

# **Planning Process Group Artifacts**

6.6 Develop Schedule

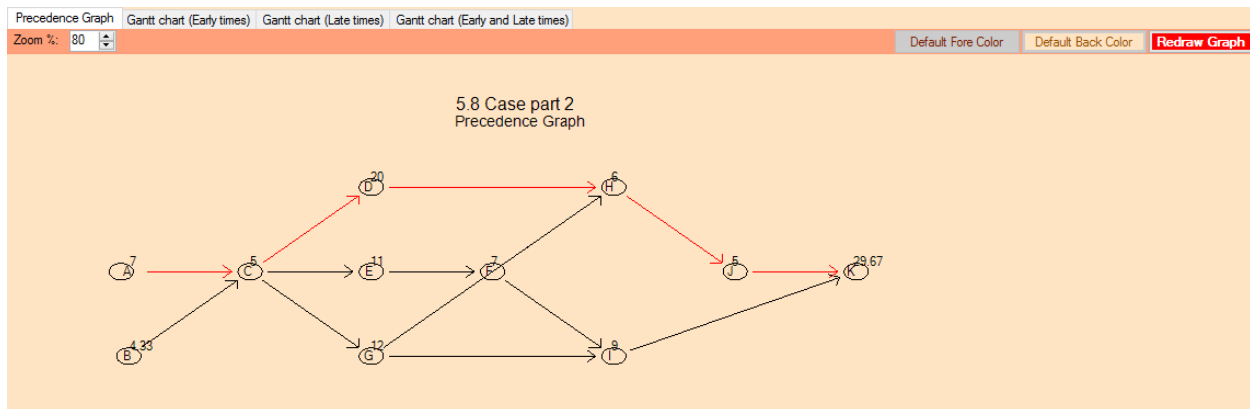
6.6.2 Critical Path Method (Tools and Techniques)

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## 6.6.2 Critical Path Method (Tools and Techniques):

Homework from PMGT 613, Deliverable 5.8 on establishing the critical path of various activities.



The PMBOK states that the critical path method (CCM) is a schedule method that allows the project team to place buffers on any project schedule path to account for limited resources and project uncertainties. The critical path method uses activities with durations that do not include safety margins, logical relationship, and resource availability (PMI, 2013).

The critical path promotes the critical chain as shown above with the activities annotated in red. These activities do not have any slack time available. This path is the longest activity path through the network; if any activity along the critical path is delayed, the whole project is delayed. The critical path is important and because it gives the project manager an idea of what activities need to be addressed first. Also, when building a schedule, the critical path can show if any activities can be fast tracked or crashed to shorten the overall duration of the project.

## Reference List

Project Management Institute. (2013). *A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge* (PMBOK Guide, 5<sup>th</sup> ed) Newton Square, PA: PMI Inc.

