**Module Five Journal Entry**

As a developer, I am responsible for creating a software product that meets the requirements and expectations of the Product Owner and the stakeholders. To do this, I need to communicate effectively with the other members of the agile team, especially the Product Owner and the tester. In this journal entry, I will reflect on how I can improve my communication skills and how the agile methodology helps me to adapt to changes. One of the requests that I would make of the Product Owner is to provide clear and concise user stories that define the features and functionalities of the product. User stories are essential for me to understand what the Product Owner wants and how I can deliver it. User stories should follow the format of “As a <role>, I want <goal>, so that <benefit>”. They should also include acceptance criteria that specify how the feature will be tested and verified. By having well-written user stories, I can avoid ambiguity and confusion, and focus on developing the product increment. Another request that I would make of the tester is to provide timely and constructive feedback on the product increment that I deliver. Feedback is crucial for me to identify and fix any bugs, errors, or defects in the product. Feedback should be specific, measurable, actionable, relevant, and timely. It should also include suggestions for improvement and appreciation for what works well. By having SMART feedback, I can improve the quality and performance of the product, and ensure that it meets the customer’s needs and expectations. To ensure that I will get the response I need to move forward, I will use effective communication techniques such as active listening, asking open-ended questions, paraphrasing, summarizing, and confirming understanding. These techniques will help me to clarify any doubts or misunderstandings, elicit more information, check for agreement, and build rapport with the Product Owner and the tester. I will also use appropriate communication channels such as email, phone calls, video conferences, or face-to-face meetings depending on the urgency, complexity, and sensitivity of the message. By using effective communication techniques and channels, I can foster collaboration and trust with the Product Owner and the tester. The agile methodology allows me to be more flexible in my approach to development because it embraces change as an opportunity for improvement rather than a threat to success. The agile methodology follows an iterative and incremental process that delivers working software in short time frames called sprints. Each sprint consists of four phases: planning, designing, developing, and testing. At the end of each sprint, I can review the product increment with the Product Owner and the tester, and get their feedback. Based on their feedback, I can make adjustments to the product backlog, which is a list of prioritized user stories that define the scope of the product. By following this process, I can respond to changes quickly and effectively, and deliver a product that satisfies the customer’s needs.

Here is an example of an email that I would write to the Product Owner and tester:

Dear Product Owner and Tester,

I am writing to you today to request the following information in order to move forward with development under the new plan:

A clear and concise description of the changes that have been made to the requirements.

The specific dates and times when the changes will be implemented.

Any specific feedback that you have on my code so far.

I would appreciate it if you could provide me with this information as soon as possible. I am available to discuss this further at your convenience.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]