

EXIN Agile Scrum Master

Lesson 1—Agile Way of Thinking



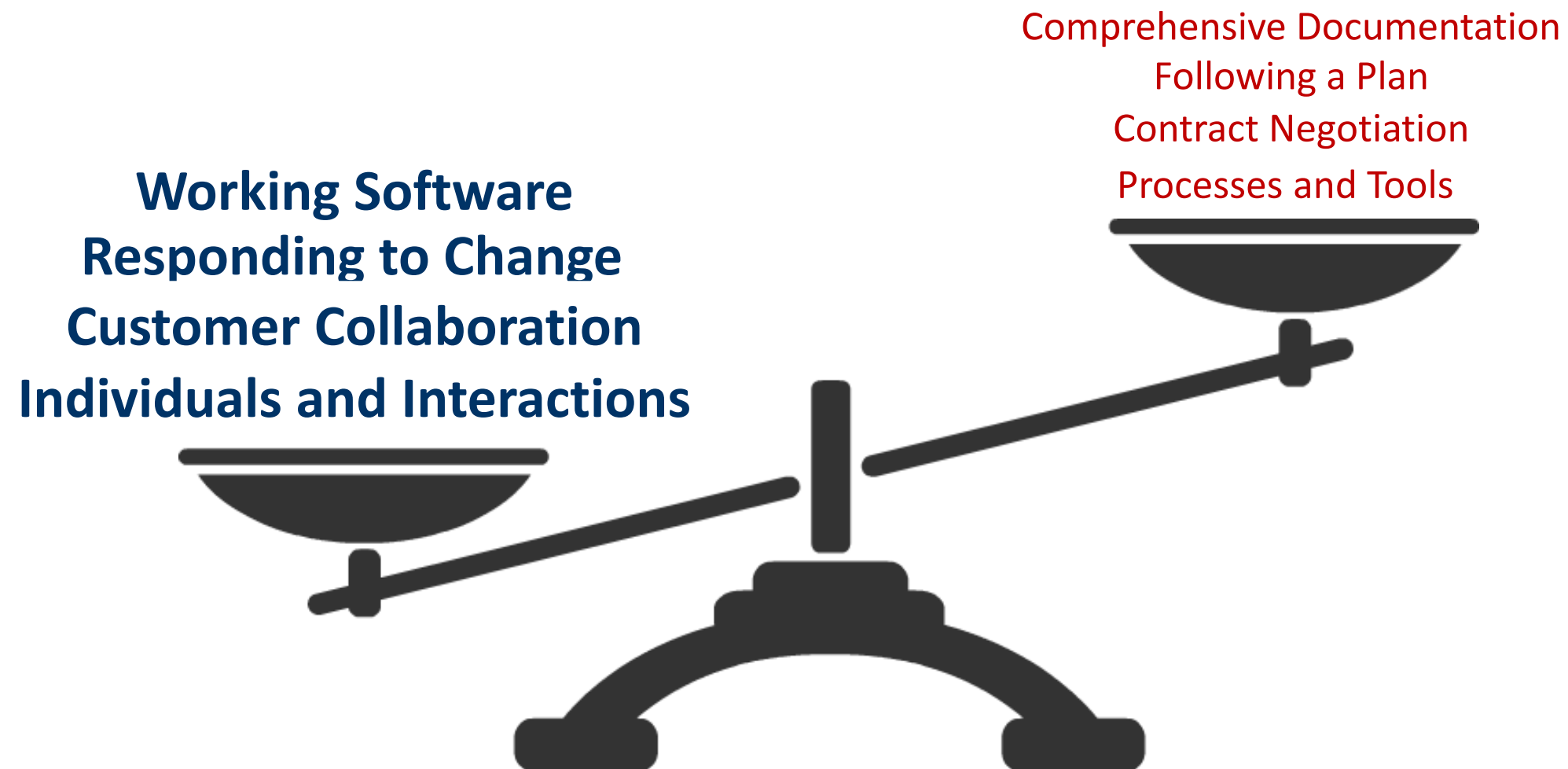
After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- Define Agile and Scrum.
- Articulate the benefits of being Agile.
- Describe the principles of the Agile Manifesto.
- Describe the principle of continuous improvement applied to a Scrum adaptation.

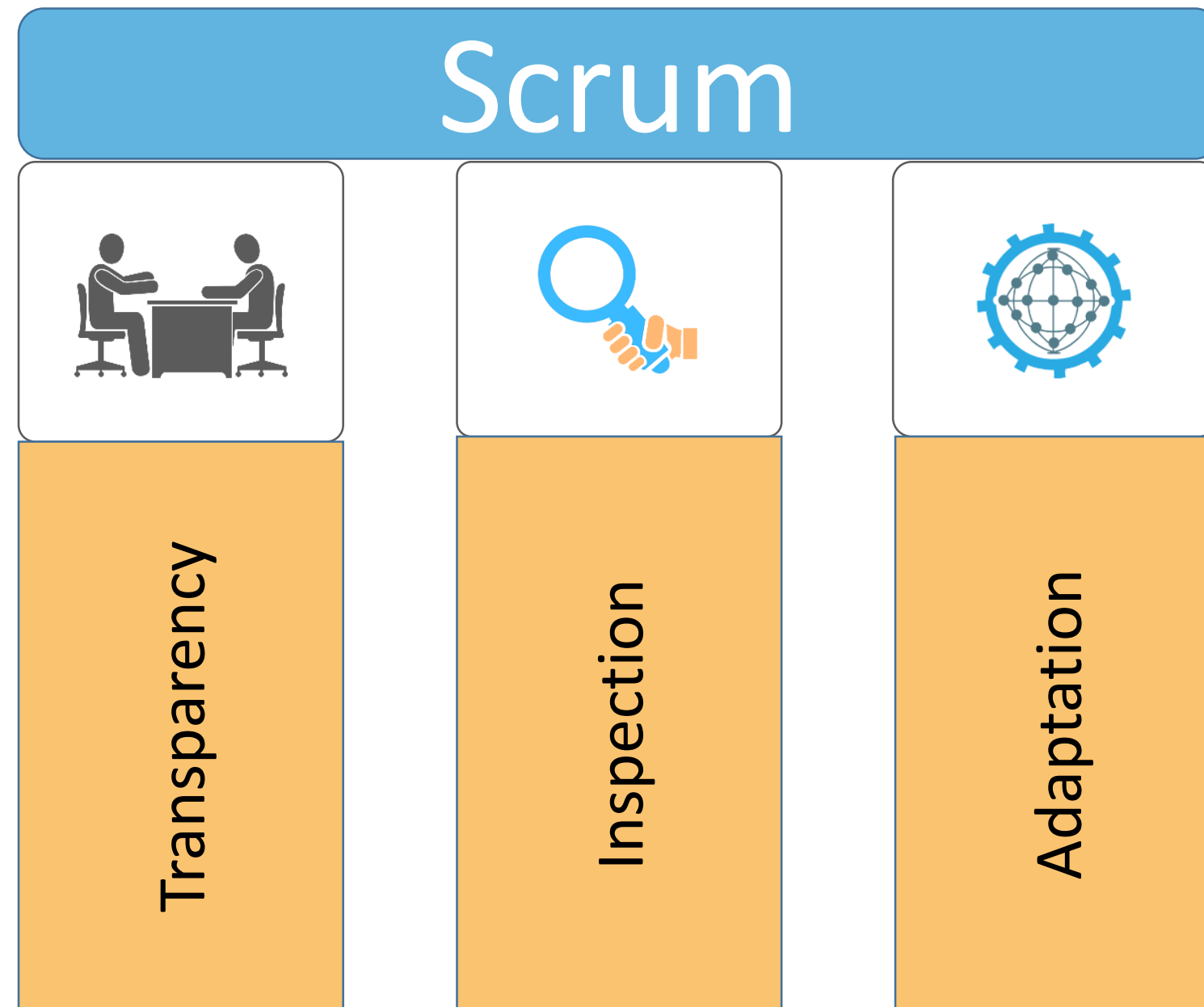


Agile is an iterative and incremental method for developing high-quality products. The Agile Manifesto says:

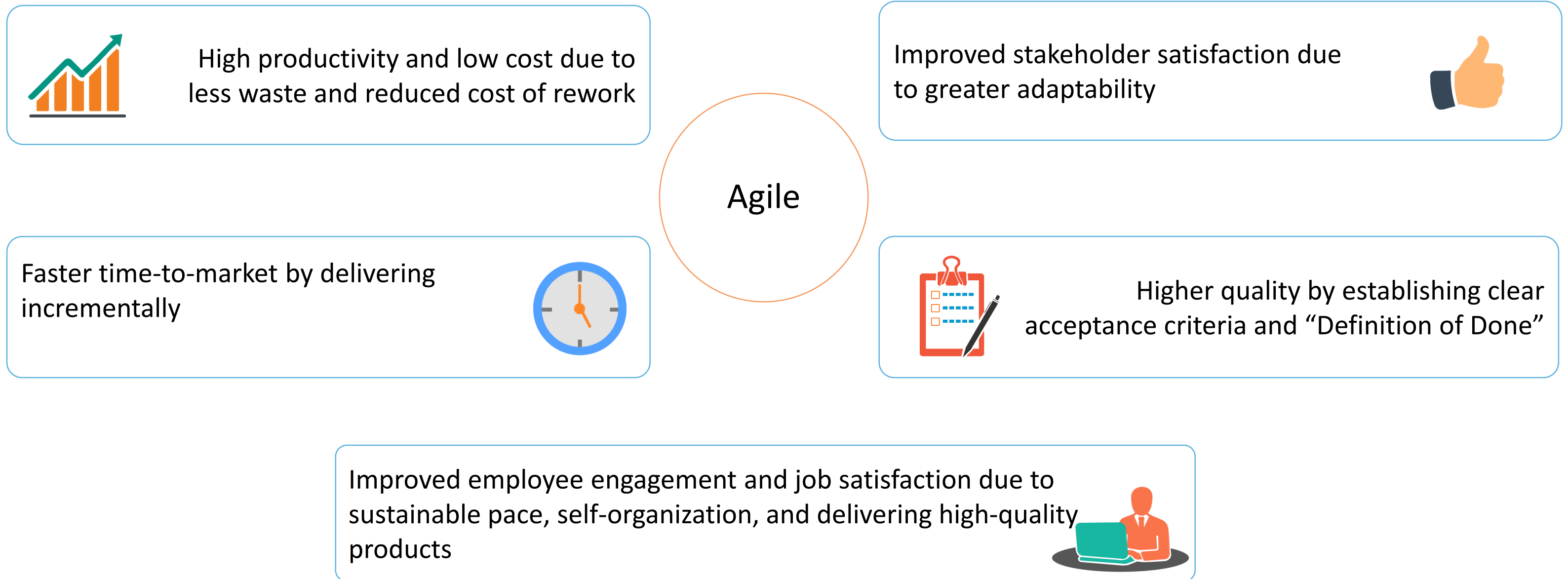
“That is, while there is value in the items on the right, we value the items on the left more.”



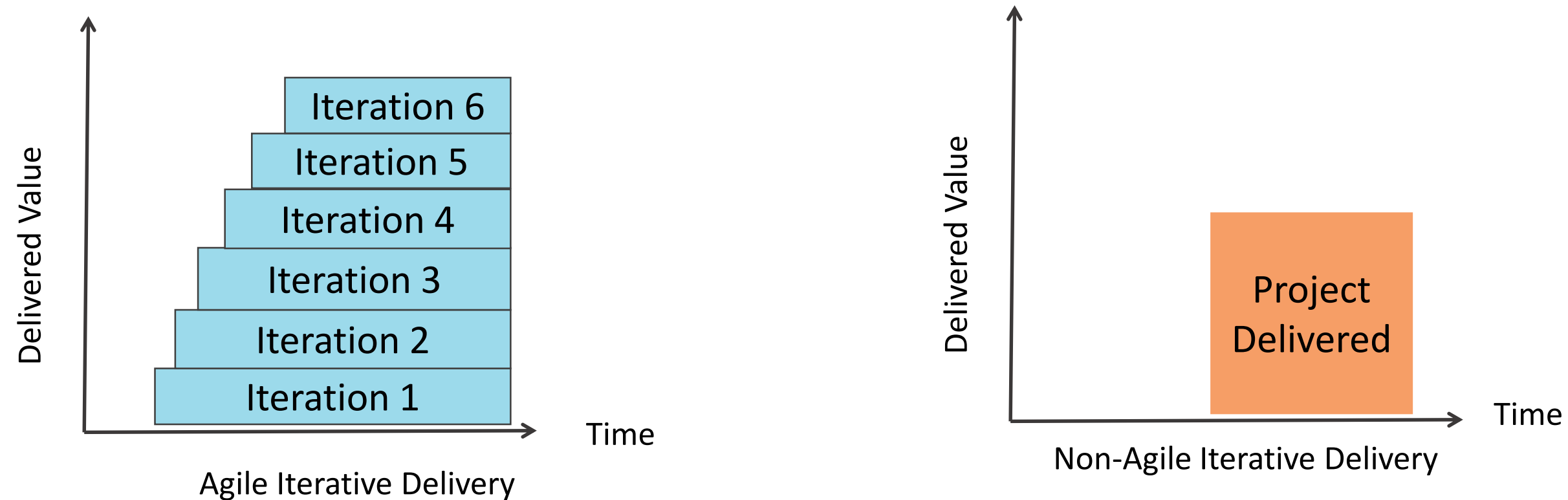
Scrum is one of the most popular Agile frameworks. The three pillars of Scrum are as follows:



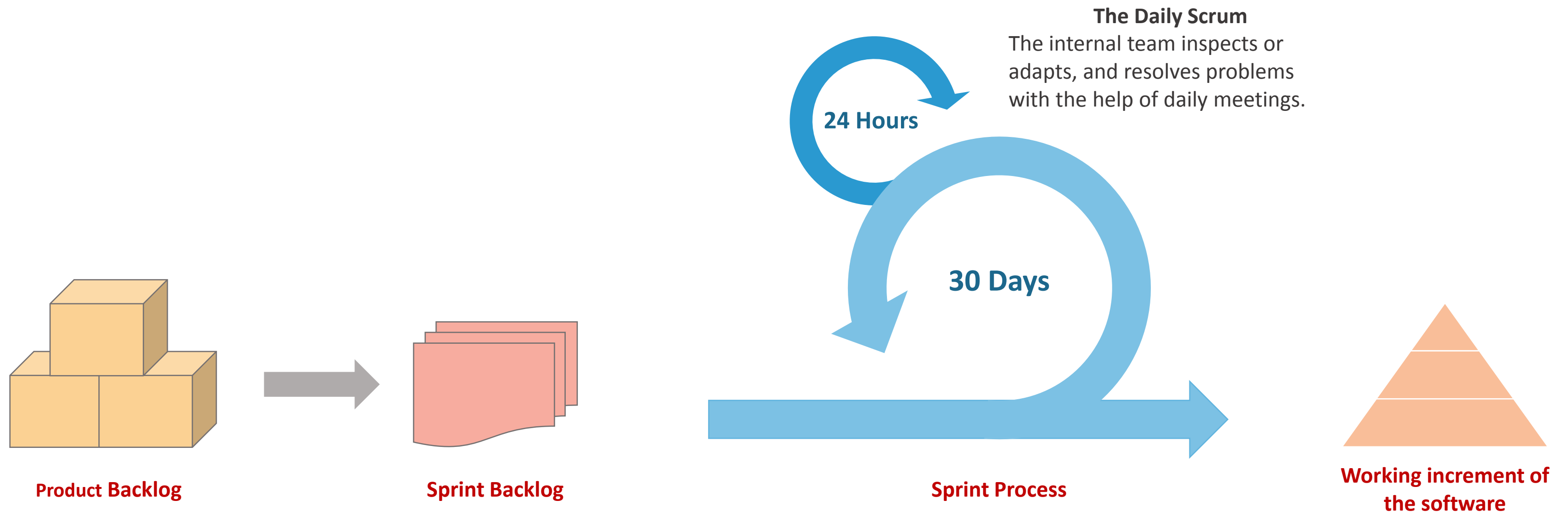
Many studies and surveys have outlined the advantages of Agile development.



This chart illustrates how Agile methods deliver value faster than expensive, traditional methods.



Scrum relies on experimentation and adaptation, which makes it more predictable and flexible.



Here is how you can successfully “ADAPT” to Scrum.

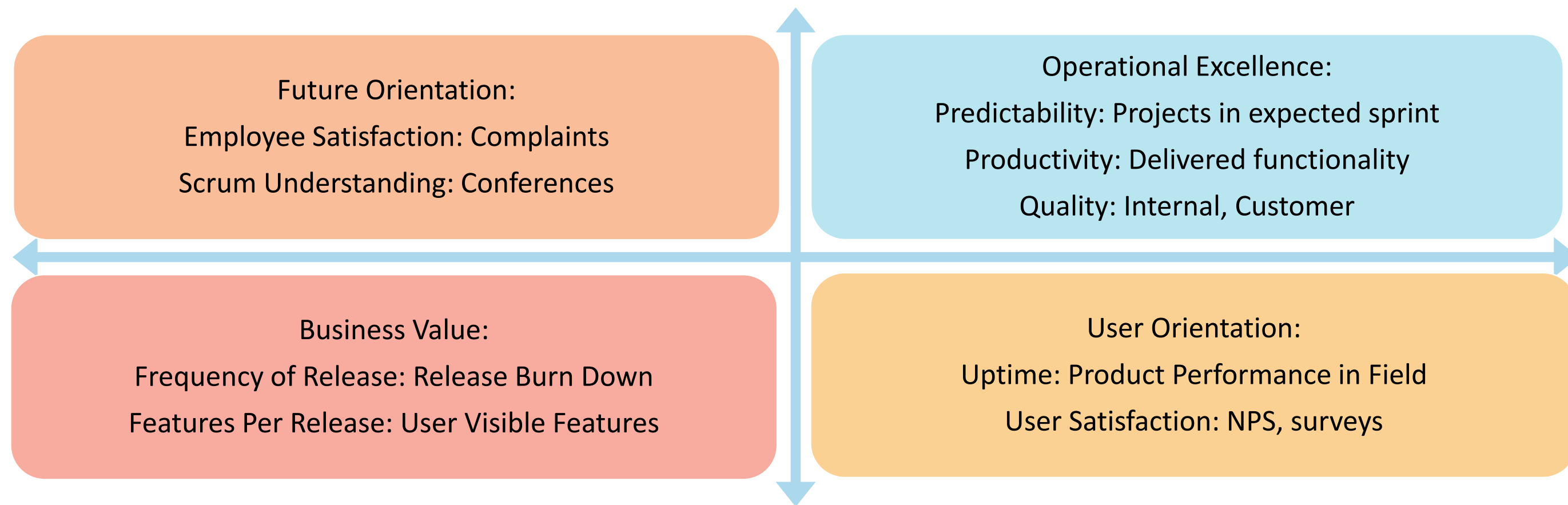
- A** Awareness that the current process is not working
- D** Desire to adapt Scrum as a method to address these problems
- A** Ability to succeed with Scrum
- P** Promote Scrum to remember successes and learn from each other
- T** Transfer the advantages of Scrum throughout the organization

To understand the impact of Scrum, it is important to definitively answer questions such as:

- Has the investment in Scrum paid off?
- What is our next area of improvement?
- Should we continue with Scrum?
- Are we better than before?
- Are we producing better products?
- Do our products have fewer defects?
- Are we able to ship faster than before?



Mike Cohn describes a balanced scorecard for Scrum teams:



Let us summarize the topics covered in this lesson:



- Agile is an iterative and incremental method for developing products.
- Scrum is one of the most popular Agile frameworks which is composed of transparency, inspection, and adaptation.
- Scrum provides value to the organization in the form of higher productivity, reduced cost, better quality, engaged and satisfied employees.
- Scrum helps in getting faster time-to-market, and improved stakeholder satisfaction.
- Scrum is an empirical framework that relies on frequent feedback and experimentation. This helps in achieving predictability and flexibility.
- It is advisable to measure the adherence and outcomes from Scrum to enable continuous improvement in the process.



QUIZ 1

Which of the following would be considered as most valuable by an Agile team?

- a. Following a plan
- b. Processes and Tools
- c. Comprehensive documentation
- d. Working software



QUIZ 2

With whom should a Scrum team share the progress reports and burn down charts?

- a. All the relevant stakeholders
- b. Within the team and senior management
- c. Team, Scrum Master and Product Owner
- d. Senior management and customers



QUIZ 3

A team which is transitioning to Scrum would most likely lose _____.

- a. flexibility and adaptability
- b. productivity and quality
- c. detailed upfront planning and architecture
- d. ability to respond to business changes



QUIZ 4

A team is trying to decide between two design patterns to solve a problem and is debating which would work better. What is the best way to arrive at a decision?

- a. Ask the customer
- b. Develop small pilots with both approaches and study the outcomes
- c. Consult the enterprise architects within the company
- d. Set aside a couple of iterations to focus on design pattern finalization



This concludes “Agile Way of Thinking.”

The next lesson is “Other Agile Frameworks.”