

Agile and Scrum

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The CSM practice test helps you take a step closer to becoming a certified ScrumMaster. As you might know, being certified as a ScrumMaster requires a great understanding of Scrum and how to use it for your organization's benefits. These Scrum Master CSM exam questions a.k.a., CSM practice test, helps you in assessing your knowledge about scrum and agile methodologies. Also, the CSM test questions prepare you for the final exam by giving you an idea of what you are up against. Take the CSM practice test now!

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Explanations

50

Questions

41

Correct Answers

82

% Correct Answers

1. Which statement best describes Scrum?

- ☐ A complete methodology that defines how to develop software.
- ☐ A cookbook that defines best practices for software development.
- ☒ A framework within which complex products in complex environments are developed.
- ☐ A defined and predictive process that conforms to the principles of Scientific Management.

Explanations:

Scrum is defined as a framework within which complex products in complex environments are developed.

2. What is the recommended size for a Development Team (within the Scrum Team)?

- ☒ 3 plus or minus 1
- ☐ 6 plus or minus 3
- ☐ 9 plus or minus 2
- ☐ 15 plus or minus 3

Explanations:

6 plus or minus 3. Out of seven the recommendation is that six will be developers and one will be a QA or a Tester.

3. The CEO asks the Development Team to add a "very important" item to the current Sprint. What should the Development Team do?

- ☐ Add the item to the current Sprint without any adjustments.
- ☐ Add the item to the current Sprint and drop an item of equal size.
- ☐ Add the item to the next Sprint.
- ☒ Inform the Product Owner so that he/she can work with the CEO.

Explanations:

Inform the Product Owner so that he/she can work with the CEO. The Product Owner who is maintaining the product backlog should negotiate with Senior Management.

4. Who is required to attend the Daily Scrum?

- ☒ The Development Team.
- ☐ The Scrum Team.
- ☐ The Development Team and Scrum Master.
- ☐ The Development Team and Product Owner.
- ☐ The Scrum Master and Product Owner.

Explanations:

The Development Team should attend the Daily Scrum. It should ask what is done till now from previous scrum, what should be done before next scrum, and also should discuss about obstacles faced.

5. Who has the last say on the order of the Product Backlog?

- ☐ The Stakeholders

- ☐ The Development Team
- ☐ The Scrum Master
- ☒ The Product Owner
- ☐ The CEO

Explanations:

The Product Owner is accountable for Product Backlog.

6. What is the primary way a Scrum Master keeps a Development Team working at its highest level of productivity?

- ☒ By facilitating Development Team decisions and removing impediments.
- ☐ By ensuring that the meetings start and end at the proper time.
- ☐ By preventing changes to the Backlog once the Sprint begins.
- ☐ By keeping high value features high in the Product Backlog.

Explanations:

By facilitating Development Team decisions and removing impediments a Scrum Master keeps a Development Team working at its highest level of productivity.

7. Why is the Daily Scrum held at the same time and at the same place?

- ☐ The place can be named.
- ☒ The consistency reduces complexity and overhead.
- ☐ The Product Owner demands it.
- ☐ Rooms are hard to book and this lets it be booked in advance.

Explanations:

The consistency reduces complexity and overhead.

8. When a Development Team determines that it has over-committed itself for a Sprint, who has to be present when reviewing and adjusting the Sprint work selected?

- ☐ The Scrum Master, Project Manager and Development Team.
- ☒ The Product Owner and Development Team.
- ☐ The Product Owner and all stakeholders.
- ☐ The Development Team.

Explanations:

The Product Owner and Development Team can prioritize and take the decision.

9. Scrum does not have a role called "project manager.

- ☒ True
- ☐ FALSE

Explanations:

10. An organization has decided to adopt Scrum, but management wants to change the terminology to fit the terminology which is already used. What will likely happen if this is done?

- ☐ Without a new vocabulary as a reminder of the change, very little change may actually happen.
- ☐ The organization may not understand what has changed within Scrum and the benefits of Scrum may be lost.
- ☐ Management may feel less anxious.

☒ All answers apply.

Explanations:

All answers apply.

11. When many Development Teams are working on a single product, what best describes the definition of "done"?

- ☐ Each Development Team has its own definition of "done". The various differences in the definition are discussed and reconciled during the stabilization phase.
- ☒ All Development Team must have a definition of "done" that when their work integrates results in a definition of "done" that is potentially shippable.
- ☐ It depends.

Explanations:

The definition of "done" should be defined in the beginning and should be agreed upon.

12. When multiple teams are working together, each team should maintain a separate Product Backlog.

- ☐ TRUE
- ☒ FALSE

Explanations:

There should be only one Product Backlog.

13. Which statement best describes the Sprint Review?

- ☐ It is a review of the team's activities during the Sprint.

- ☒ It is when the Scrum Team and stakeholders inspect the outcome of the Sprint and figure out what to do in the upcoming Sprint.
- ☐ It is a demo at the end of the Sprint for everyone in the organization to provide feedback on the work done.
- ☐ It is used to congratulate the Development Team if it did what it committed to doing, or to punish the Development Team if it failed to meet its commitments.

Explanations:

It's review of the Sprint that just got over. By capturing the lessons learned the Sprint Review figures out how to improve the next Sprint.

14. Development Team membership should be changed

- ☐ Every Sprint to promote shared learning.
- ☐ Never, because it reduces productivity.
- ☒ As needed, while taking into account the short term reduction in productivity.
- ☐ Just as it would on any development team, with no special allowance for changes in productivity.

Explanations:

As needed, while taking into account the short term reduction in productivity.

15. What does it mean to say that an event has a time box?

- ☐ The event must happen at a set time.
- ☐ The event must happen by a given time.
- ☐ The event must take at least a minimum amount of time.
- ☒ The event can take no more than a maximum amount of time.

Explanations:

Time box is defined for every sprint so that it can't cross the period.

16. Which of the below is not a role in a Scrum Team?

- ☐ Development Team
- ☒ Customers
- ☐ Product Owner
- ☐ Scrum Master

Explanations:

The roles are Development Team, Scrum Master and the Product Owner

17. Development Team members volunteer to own a Sprint Backlog item:

- ☐ At the Sprint planning meeting.
- ☒ Never. All Sprint Backlog Items are "owned" by the entire Development Team, even though each one may be done by an individual team member.
- ☐ Whenever a team member can accommodate more work.
- ☐ During the Daily Scrum.

Explanations:

The ownership is on the entire team and should be aware of who is handling which functionality in the sprint backlog through daily scrum.

18. Which two (2) things does the Development Team not do during the first Sprint?

- ☒ Deliver an increment of potentially shippable functionality.
- ☒ Nail down the complete architecture and infrastructure.

- ☐ Develop and deliver at least one piece of functionality.
- ☐ Develop a plan for the rest of the project.

Explanations:

The priorities will be defined as the project progresses during each sprint planning.
The priorities will be defined as the project progresses during each sprint planning.

19. What is the role of Management in Scrum?

- ☒ To continually monitor staffing levels of the Development Team.
- ☐ To monitor the Development Team's productivity.
- ☐ Management supports the Product Owner with insights and information into high value product and system capabilities. Management supports the Scrum Master to cause organizational change that fosters empiricism, self-organization, bottom-up intelligence and intelligent release of software.
- ☐ To identify and remove people that aren't working hard enough.

Explanations:

Management supports and facilitates to make the SCRUM success.

20. Scrum Master is a "management" position?

- ☐ True
- ☒ FALSE

Explanations:

True. The Scrum Master manages the Scrum process. If the Scrum Master is not a "management" position, he or she may not have the influence to remove impediments. The Scrum Master does not manage the team.

21. When is a Sprint over?

- ☐ When all Product Backlog items meet their definition of "done".
- ☐ When the Product Owner says it is "done".
- ☐ When all the tasks are completed.
- ☒ When the timebox expires.

Explanations:

Irrespective of Sprint Backlog completion, the sprint will be over when timebox expires.

22. The Development Team should have all the skills needed to

- ☐ Complete the project as estimated when the date and cost are committed to the Product Owner.
- ☐ Do all of the development work, but not the types of testing that require specialized testing tools, and environments.
- ☒ Turn the Product Backlog it selects into an increment of potentially shippable product functionality

Explanations:

The Development Team should have all the skills needed for the delivery of functionality sprint wise.

23. The Product Backlog is ordered by:

- ☐ Small items at the top to large items at the bottom.
- ☐ Safer items at the top to riskier items at the bottom.
- ☒ Least valuable items at the top to most valuable at the bottom.
- ☐ Whatever is deemed most appropriate by the Product Owner.

Explanations:

Product backlog is defined as per the priority , customer expectations and organizational goals

24. It is important that the product increment be released to production or shipped to customers at the end of each Sprint.

☒ True

☐ FALSE

Explanations:

False. The product increment should be usable and potentially releasable at the end of every Sprint, but it does not have to be released.

25. The timebox for the completing Sprint Planning meeting is

☐ 4 hours.

☒ 8 hours for a monthly Sprint, proportionately less for shorter Sprints.

☐ 16 hours

☐ 20 hours

Explanations:

This is the typical recommendation from SCRUM guidelines.

26. Who is responsible for facilitating the Sprint Retrospective meeting?

☐ Team

☒ Scrum Master

☐ Product Owner

☐ Senior Management

Explanations:

Scrum Master is responsible for facilitating sprint retrospective meeting.

27. Which statement is accurate about the role of Product Owner during the Daily Scrum?

- ☒ The Product Owner's participation is defined by the team.
- ☐ The Product Owner outlines the additional changes that must be absorbed by the Team in the Sprint.
- ☐ Product Owner ensures the Burn down rate is maintained at the estimated rate.
- ☐ Product Owner provides instruction to the Team on how to implement a workable solution.

Explanations:

The participation of Product Owner during daily scrum is not mandate. As per the need the team requests product owner's presence.

28. What is the main purpose of a Sprint Review? Choose the best answer.

- ☐ For Stakeholders to "hold the Team's feet to the fire" - to make sure something is produced during the Sprint
- ☐ For the Team to review their work and to determine what is needed to complete the next set of backlog items
- ☐ For the Product Manager to be able to show progress to the Stakeholders
- ☒ For Stakeholders to review what the Team has built and to give input on what to do next

Explanations:

Sprint Review is to discuss about the accomplishment of Sprint Backlog and what is the next step i.e. further sprint planning

29. Which role is MOST LIKELY to communicate an impediment during a Daily Scrum?

- ☒ Team
- ☐ Scrum Master
- ☐ Product Owner
- ☐ Stakeholders

Explanations:

Daily Scrum participants are Team Members.

30. What is the approach that Scrum encourages when a Team determines it will be difficult to deliver any value by the end of a Sprint?

- ☒ Together with the Product Owner, focus on what can be done and identify a way to deliver something valuable at the end of each Sprint.
- ☐ Immediately escalate to Senior Management.
- ☐ Suggest the Product Owner to abnormally terminate the Sprint.
- ☐ Extend the Sprint by a few days to accommodate the extra work.

Explanations:

The Development Team and Product Owner should sit and work out what can be the best deliverable. They also take decision about Sprint Backlog which can't be delivered.

31. Which of the following is true concerning impediments?

- ☐ A slow running server is not considered an impediment.
- ☐ The Team should not use daily Scrum meetings to report impediments.
- ☐ It is the Product Owner's job to remove impediments.
- ☒ It is the Scrum Master's top priority to remove impediments.

Explanations:

Scrum Master removes impediments to the Development Team's progress.

32. When using Scrum, who is primarily responsible for making scope versus schedule trade-off decisions?

- ☐ The Scrum Master
- ☐ The Team
- ☒ The Product Owner
- ☐ The Project Manager

Explanations:

The Product Owner owns the product backlog and decides about the priorities and optimization between product/sprint backlog and time.

33. During a Sprint Planning Meeting, the Product Owner

- ☐ Determines how the Team accomplishes its work
- ☐ Divides selected stories in to specific tasks
- ☒ Presents stories that he/she would like the Team to complete during the Sprint
- ☐ Decides how many stories will be delivered by the end of the Sprint

Explanations:

The product owner presents the stories during first half of Sprint Planning Meeting and the next half the development comes out with plans how to deliver the agreed stories

34. How are Teams guided during a Sprint?

- ☐ By the Scrum Master who ensures they are not wasting time

- ☐ By the Scrum Master who ensures they are not wasting time.
- ☒ By their collective knowledge and experience
- ☐ By the Product Owner who attends the Daily Stand-up
- ☐ By project documentation and the Scrum process

Explanations:

The Sprint is self driven.

35. The product backlog is maintained by

- ☐ Senior Management
- ☐ Scrum Master
- ☒ Product Owner
- ☐ The Self-managing Team

Explanations:

Product Owner maintains the product backlog.

36. Who is the person responsible for tracking and updating the Scrum?

- ☐ This is outside of the scope of Scrum
- ☒ Scrum Master
- ☐ Product Owner
- ☐ Consultant or SME

Explanations:

Scrum Master is the person responsible for tracking and updating the Scrum.

37. What is the frequency of Scrum meeting?

- ☒ Daily
- ☐ Once in a week
- ☐ Mid of the week
- ☐ On emergencies

Explanations:

SCRUM meeting should happen daily.

38. Which are four Scrum events?

- ☒ Sprint Planning Meeting, Daily Scrum, Sprint Review, Sprint Retrospective
- ☐ Sprint Planning Meeting, Transparency, Adaptation, Sprint Review
- ☐ Sprint Retrospective, Inspection, Adaptation, Sprint Review
- ☐ Daily Scrum, Inspection, Adaptation, Sprint Review

Explanations:

Transparency, Inspection and Adaption are pillars for empirical process. The four events are Sprint Planning Meeting, Daily Scrum, Sprint Review, Sprint Retrospective

39. What is the relationship between Product Backlog and Sprint Backlog?

- ☐ The Product Backlog is equal to the Sprint Backlog.
- ☐ The Product Backlog is a subset of the Sprint Backlog.
- ☒ The Sprint Backlog is a subset of the Product Backlog.
- ☐ The Sprint Backlog is owned by the Product Owner

☐ The Sprint Backlog is owned by the Product Owner.

Explanations:

Product backlog is the superset and sprint backlog is the subset of product backlog.

40. The most suitable time of the day to have Scrum status meeting is

☐ 12.00 PM

☒ 9:00 AM

☐ After lunch

☐ 5:00 PM

Explanations:

This is the best suitable time as the mind is fresh at start of the day.

41. The Scrum Master:

☒ is the Team's Scrum Expert.

☐ creates, refines and communicates customer requirements to the Team.

☐ controls the priority order of items in the team's backlog.

☐ is the keeper of the product vision.

Explanations:

The Scrum Master is the Team's Scrum expert. But there is not mandate that he/she is CSM certified.

42. In Scrum, the prioritized work to be done is referred to as

☐ Sprint backlog

- ☐ Sprint planning
- ☒ Product backlog
- ☐ Standup meetings

Explanations:

Product backlog defined by product owner consists of the prioritized work(functionality) to be carried out during scrum.

43. How does the Agile Manifesto address planning?

- ☐ Planning is not required in an agile project, as the project is focused on current status
- ☒ Measuring the flow of change with evolving domain knowledge can better guide ongoing work
- ☐ Upfront planning and design is an integral stage before development can begin
- ☐ Sign-off on the detail of Product Backlog items is mandatory before any item can be planned into an iteration

Explanations:

It's like progressive elaboration.

44. What is most likely to result if the Product Owner is not available during a Sprint?

- ☐ The Sprint is abnormally terminated
- ☐ The Team extends the length of the Sprint until the Product Owner returns
- ☐ The Scrum Master assumes the responsibilities of the Product Owner
- ☒ The product increment may not meet expectations

Explanations:

The product increment may not meet expectations as the Product Owner is responsible for maintaining

Product Backlog and ensures that value is delivered during Sprint.

45. How are the Product Owner's responsibilities Best described?

- ☐ Keeping stakeholders from distracting the team
- ☐ Directing the Team's daily activities
- ☐ Managing the project and ensuring that the work meets the commitments to the stakeholders
- ☒ Optimizing the business value of the work

Explanations:

Because the Product Owner is responsible for maintaining product backlog and he knows best what value to be delivered and accordingly he can optimize the business value.

46. How do the principles behind the Agile Manifesto suggest approaching architecture?

- ☐ Architecture is not important but functionality is important.
- ☐ Architecture is defined and implemented in the first iterations
- ☐ Architecture is defined and planned up front
- ☒ Architecture emerges

Explanations:

Project is a progressive elaboration. So is agile. We can't have a static architecture in the beginning and it emerges as we progress.

47. Which of the following is a main purpose of a Sprint Backlog?

- ☐ For the Team to manage the number of hours spent on tasks in the Sprint
- ☐ For the Product Owner to understand what the Team has committed to for a Sprint

- ☒ For the Team to manage themselves during the Sprint
- ☐ For the Scrum Master to manage the progress during the Sprint

Explanations:

Sprint Backlog which is the subset of product backlog to be managed by the team during the sprint.

48. During a Daily Scrum meeting, one of the team members mentions he has found some open source code which he thinks will solve one of the problems in the project. He wants to implement it immediately. What is the next best step?

- ☒ Ask him to provide an example so that they can consider using the code
- ☐ Rest of the team are asked to evaluate the solution and prepare report
- ☐ Product Owner take a note of it and simulates it himself
- ☐ After Daily Scrum, a separate meeting is conducted to discuss the open source solution

Explanations:

Daily scrum addresses only three things: what is done, what next and any obstacles. The alternative solutions and improvement discussion should be taken up beyond the Daily Scrum.

49. When a Development Team determines that it has over-committed itself for a Sprint, who has to be present when reviewing and adjusting the Sprint work selected?

- ☐ The Scrum Master, Project Manager and Development Team.
- ☒ The Product Owner, Scrum Master and Development Team.
- ☐ The Product Owner and all stakeholders.
- ☐ The Development Team.

Explanations:

The development justifies the over commitment, the Product Owner optimizes and adjust and the Scrum

The development justifies the over commitment, the Product Owner optimizes and adjust and the Scrum Master will be the moderator and gathers the outcome

50. What is the approach that Scrum encourages when a Team determines it will be difficult to deliver any value by the end of a Sprint?

- ☒ Together with the Product Owner, focus on what can be done and identify a way to deliver something valuable at the end of each Sprint.
- ☐ Immediately escalate to Senior Management.
- ☐ Suggest the Product Owner to abnormally terminate the Sprint.
- ☐ Extend the Sprint by a few days to accommodate the extra work.

Explanations:

The Development Team and Product Owner should sit and work out what can be the best deliverable. They also take decision about Sprint Backlog which can't be delivered.

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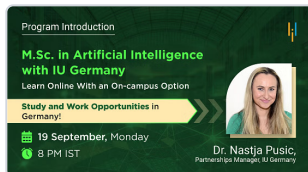
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