

Agile Framework – Short Interview Q&A

Q1. What is Agile?

Answer: Agile is a mindset and framework that focuses on delivering customer value through iterative development, continuous feedback, collaboration, and adaptability to change.

Q2. What are the core principles of Agile?

Answer: - Customer collaboration over contracts - Working software over documentation - Responding to change over following a fixed plan - Individuals and interactions over processes and tools

Q3. What Agile ceremonies have you worked with?

Answer: Daily Stand-up, Sprint Planning, Backlog Refinement, Sprint Review (Show & Tell), and Sprint Retrospective.

Q4. What is the purpose of a Daily Stand-up?

Answer: To ensure daily alignment, transparency, and early identification of blockers within the team.

Q5. What questions are answered in a Daily Stand-up?

Answer: - What did I work on yesterday? - What will I work on today? - Do I have any blockers?

Q6. What are the rules of an effective Daily Stand-up?

Answer: - Time-boxed to 15 minutes - No problem-solving or long discussions - Blockers are highlighted, not solved - Detailed discussions are moved offline

Q7. How do you handle blockers in Agile?

Answer: Blockers are raised immediately in stand-up or directly to the Scrum Master/PO. If unresolved, the story should not be committed, or a spike may be created for investigation.

Q8. What is a Sprint Retrospective?

Answer: It is a team improvement meeting held at the end of a sprint to identify what went well, what went wrong, and what can be improved in the next sprint.

Q9. What is the main goal of a Retrospective?

Answer: Continuous improvement of team processes, collaboration, and delivery quality.

Q10. What is Sprint Review or Show & Tell?

Answer: A meeting with stakeholders where the team demonstrates completed, working software and gathers feedback.

Q11. Who attends the Sprint Review?

Answer: Development team, Product Owner, Scrum Master, and stakeholders.

Q12. What is Backlog Refinement?

Answer: A collaborative session where the team and PO review, clarify, prioritize, and prepare backlog items for upcoming sprints.

Q13. What happens during Backlog Refinement?

Answer: - Story clarification - Acceptance criteria definition - Estimation - Story splitting - Dependency and risk identification

Q14. Should refinement happen before sprint planning?

Answer: Yes. Refinement ensures stories are clear, estimated, and ready before sprint planning begins.

Q15. What is Definition of Ready (DoR)?

Answer: A checklist that confirms a story is clear, estimated, has acceptance criteria, and has no unresolved blockers.

Q16. How do you handle unclear requirements during refinement?

Answer: Collaborate with the PO, ask clarifying questions, create a spike if needed, or defer the story until clarity is achieved.

Q17. Do you align with the PO before refinement?

Answer: Yes. Pre-alignment with the PO helps understand priorities and makes refinement more efficient.

Q18. What are work items in Agile?

Answer: - Epic: Large feature spanning multiple sprints - Story: Small, valuable unit deliverable in one sprint - Task: Work needed to complete a story - Sub-task: Breakdown of a task

Q19. How do you write a good user story?

Answer: Using the format: As a [User Role], I want [Goal] so that [Business Value].

Q20. What are Acceptance Criteria?

Answer: They define testable conditions that must be met for a story to be considered complete.

Q21. What format do you use for Acceptance Criteria?

Answer: BDD format: - GIVEN a context - WHEN an action occurs - THEN an expected result happens

Q22. Why is story splitting important?

Answer: To ensure stories are small, manageable, estimable, and deliverable within a single sprint.

Q23. What makes a good Agile user story?

Answer: It follows INVEST principles: Independent, Negotiable, Valuable, Estimable, Small, and Testable.

Q24. How do you split large stories?

Answer: By workflow steps, business rules, happy path vs edge cases, or UI vs backend logic.

Q25. What is your one-line Agile philosophy?

Answer: Agile is about delivering value early, embracing change, and continuously improving through collaboration and feedback.