

1. Compare and contrast the previous town halls compared to the current town hall in chapter 19. What are the DevOps behaviours and practices that you see implemented now that were not previously there?

Earlier town halls in *The Unicorn Project* were one-way, top-down meetings where leadership simply announced decisions without listening to developers or frontline staff. For example, when the Phoenix Project had outages, executives publicly blamed the development teams even though they lacked proper tools or environments. People were afraid to speak honestly, and departments such as development, operations, and security worked in isolation, worsening the problems.

In contrast, the town hall in Chapter 19 shows a significant cultural change. Leaders now present real performance metrics—such as deployment frequency, failed releases, and lead time—and openly explain how improvements were achieved. Developers, ops engineers, and data specialists speak together on the stage, showing shared ownership. For example, they discuss how automated tests reduced failures and how new dashboards helped them detect issues faster. Instead of blaming people, they celebrate learning experiences, including what they discovered from recent postmortems. This open, honest atmosphere reflects strong DevOps practices: transparency, psychological safety, fast feedback, and cross-team collaboration. The tone is more positive and supportive, showing that the organization has truly begun to transform.

2. How did the tools that the Rebellion built support and enforce the 5 ideals? please give examples.

The tools created by the Rebellion strongly demonstrate the Five Ideals in action. For the First Ideal, Locality and Simplicity, the Rebellion built self-service environments that let developers set up full systems with one command. For example, Max's team can now spin up a mini version of the Phoenix system on their laptop, instead of waiting days for environment access.

The Second Ideal, Focus, Flow, and Joy, is supported by the automated deployment pipeline. Developers only need to push their code to Git, and the system automatically builds, tests, and prepares it for release. This reduces long waiting times and removes manual deployment errors, making work feel smoother and more enjoyable.

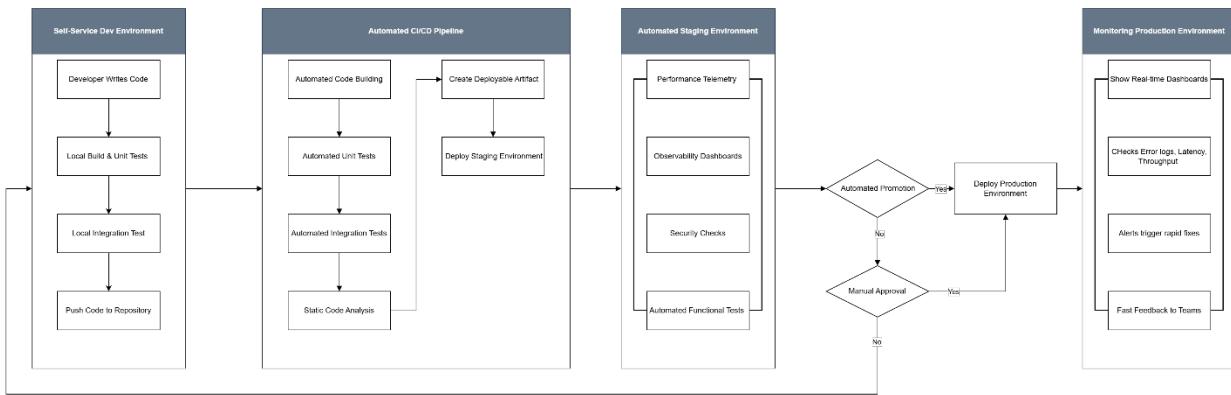
The Third Ideal, Improvement of Daily Work, is reinforced by tools like automated test suites and monitoring dashboards. For example, when a performance problem occurs, developers can immediately see which service is slow in the dashboards, rather than guessing or waiting for customer complaints.

The Fourth Ideal, Psychological Safety, is supported by the blameless postmortem tools and shared runbooks. When a failure happens, teams record what went wrong

and how to prevent it, focusing on the system rather than blaming a person. This encourages honesty and continuous learning.

Finally, the Fifth Ideal, Customer Focus and Helping Others Win, is achieved through real-time customer analytics dashboards that show how each feature affects user experience. For instance, after releasing a new search feature, teams can immediately see whether customer search errors decrease. This helps everyone work toward the same goal: improving value for users.

3. Create a low-fidelity diagram outlining the process of how to get code to production



- Self-Service Development Environment**

The Rebellion created tools that enable developers to automatically generate a complete, functioning development environment without waiting for Operations.

- Developer Writes Code + Local Testing**

Developers write code and run local builds and unit tests on their laptops.

Because the Rebellion built a “mini-Phoenix system” that runs locally, developers can test components together before integrating them. This reduces integration failures and increases confidence.

- Push to Git → Automated CI Pipeline**

When the developer pushes code to the shared Git repository, the system automatically triggers a CI/CD pipeline. This pipeline performs several tasks: builds the project, runs unit tests, integration tests, and static analysis.

- Create Deployable Artifact**

The CI/CD pipeline produces a standardized deployable artifact, such as a software package or container image

- Deploy to Staging + Automated Validation**

The artifact is automatically deployed to a staging environment. In staging, the system performs automated validation, including performance telemetry, observability dashboard checks, security scanning, and functional testing.

- **Automated Promotion**

If all staging tests pass and telemetry shows no issues, the system automatically promotes the release to production.

- **Deploy to Production**

Production deployment is fully automated. The system can deploy safely, consistently, and with minimal risk. If problems occur, dashboards and monitoring help teams roll back quickly.

- **Production Telemetry & Monitoring**

In production, real-time dashboards show customer impact, system performance, and error rates.

- **Fast Feedback to Teams**

Production data flows back to developers, operations, and business teams.