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CS-250 Software Dev Lifecycle  
Journal: Tester

Coming up with specifics of what the user is looking for and placing pass or fail test really does help to find out if we are meeting those needs of the customer. The biggest thing that helps with this is the acceptance criteria that gives some ideas of what they are really looking for. The user story value statement also helps with this more in a general sense, but the acceptance criteria seem to be more specific in what the customer may be looking for. I do not necessarily think anything is missing, my biggest worry as the tester though is that the Product Owner is the primary contact person so if there is information missing that the test would need right away, there may be some delay from the start depending on if the tester needs to reach out and have the product owner clarify some items.

In order to get some of these details that may be missing, I would like to meet in person or maybe on a phone call in order to be able to get follow-up questions answered as soon as possible. I do not think there is a preferred method in general, but it seems to come down to the person and how they best communicate or how much time they have on their hands. For example, I know some people avoid the phone and just prefer emails or text messages which does have some advantages such as having a written trail to work from. The person writing the email just needs to make sure it is clear. The kind of communication may depend on the urgency or complexity of the user story as well.

To: Christy

Subject: User Story Clarifications

Dear Christy,

I received the user stories and have started work on the test cases for these user stories. I just have a few questions about some of them that I’m hoping you can help with so I can make sure I’m doing my best and am able to provide the best product.

User Story: Profile Builder

* How personal do you think we should get with the profile builder?
* What length of questions do you think would be good for your audience?
* Should we include price preferences into the profile builder?

User Story: Filter by Vacation Type

* Should we limit how many tags exist for each destination?

User Story: Filter By Price

* Do you have a preference of how you would like the list/slides to default to in terms of from cheapest to most expensive or the other way around?
* Would a follow-up email survey after the customers vacation be a good way of finding out how much our customers spend while there?

Thanks so much for looking into these! Any additional information will be helpful in developing this software. Looking forward to your response,

Enrique Zarate