**INVEST** criteria for User Stories

* **I - Independent**: Each user story should be independent of others, meaning they can be implemented and delivered without being dependent on other user stories. This allows for flexibility in prioritization and execution, as teams can work on user stories in any order without being blocked by dependencies.
* **N - Negotiable**: User stories should be negotiable in the sense that they are open to discussion and refinement. They are not fixed requirements but rather starting points for conversations between the development team and stakeholders. This flexibility allows for collaboration and adjustments as needed to meet user needs effectively.
* **V - Valuable**: Every user story should deliver value to the end-user or customer. They should address a specific need or goal and contribute to the overall objectives of the project or product. Prioritizing user stories based on their perceived value helps ensure that the most important features are developed first.
* **E - Estimable**: User stories should be estimable, meaning that the development team can reasonably estimate the effort required to implement them. This allows for better planning and resource allocation. Estimation helps teams understand the complexity and scope of each user story, facilitating informed decision-making.
* **S - Small**: User stories should be small enough to be completed within a single iteration or sprint. They should focus on delivering a specific piece of functionality or addressing a particular user need. Breaking down larger features into smaller user stories enables incremental delivery and feedback, which is essential in agile development.
* **T - Testable**: Each user story should be testable, meaning that its completion can be objectively verified through testing or validation. Clear acceptance criteria should be defined for each user story, outlining the conditions that must be met for it to be considered complete. Testable user stories ensure that the development team and stakeholders have a shared understanding of what constitutes success.