RADIANT AGILITY TECHNOLOGY

Your Partner in Agile Excellence

🗣️ Daily Standup Flow Questions

Transform Your Standups from Status Updates to Flow Optimization

❌ Traditional Questions

• What did you do yesterday?

• What will you do today?

• Any blockers?

Focus: Individual status reporting

✅ Flow-Focused Questions

• What can we finish today?

• What's blocking our flow?

• How can we help each other?

Focus: Team flow optimization

🎯 The 5 Essential Flow Questions

1. What work can we complete and deliver today?

Purpose: Focus on finishing over starting

Look at work that's 80%+ done and can be pushed to "Done" today.

2. What's currently blocking our flow?

Purpose: Identify and address impediments quickly

External dependencies, waiting for reviews, technical issues, unclear requirements.

3. Where do we have too much work in progress?

Purpose: Respect WIP limits and maintain focus

Stories stuck in "In Progress," multiple items per person, work sitting idle.

4. How can we help each other move work forward?

Purpose: Encourage collaboration and swarming

Pair programming, code reviews, knowledge sharing, taking over blocked work.

5. What should we stop doing to improve our flow?

Purpose: Eliminate waste and focus on value

Unnecessary meetings, over-engineering, premature optimization, context switching.

🚀 Advanced Flow Questions (Use Weekly)

What patterns do we see in our flow metrics?

Cycle time trends, throughput changes, where work gets stuck most often.

What experiments should we try to improve flow?

New WIP limits, different story sizes, process changes, tool improvements.

How is our Definition of Done affecting our flow?

Are we finding issues late? Is our DoD too heavy? Too light?

💡 Implementation Tips

1 **Start Gradually:** Introduce one new question per week alongside traditional questions, then gradually replace them.

2 **Walk the Board:** Use your kanban board to guide the conversation. Start from the right (Done) and work left.

3 **Time-box Discussions:** Limit each question to 2-3 minutes. Take detailed discussions offline.

4 **Focus on Actions:** Every impediment or flow issue should result in a specific action with an owner.

5 **Measure Impact:** Track cycle time and throughput before and after implementing flow questions.

✅ Standup Transformation Checklist

- ☐ Team understands the purpose of flow-focused questions

- ☐ Kanban board is visible and up-to-date during standup

- ☐ WIP limits are clearly defined and visible

- ☐ Impediments are tracked and have owners

- ☐ Team focuses on collaboration over individual status

- ☐ Discussions stay time-boxed (15 minutes max)

- ☐ Action items from standup are captured and followed up

- ☐ Flow metrics are reviewed weekly

📊 Measuring Success

Before Flow Questions:

- Standups feel like status reports
- Work sits in progress for days
- Team members work in isolation
- Blockers are mentioned but not resolved

After Flow Questions:

- Standups drive daily improvements
- Work moves smoothly through the board
- Team collaborates to finish work
- Impediments are resolved quickly

Daily Standup Flow Questions - Part of the Flow Toolkit by Radiant Agility Technology

Need help transforming your standups? Contact us at **hello@radiantagility.tech**