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Tools for Optimum Performance

Agile Scrum Foundation Training

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Scrum Master Sample Examination with Answers and Notices

Question 1

What is the goal of a Sprint Retrospective? Please select the option(s) that NOT adhere to the purpose of this important Scrum meeting:

Your answer(s):

- A Discuss the impediments raised by the Development Team during the last sprint, and make a plan for implementing improvements.
- B Refinement of epics nominated by the Product Owner for the next couple of sprints, in order to promote reliable release planning.
- C Verification of how well the product increment satisfies the applicable user stories in the Product Backlog.
- D Discuss the interaction within the Scrum Team, and agree upon measures to improve the collaboration.

Notice:

The Sprint Retrospective is an opportunity for the Scrum Team to inspect itself and create a plan for identified and agreed-upon improvements to be enacted during the next Sprint(s). Thus, the Sprint Retrospective provides a formal opportunity to focus on inspection and adaptation.

Refinement of epics is part of the regular grooming exercise under auspices of the Product Owner, and is not part of the retrospective. Only during Sprint Review, it is determined whether the product increment satisfies the applicable items on the Product Backlog according to the 'Definition of Done'.

Question 2

The Product Owner role and Scrum Master role are never included in the Development Team size count.

Correct answer:

- A True
- B False

Notice:

The Product Owner and Scrum Master roles are not included in the Development Team size count unless they are also executing the work of the Sprint Backlog. Although in the majority of cases they are not part of the Development Team, the Product Owner and/or the Scrum Master can be (part-time) included in the Development Team size count.

Question 3

Scrum allows for re-estimating tasks based on growing insight. Which Scrum team member is responsible for updating the estimates of the work during a Sprint?

Correct answer:

- A The Development Team
- B The Scrum Master
- C The most senior member of the Team.
- D The Product Owner

Notice:

At any point in time in a Sprint, the total work remaining in the Sprint Backlog items can be summed. The Development Team tracks the total work remaining at least for every Daily Scrum, if needed after a re-estimate of tasks to be done. Hence the estimates for the remaining work are updated at a daily basis. Note that Scrum does not consider the time spent working on Sprint Backlog Items. The work remaining and date are the only variables of interest.

Question 4

Time-boxing is an important principle of Scrum. What is the exact meaning of a meeting having a time-box?

Correct answer:

- A The meeting must happen by a given time.
- B The meeting must happen at the same time every day.
- C The meeting must take at least a minimum amount of time.
- D The meeting can take no more than a maximum amount of time.

Notice:

Scrum uses time-boxed events, such that every meeting has a maximum duration. Time-boxing ensures that an appropriate amount of time is spent, minimizing the waste associated with open-end meetings without any time-restriction.

Scrum events are using the following time-boxes:

- *Sprint: one month or less*
- *Daily Scrum: 15 minutes for a Sprint of any duration*
- *Sprint Planning Meeting: eight hours for a one-month Sprint*
- *Sprint Review: four hours for a one-month Sprint*
- *Sprint Retrospective: three hours for a one-month Sprint*

For shorter Sprints, the events have proportionately shorter time-box.

Question 5

Resolving internal conflicts is NOT the responsibility of the Development Team.

Correct answer:

- True
- False

Notice:

Important asset of a Development team is self-empowerment, fostering self-organization. Hence, they are to manage their own work and themselves, which includes internal conflicts. Of course the Scrum Master will monitor the handling of conflicts within the team, but allows teammembers to solve situations themselves first.

Question 6

What is NOT an attribute of the Development Team?

Correct answer:

- A Members of Development Teams are exchanged frequently to promote continuous learning and cross-functionality.
- B The Development Team provides input for the Sprint Planning Meeting with respect to the projected capacity during the upcoming Sprint.
- C The Development Team may re-negotiate with the Product Owner the work needed to deliver the agreed upon sprint goal during the running sprint, when more is learned.
- D The Development Team update their estimate of the total amount of remaining work for completion of the running sprint, so that it can be plotted on the Sprint Burndown Chart.

Notice:

Development Teams must have a constant composition over a longer period of time, in order to enhance the overall efficiency by learning and collaboration. Furthermore, constant changes in team composition makes it cumbersome to decide on an average capacity of Development Teams, a requisite for reliable project planning.

Question 7

One of the benefits from Scrum is that the Development Team doesn't have to write detailed specifications anymore.

Correct answer:

- A True
 B False

Notice:

One of the myths about Scrum is that it prevents you from writing detailed specifications. In reality, it is up to the Product Owner and the Development Team to decide how much detail is required, and this will vary from one backlog item to the next, depending on the insight and maturity of the team, among other factors. Low-priority items have fewer requirement details, while high priority and "fine-grained items" tend to have more detail.

Question 8

What are the major properties of a cross-functional Development Team?:

Correct answer(s):

- A The team is able to complete the project according to the planning, after the date and cost are committed to the Product Owner.
 B The team has all the skills on board, needed to accept collective ownership for the next product increment.
 C All team members have a the knowledge and experience needed to deliver the correct product increment.
 D The team comprises competence teams dedicated to particular domains like specialized testing or business analysis, to facilitate deliverance of the highest business value.

Notice:

Development Teams are cross-functional, with all of the skills as a team necessary to create a product increment. Development Teams do not contain sub-teams dedicated to particular domains like testing or business analysis.

These are questions taken from the full-blown 80-question Scrum Master test examination which is part of the Agile Scrum Foundation training offered by ImprovementT. Participants receive a preparation guide, self-study materials, the full test examination, and afterwards they receive their score, the correct answers + explanation.

See for more info: <http://www.improvement-services.nl/agile-scrum-foundation-training.html>