and employee.**

Performance is measured against these mutually agreed objectives and rewarded accordingly.

- 13 PESTEL analysis scans Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Environmental and Legal factors.**

It is used by managers to assess the external macro-environment affecting a business.

- 14 Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs ranks needs from physiological to self-actualisation.**

Each level represents a different source of human motivation.

- 15 Herzberg's Two-Factor Theory separates hygiene factors from motivator factors.**

Hygiene factors like salary prevent dissatisfaction; motivators like recognition create satisfaction.

- 16 Task-oriented leaders emphasise efficiency and goal completion.**

This contrasts with employee-oriented leaders, who emphasise empathy and motivation.

- 17 The three levels of strategy are corporate, business and functional.**

Corporate level sets overall direction, business level sets competitive strategy, and functional level implements departmental plans.

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18 Efficiency means doing things right, while effectiveness means doing the right things.

The cost-to-income ratio is described as a real-world reflection of efficiency.

19 A learning organisation continuously evolves and adapts to change.

This capability is vital for banks facing disruption from fintech competitors.

20 Contingency planning prepares an organisation for crises such as a core-banking system outage.

It complements operational plans by covering unexpected disruptive events.

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