

HW10

Deciding About Agile at Mighty Jaxx

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### **Writing Prompt 1**

Given the primary functions of Mighty Jaxx, I believe that the production function could benefit the most from implementing Scrum/sprint methodologies. Scrum emphasizes teamwork, communication, and iterative development, which are all important aspects of the production process. It is useful when the production process is complex and requires a significant amount of collaboration between team members. Therefore, it can be implemented into Mighty Jaxx's production process since products become increasingly visually sophisticated and complex. The figures Jaxx designed are not only complex, but must be rugged and made with precision. Mighty Jaxx could use Scrum to organize its production process into small, cross-functional teams, each responsible for developing and producing a specific product. Scrum allows the team to prioritize and manage their work in small, manageable sprints, which can help them identify and address issues quickly. As Jackson planned, he recognized his team into three product-oriented "Sprint Teams", each organized to focus on deliverables and related tasks over a one-month cycle. The team can set a specific goal for each sprint and work together to achieve it. The scrum master can facilitate daily stand-up meetings to ensure that everyone is aligned and to identify any obstacles that may prevent the team from achieving their goals. After each sprint, the team can reflect on their progress, adjust their approach if necessary, and plan for the next sprint. Overall, scrum methodology could help Mighty Jaxx improve their production process by making it more efficient, collaborative, and flexible.

While Kanban is also an Agile framework that could be used for project management, it may not be the best fit for Mighty Jaxx's production function. Kanban emphasizes a continuous flow of work, with tasks moving through different stages of development as they are completed. This approach may work well for certain aspects, such as manufacturing and distribution, but may not provide enough structure for the creative and iterative aspects of product development. Scrum's focus on teamwork, communication, and iterative development is better suited to the needs of the production function at Mighty Jaxx.

### **Writing Prompt 2**

Based on the primary functions of Mighty Jaxx, I believe that the distribution function could benefit the most from implementing Kanban methodologies. This approach may work well for Mighty Jaxx's distribution function, which involves a lot of logistics and coordination. Kanban can help teams to manage inventory levels and respond quickly to changes in demand. By using a Kanban board, Mighty Jaxx's distribution team can visualize the flow of work and identify any bottlenecks or issues that may arise. Specifically, the visual board with columns representing different stages in the process, such as "incoming orders," "order fulfillment," and "shipping." Each column contains a set number of "cards" representing orders or items to be processed. As orders come in, they are added to the incoming orders column. As the team begins processing them, the cards move across the board to the next column. If there are any bottlenecks or delays

in the process, they become immediately apparent on the board, and the team can take action to resolve them. In this way, Mighty Jaxx can improve inventory management and faster response to changes. The team can improve efficiency, reduce waste, and deliver high-quality products to their customers.

Scrum methodologies may not be the best fit for Mighty Jaxx's distribution function because it relies heavily on teamwork and communication, which may not be as necessary for this function. Distribution tasks are often more individual and require a high degree of organization and logistics management. Kanban's focus on continuous flow and task completion is better suited to the needs of the distribution function at Mighty Jaxx.

### **Writing Prompt 3**

Dear Mr. Jackson,

As a consultant specialized in the impact of cognitive biases on effective business decisions, I wanted to draw your attention to the potential danger of the "confirmation bias" in your decision-making process regarding a move to agile in your organization.

Confirmation bias is a type of cognitive bias where individuals tend to seek out and interpret information in a way that confirms their existing beliefs or hypotheses, while ignoring or dismissing contradictory evidence. In the context of your decision about implementing agile methodologies, this bias could lead you to only focus on information that supports the move to agile, while ignoring or downplaying potential risks or drawbacks. To avoid falling into the trap of confirmation bias, I recommend that you seek out diverse opinions and perspectives from your team and outsiders on the decision, including both supporters and critics of the move to agile. Additionally, try to actively seek out and consider evidence that contradicts your initial beliefs or hypotheses, and encourage your team to do the same. This approach will help ensure that you are making a well-informed decision based on a comprehensive evaluation of all available information.

Best regards,  
Jennifer Li