**Question 3 Working in an agile/scrum development process:**

You are a Business Analyst working for a product development company. You have just been selected for a new project. How would you leverage your business analysis skills in each of the five Scrum Events?

**Answer:**

Some people are of the opinion that the role of business analyst is not well spelt out in the scrum environment, but it has been proved that the business analyst is as important as everyone else in the team as they serve as the main communication link and driving force to make the product a success.

In Scrum the business analyst is part of the value team and will be ranked second after the product owner. As a business analyst one of my major role is to give the product owner the necessary support and morale so that there will be seamless business-technical requirement information for the whole team. In some cases, I might have to act as the product owner proxy whenever the PO is not available by so doing carrying out what ever responsibility is needed to do in the phase.

The agile scrum has 5 events/ceremonies that takes place in a sprint, these are as below.

1. The sprint
2. Sprint planning
3. Daily Scrum
4. Sprint review
5. Sprint retrospective

* **The Sprint**

This event is very important in a product life cycle and very crucial to the business analyst, at this stage I am required to work closely with the product owner to generate the product backlog, create the product vision, identify necessary stakeholders and prioritized the generated product backlog. The information success during this stage determines a lot in the product delivery.

* **Sprint Planning**

With the prioritized product backlog during the sprint, a sprint backlog is generated in collaboration with the other scrum team members. I need to make sure that all the sprint backlog is ready before the sprint commences and the sprint backlog items meets up with the INVEST criteria. All the necessary epic and user stories are provided.

Also, I need to create estimate about the expectations for the sprint, including what the team will deliver and when. This provides clear expectations for all members of the team for the duration of the sprint. The non- functional requirement for this sprint is also properly documented and communicated to the development team.

* **Daily Scrum**

This event is a 10-20 minutes daily stand up meeting for the development team and since I as the business analysis is part of the team, I would be required to join the daily meeting and encourage others to active engagement. During the meeting, if there are challenges concerning the requirement I need to take note and clarify the requirement to prevent delay in the deliverables.

In the case the scrum master isn’t available for the meeting, I should be able to stand in for him and resolve any conflicts or challenges that might arise during the meeting.

* **Sprint Review**

This is always the last meeting that take place just before the of the sprint, it is used to access the product delivery for the sprint and takes average of 2hours for a 2 weeks sprint. As the business analyst, I can help the product owner to identify the stakeholders that are needed to attend the meeting and help with the logistics related to the meeting. The product manager might also be advised on which presentation techniques will be the best for the occasion.

After the meeting, I am required to incorporate back into the product backlog all the feedback I noted during the meeting. Which is need to be considered during the next sprint planning meeting.

* **Sprint Retrospective**

This is the event that follows after the completion of the sprint. This is used to review the activities of the last sprint, note what went well, what needs to be improved and what went south.

My role here is to work closely with the product owner to see to the continuous improvement of the Scrum Team, including its tools, practices, processes, way of working, Definition of Done, collaboration and communication.

Also, I need not only participate in the meeting but be an active engager in the meeting, with these other members of the team will be encourage to be active during the meeting.