Journal Entry Four - Developer

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CS 250: Software Development Lifecycle

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As a developer on the Scrum Team, communication plays a central role in ensuring the timely and accurate completion of assigned tasks. If changes are introduced mid-sprint or during planning, my first request to the Product Owner would be for a clear and detailed explanation of what changed, why it changed, and how it aligns with user expectations. I would also request confirmation on which parts of the application or code should remain untouched. I would request detailed test scenarios and specific acceptance criteria from the tester that reflect the updated user stories. These would help me validate my work before passing it on for formal testing, reducing the chances of missing important edge cases or functional errors.

To ensure I receive the response I need to move forward, I focus on asking questions that are specific, actionable, and framed within the current sprint’s scope. This includes defining the blocker, specifying how it affects progress, and offering a deadline or proposed time for follow-up. By doing so, I reduce ambiguity and make it easier for the Product Owner or tester to give me what I need without confusion. Kaushik (2023) emphasizes the importance of this proactive communication, noting that developers who clearly define their needs help eliminate friction between Agile roles, which ultimately supports product quality and faster delivery.

Agile methodology allows me to remain more flexible in my approach to development by encouraging short, iterative work cycles that include feedback and opportunities for adjustment. If a requirement changes during the sprint or something is misunderstood, Agile doesn’t force the team to start over. Instead, it offers mechanisms, like daily standups, sprint planning, and retrospectives, for addressing these changes in real-time. TestMatick (2022) explains that testers, developers, and Product Owners who collaborate regularly can adapt and respond to changes faster than in traditional models. This adaptability means I don’t have to wait for formal documentation to catch up before making informed decisions. Additionally, the iterative nature of Agile makes it easier to prioritize features that deliver the most immediate value, even if the full scope isn’t yet finalized (Rigby & Noble, 2018).

# Email to Product Owner and Tester

Subject: Clarification Needed to Proceed With Wellness Slide Show Updates

Dear [Product Owner Name] and [Tester Name],

As I begin working on the updated requirements for the wellness slide show, I want to make sure I fully understand what’s needed before continuing development.

[Product Owner] – Could you please confirm that the slide destinations, text descriptions, and formatting align with the final vision? If any additional changes are anticipated, such as layout updates or image replacements, I would appreciate receiving that feedback now so I can plan accordingly.

[Tester] – If you have the test cases you plan to use for validating this feature, particularly around image display, navigation behavior, and text visibility, I would like to review them as early as possible. This would help ensure consistency between development and testing.

If possible, please send any clarifications or documentation by [date]. Let me know if you'd like to meet briefly to go over the plan together.

Thank you,

Melissa Chessa

Developer – Scrum Team

**References**

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