CS - 250

Professor Mason

Billy Lewis

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**5-3 Journal: Developer**

As the developer in the Scrum Team, I experienced firsthand how changes from the Product Owner directly shape my work. The clarity and timeliness of those communications are critical to moving forward without confusion or rework.

**Requests to the Product Owner or Tester**

As the developer, I would request from the **Product Owner** a clearly prioritized backlog that not only identifies the “what” but also provides acceptance criteria with business context. This ensures I understand why a feature matters and how it should behave. From the **tester**, I would ask for early feedback on edge cases and clarification of test data so I can develop code that passes validation on the first iteration.

**Ensuring I Get the Response I Need**

To ensure I receive helpful responses, I would communicate in a structured and specific way. Instead of sending vague messages like “I need more info,” I would ask targeted questions such as, *“For the slideshow update, should the images reflect new wellness destinations (spa, yoga, etc.) or continue with location-based images?”* By being specific and attaching examples, I make it easier for the Product Owner or tester to give me exactly what I need. Research shows that structured communication channels in Agile teams reduce misunderstandings and accelerate development (Santos et al., 2021).

**Flexibility Through Agile**

Agile methodology allows me to be flexible because requirements can shift based on customer needs, and the iterative sprint cycle gives room for continuous feedback. Instead of locking into rigid plans, Agile encourages me to adjust code and design incrementally. This flexibility helps reduce risk and increases the chance of delivering value early (Gregory et al., 2020). For example, in our project, I could quickly swap placeholder images with wellness-themed ones once the Product Owner reprioritized features, without rewriting the entire application.

**Sample Email**

**To:** Product Owner and Tester  
**Subject:** Clarification Needed on Slide Show Updates

Hello [Product Owner’s Name] and [Tester’s Name],

I hope you are doing well. As I begin implementing the updated Slide Show feature, I want to confirm a few details so that I can proceed correctly:

1. Should the updated images and descriptions reflect *detox/wellness destinations* (e.g., spa, yoga, thermal springs), or should I continue using *travel location themes* like Grand Canyon and Paris?
2. Could the tester provide any specific validation criteria (such as image formats, resolution requirements, or text length) so I can ensure my updates align with the test plan?

Receiving this information will help me finalize the new slideshow updates for this sprint without rework. Please confirm your guidance by [specific date] so I can stay aligned with the sprint schedule.

Thank you,  
Billy Lewis  
Developer – SNHU Travel Project

**References**

Gregory, P., Barroca, L., Sharp, H., Deshpande, A., & Taylor, K. (2020). *The challenges that challenge: Engaging with agile practitioners’ concerns.* Information and Software Technology, 121, 106261. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.infsof.2020.106261

Santos, P. A., Cruzes, D. S., & Conradi, R. (2021). *Communication in agile global software development: A systematic mapping study.* Journal of Systems and Software, 172, 110853. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jss.2020.110853