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Demonstrate how the various roles on your Scrum-Agile Team specifically contributed to the success of a project. Use specific examples from your experiences.

The **product owner** was the main one who conversed directly with the client and got the important details that they then conveyed to the rest of the team. They made sure that the lines of communication were open and in use, and that there was no confusion about what the client SNHU travel requested. They created user stories by talking to potential customers and seeing exactly what they expect from a website like SNHU Travel, then they made sure that the team’s vision aligned with the client’s vision as well as the customers’ expectations. They were sure to update the team on changes like the relatively late shift to a health and wellness focus, but they made sure to keep things simple and prevent the team from panicking or feeling overwhelmed.

The **scrum master (me)** set up and headed up all of the scrum related steps in the process. They started us off with a scrum kickoff meeting in order to get the entire team familiar with the project at hand and get an idea of what each group’s approach to the SNHU Travel website will entail. They then implemented sprint planning sessions where the groups got to work out the details of how they would specifically tackle their own sections of the sprint, allowing them to coordinate and keep each other informed. The scrum master called for and facilitated daily scrum stand up meetings so that no groups were ever left out of the loop or unsure of how the SNHU travel project was meant to flow as a whole. Sprint backlogs were implemented to display a tangible representation of where each group was in the process and how much farther they had to go. Afterwards the scrum master facilitated a sprint review to review the work that had been completed and present it to the stakeholders. Finally, they gathered the team for a sprint retrospective to go over what went well with the sprint and what areas the team can improve on.

The **developers** took the information and advice for the product owner, the scrum master, and the user stories to create a program that would satisfy the needs of the SNHU Travel website. They made sure to go over all of the notes provided and create a program that could cater to the individual needs of each customer who visited the site. They made sure the website provided the proper options in the form of offering top five popular destinations, travel packages, transportation options etc. all at the request of the client and the potential customers. They created an interface that allowed customers to personalize their experience and request specific options that best suited their needs.

The **testers** made sure that the program that the developers made was fully functional and included all of the options that the client and potential customers had by creating test cases accordingly. They insured that the aforementioned examples of the website offering top five popular destinations, travel packages, transportation options etc. we’re inclined, visible to the customers, and available to be properly interacted with and selected. They also checked to see if the interface functioned when specific inputs that would likely be used by the customers were tested.

Describe how a Scrum-Agile approach to the software development life cycle (SDLC) helped user stories come to completion. Use specific examples from your experiences.

User stories were created using feedback from potential customers to decide new functionalities for the website. The product owner is in charge of crafting user stories, and the agile model’s more flexible approach to the SDLC means multiple teams can coordinate together on the best way to incorporate user stories in the development process. For the scrum method users stories are shared in scrum meetings and used by the teams to help identify the expectations of the SNHU travel website after its completion. The developers take the information given to them and create a program that adheres to what the customers desire in a Travel site like the ability to price hunt and receive special offers. When they get these criteria they know exactly what is expected of them when they crew the program and what they will likely be penalized for excluding, like the “top five destinations” and the “price hunting”. User stories also give the product tester the guidelines from which to derive to see if the developers have met the criteria of the assessment or not. The testers check for the availability of the options provided in the user stories and ensure that they are functioning properly. With all the groups working together it allows them to be on the same page when it comes to the best method of including criteria from the user stories in the SDLC steps.

Describe how a Scrum-Agile approach supported project completion when the project was interrupted and changed direction. Use specific examples from your experiences.

Christy led a scrum meeting that gathered the team together in order to inform them of any changes and updates that the customer would be expecting to see. The biggest change was to update the website to focus on a health and wellness angle the destinations offered, which at first had the team a bit nervous that there would be a complete overhaul of the system. Luckily unlike the waterfall method which would have required every team to individually go back and do a complete overhaul of their work and slowly move the program from group to group, the agile method allowed us to take these changes in stride and coordinate the easiest most efficient way to deal with the new criteria. The developers and testers were able to simultaneously update their models, with the developers adding in extra details and options while the testers updated their test cases on the fly, not having to wait for each other to finish before being able to implement the necessary changes. The extra degree of freedom and flexibility provided by the agile method was instrumental in ensuring that would have otherwise been a major wrench thrown in the project barely slowed the team’s progress down overall.

Demonstrate your ability to communicate effectively with your team by providing samples of your communication. Explain why your examples were effective in their context and how they encouraged collaboration among team members.

By leading scrum events like scrum meetings and facilitating sprint backlogs, as Scrum master it was my job to ensure communication and coordination between all the groups. I would coordinate with the leaders of the different groups and help them prepare presentations each morning before the scrum meetings to ensure that they properly updated everyone on what the current status of their team was. I facilitated sprints and sprint backlogs that displayed the progress of each team toward the sprint goals I helped them lay out and encouraged direct coordination. When Christy provided us with updates from the client, I made sure that these were properly communicated and understood by each separate group, and the backlogs were properly updated, and the changes were communicated so that everyone was always on the same page. After the program was created, Christy and I led a sprint review with the along with client and shareholders to go over the details of what the team had created and encourage feedback and opinions. Finally, after everything was completed, I facilitated a sprint retrospective so that the team could discuss the scrum and sprint process, and communicate how it went and what should be improved upon in the future.

Evaluate the organizational tools and Scrum-Agile principles that helped your team be successful. Reference the Scrum events in relation to the effectiveness of the tools.

The organizational tools create a common place which all members of the team can visit in order to the progress of all the individual groups laid out in an easy-to-understand concise way. These tools display the current status of the sprint like what tasks are necessary, what tasks have been completed, and what tasks are currently being worked on. This allows for the coordination between the teams to be much easier, as having the other groups’ current progress and updates available for reference at all times will prove useful to their own progress. The tools make it so that the information gained in scrum meetings and through sprint backlogs will not be forgotten or overlooked by the different teams, because if they miss something, forget something, or are unable to attend the meeting, they will still have a solid point of reference to draw on when necessary. It is important to have reliable documentation of where the team is at in the overall project, so for the sake of communication and coordination organizational tools are a necessity to any successful scrum.

Assess the effectiveness of the Scrum-Agile approach for a specific project. Address each of the following: Describe the pros and cons that the Scrum-Agile approach presented during the SNHU Travel project. Determine whether or not a Scrum-Agile approach was the best approach for the SNHU Travel development project.

The flexibility and coordination allowed by the scrum agile method proved monumental in helping us achieve our goals, especially in instances like the aforementioned website switch from a simple travel website to a health and wellness focused site. The ability to pick up from anywhere and make changes on the fly that can be coordinated throughout the entire team is one of the most useful aspects of the agile scrum method. The agile sprint lays out the specific goals that the program should achieve upon completion. The leaders of the different groups would update the backlog before each scrum meeting with the current progress their team has made to that point. In this project I didn’t personally see any drawbacks to using the agile scrum method, as I couldn’t imagine a scenario or instance that came up where I would have rather used the old waterfall method instead of the one we did use.