Exercise: DevOps Planning & Research

You are starting as a Junior DevOps in a IT Company. You get assigned to a new Project that develops software solutions for Banking systems. Currently, you are single devoted DevOps engineer on that project with mixed team members (Devs, QA, PM’s etc). Before the Kick-off of the Project, you are given the task to plan and research the best practices for the project.

1. Explain what steps you are taking for planning and research?

For the planning and researching before starting the work on the given project, I would say that firstly I will explore what is needed and how the new software should operate, by getting familiar with all the necessities that the software should contain. Then I would additionally listen to the ideas that the other team members would give about that part, and percieve them togehter until I feel like it is just enough for us to start the project.

1. How would you describe the process for DevOps best practices to your colleagues?

I would describe it simply by saying one of the starting metaphors from yesterdays lecture, that caught my attention (and also made me think about it, personally), and that is that DevOps engineers are the ‘Jack of all trades’, and ‘Master of none’ simultaneously, and their practices can’t be defined, simply because the roadmap is very large and include a big amount of tools and practices needed for the DevOps engineer to get good at in order to continue to grow professionally.

1. How would you organize your time for planning and research?

The oranizing of the time needed for planning and research should not be a hard task, although it may come to a blockage sometimes, simply from not organizing it properly, but I would say that what is given to me as a main job, it should become my priority at the moment, and I would really focus on organizing my time and work as tidy as possible, so I won’t get stuck somewhere in between.

1. What methods and tools are you using during this process?

For this I must be honest that I am not quite sure, maybe because of not knowing enough or not having experience, but when I picture a situation like this to myself and I put myself in that place, I am sure that the methods and tools available will be known to me then. Choosing the right methods and tools for this should be quite straightforward then.

1. Describe the short (imagined) presentation of your research and planning, for your team briefly:

Well firstly, in the meetings we will hold with the team, all of the members will demonstrate their ideas as I mentioned before, we will take a look at the information and data that we have, then I will describe the planning that I did for how we should start our project and explain how I imagined the road for us will be until the finishing of the project, and I will emphasize and things we should look out more or less in order for our workflow to be as smooth as possible.