

B A PART 2 PAPER 4TH HOME SCIENCE

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DECISION MAKING AND THEIR STEPS

Home management, a dynamic process involves decision making. Decision making is the heart of Home management. It requires knowledge of essential information, application of knowledge in life situation and the willingness to know and to apply. So the role of decision making in management involves knowing and actually applying essential information in problem situations of day to day life. Management is a mental process which involves a series of decision -making. The steps in decision making are:

1. Defining the problem.
2. Identifying the alternative solution
3. Analysing the alternative
4. Selecting an alternative
5. Action in carrying out the plan and bearing responsibility for the consequence

Defining the Problem

It involves the recognition of the problem. It needs relevant information to identify and define it first. Unless the problem is clearly defined and analysed the ultimate decision would not be effective. For e.g. Planning household activities, purchasing labour saving devices, selecting clothing for the family.

Identifying the Alternatives

Decision making will be effective only when one identifies possible alternatives. The choice of best selection of alternatives requires thorough knowledge about the availability of resources and their limitations.

Analysing the Alternatives

After identifying the alternatives, one should think of the consequences of each alternative systematically to find out the relevant one, considering the goals, values and standards.

Selecting an Alternative

After analysing the problem one should carefully select from the possible alternatives. Evaluation plays a very important role in this selection. Choosing the best from the several possible alternatives will be helpful in solving the problem.

Accepting the Consequences of the Decision

This is the ability to assess and accept the consequences of the decision for making future decision. It is the evaluational process. This experience would indicate the final outcome of the decision making. It creates self confidence in people to make effective decisions in the future.