

PSPO-I^{Q&As}

Professional Scrum Product Owner (PSPO I)

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QUESTION 1

True or False: Product Owners must specify complete acceptance criteria for a Product

Backlog item before the Developers can select the item in Sprint Planning.

A. True

B. False

Correct Answer: B

Answer: False Very Short Explanation: According to Scrum.org, the Product Owner is not required to create clear and unambiguous acceptance criteria for each item in the product's backlog before it can be selected in Sprint Planning¹. Acceptance Criteria is optional and is not prescribed by Scrum¹². It can be valuable, but it's not a must¹². The Developers can inspect and adapt the Sprint Backlog in any way they see fit, in order to help meet the Sprint Goal².

QUESTION 2

How much time is required after a Sprint to prepare for the next Sprint?

(choose the best answer)

A. The break between Sprints is timeboxed to one-week for a one-month Sprint, and usually less for shorter Sprints.

B. Enough time for the requirements for the next Sprint to be determined and documented.

C. Enough time for the Developers to finish the testing from the last Sprint.

D. None. A new Sprint starts immediately following the end of the previous Sprint.

E. All of the above are allowed depending on the situation.

Correct Answer: D

The Scrum Guide states that "Sprints have consistent durations throughout a development effort. A new Sprint starts immediately after the conclusion of the previous Sprint."¹ This means that there is no gap or break between Sprints, and the

Scrum Team does not need to spend extra time to prepare for the next Sprint. The Scrum Team should be able to start the next Sprint Planning right after the Sprint Review and Sprint Retrospective of the previous Sprint. The Scrum Team

should also ensure that the testing and documentation of the work are done within the Sprint, and not left for later.

References:

1: The Scrum Guide², page 9

2: The Scrum Guide

QUESTION 3

The Daily Scrum is an event that happens every day. What would be three key concerns if the frequency were to be lowered to every two or three days?

(choose the best three answers)

- A. The Sprint Backlog may become inaccurate.
- B. Too much work is spent updating the Scrum board before the meeting.
- C. The Scrum Master loses the ability to update the Gantt chart properly.
- D. The Product Owner cannot accurately report progress to the stakeholders.
- E. Opportunities to inspect and adapt the Sprint Backlog are lost.
- F. Impediments are raised and resolved more slowly.

Correct Answer: AEF

The Daily Scrum is a 15-minute event for the Developers to inspect their progress toward the Sprint Goal and adapt the Sprint Backlog as necessary¹. It is a key opportunity for the Developers to plan their work for the next 24 hours and collaborate on any challenges or impediments². If the frequency of the Daily Scrum were to be lowered to every two or three days, three key concerns would be: The Sprint Backlog may become inaccurate. The Sprint Backlog is the plan for how the Developers will achieve the Sprint Goal, and it is updated throughout the Sprint as more is learned^{[3][3]}. The Daily Scrum is a chance for the Developers to inspect the Sprint Backlog and make adjustments based on the current situation⁴. If the Daily Scrum is less frequent, the Sprint Backlog may not reflect the reality of the work, and the Developers may lose track of their progress and alignment with the Sprint Goal. Opportunities to inspect and adapt the Sprint Backlog are lost. Scrum is based on empiricism, which means that knowledge comes from experience and making decisions based on what is observed⁵. The Daily Scrum is an essential event for the Developers to apply empiricism to their work, by inspecting the Sprint Backlog and adapting it to optimize the value and quality of the Increment. If the Daily Scrum is less frequent, the Developers may miss opportunities to inspect and adapt their work, and may not be able to deliver a valuable, useful Increment every Sprint. Impediments are raised and resolved more slowly. An impediment is anything that prevents the Scrum Team from delivering a product Increment. The Daily Scrum is a forum for the Developers to identify and communicate any impediments that affect their work, and to seek help from the Scrum Master or other team members. If the Daily Scrum is less frequent, the impediments may not be raised and resolved in a timely manner, and may cause delays or quality issues in the product delivery. References:

1: The Scrum Guide, November 2020, p. 10

2: The Scrum Guide, November 2020, p. 11 [3][3]: The Scrum Guide, November 2020, p. 10

4: Understanding and Applying the Scrum Framework, Scrum.org, accessed on December 16, 2023

5: The Scrum Guide, November 2020, p. 4 The Scrum Guide, November 2020, p. 11 The Scrum Guide, November 2020, p. 14 Developing People and Teams, Scrum.org, accessed on December 16, 2023

QUESTION 4

A product's success is measured by:

(choose the best three answers)

- A. The impact on customer satisfaction.
- B. The impact on cost.

- C. The impact on my boss's mood.
- D. The delivery of upfront defined scope compared to the upfront planned time.
- E. The impact on my performance rating.
- F. The impact on revenue.

Correct Answer: ABF

A product's success is measured by the impact it has on the customers, the business, and the market. Different products may have different success criteria and metrics, depending on their vision, goals, value proposition, and target audience. However, some of the common and important aspects that can indicate a product's success are:

The other options are not valid or relevant measures of a product's success. They are either too subjective, narrow, or unrelated to the product's value proposition and goals. They are:

References:

Product Success: <https://www.productplan.com/glossary/product-success/> Customer Satisfaction: <https://www.agilealliance.org/glossary/customer-satisfaction/>

Cost: <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/c/cost.asp> Revenue: <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/r/revenue.asp>

QUESTION 5

Who determines when it is appropriate to update the Sprint Backlog during a Sprint?

(choose the best answer)

- A. The Project Manager.
- B. The Scrum Team.
- C. The Developers.
- D. The Product Owner.

Correct Answer: C

The Sprint Backlog is the set of Product Backlog items selected for the Sprint, plus a plan for delivering the product Increment and realizing the Sprint Goal. The Sprint Backlog is a highly visible, real-time picture of the work that the Developers plan to accomplish during the Sprint, and it belongs solely to the Developers. The Developers are accountable for creating a "Done" Increment that meets the Definition of Done each Sprint. The Developers are responsible for planning and executing the Sprint Backlog, designing and building the product functionality, testing and improving the product quality, and delivering a potentially releasable Increment. The Developers work closely with the Product Owner to understand and clarify the Product Backlog items, provide feedback and estimates, and suggest improvements and innovations. The Developers are also responsible for updating the Sprint Backlog throughout the Sprint. The Sprint Backlog is a plan with enough detail that changes in progress can be understood in the Daily Scrum. The Developers modify the Sprint Backlog throughout the Sprint, and the Sprint Backlog emerges during the Sprint. This emergence occurs as the Developers work through the plan and learn more about the work needed to achieve the Sprint Goal. As new work is required, the Developers add it to the Sprint Backlog. As work is performed or completed, the estimated remaining work is updated. When elements of the plan are deemed unnecessary, they are removed. Only the Developers can change its content and order during a Sprint. References: Scrum Guide:

<https://www.scrumguides.org/scrum-guide.html> Sprint Backlog: <https://www.scrum.org/resources/what-is-a-sprint-backlog> Developers: <https://www.scrum.org/resources/what-is-a-developer-in-scrum>

QUESTION 6

What is the purpose of a Sprint Review?

(choose the best answer)

- A. To build team spirit.
- B. To take time to judge the validity of the project.
- C. To inspect the product Increment with the stakeholders and collect feedback on next steps.
- D. To review the Scrum Team's activities and processes during the Sprint.

Correct Answer: C

The Sprint Review is an event that occurs at the end of each Sprint, where the Scrum Team and the stakeholders inspect the Increment and adapt the Product Backlog if needed. The Sprint Review is an opportunity for the Product Owner to validate that the Increment meets their expectations and delivers value to the customers and users. The Sprint Review is also an opportunity for the Developers to demonstrate their work and receive feedback from the Product Owner and the stakeholders. The purpose of a Sprint Review is to inspect the product Increment with the stakeholders and collect feedback on next steps. The Sprint Review is a collaborative and interactive session where the Scrum Team and the stakeholders discuss what was done in the Sprint, what problems were encountered, what was learned, and what can be improved or changed. The Sprint Review also provides input for updating the Product Backlog to maximize value in future Sprints. The other options are not valid or relevant purposes of a Sprint Review. They are either too vague, unrelated, or incorrect. They are: References: Scrum Guide: <https://www.scrumguides.org/scrum-guide.html> Sprint Review: <https://www.scrum.org/resources/what-is-a-sprint-review>

QUESTION 7

Developers are self-managing, which of the following do they manage?

(choose the best answer)

- A. Product Backlog ordering.
- B. When to release, based on its progress.
- C. Sprint Backlog.
- D. Stakeholders for the Sprint Review.
- E. Sprint length.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: Developers are self-managing, which means that they decide how much work they can do in a Sprint, and how they will do it¹. They manage the Sprint Backlog, which is the plan for how the Developers will achieve the Sprint Goal, and the single source of truth for the work to be done in the Sprint². The Developers create and update the Sprint Backlog throughout the Sprint as more is learned³[3]. The other options are not managed by the Developers, but by

the Product Owner or the Scrum Team as a whole. The Product Owner is accountable for ordering the Product Backlog, which is an ordered list of everything that is known to be needed in the product⁴. The Product Owner also decides when to release the product, based on the value, risk, and stakeholder feedback⁵. The Scrum Team collaborates on inviting the stakeholders for the Sprint Review, which is an event where the Scrum Team and the stakeholders inspect the product Increment and adapt the Product Backlog. The Scrum Team also decides the Sprint length, which is the time-box within which the Scrum Team delivers a product Increment. References:

1: The Scrum Guide, November 2020, p. 6

2: The Scrum Guide, November 2020, p. 10 [3][3]: The Scrum Guide, November 2020, p. 10

4: The Scrum Guide, November 2020, p. 6

5: Managing Products with Agility, Scrum.org, accessed on December 16, 2023 : The Scrum Guide, November 2020, p. 13 : The Scrum Guide, November 2020, p. 9

QUESTION 8

What are two effective ways for a Scrum Team to ensure security concerns are satisfied? (choose the best two answers)

- A. Add security concerns to the Definition of Done.
- B. Delegate the work to the security department.
- C. Have the Scrum Team create Product Backlog items for each concern.
- D. Add a Sprint to specifically resolve all security concerns.
- E. Postpone the work until a specialist can perform a security audit and create a list of security-related Product Backlog items.

Correct Answer: AC

These are the best answers because they ensure that security concerns are addressed in a transparent and consistent way. By adding security criteria to the Definition of Done, the Scrum Team can make sure that every Increment meets a

high standard of quality and security. By creating Product Backlog items for specific security concerns, the Scrum Team can prioritize and plan them in collaboration with the Product Owner and stakeholders.

References:

Scrum Guide, page 14: "The Definition of Done is a formal description of the state of the Increment when it meets the quality measures required for the product." Scrum Guide, page 15: "The Product Backlog is an emergent, ordered list of what is needed to improve the product."

QUESTION 9

Which two things are appropriate for a Scrum Master to do, if the Scrum Team does not have the tools and environment to completely finish each selected Product Backlog item?

(choose the best two answers)

- A. Coach the Scrum Team to improve its skills, tools and environment over time and adjust the Definition of Done accordingly.
- B. Refocus the current Sprint on establishing the Scrum Team's environment instead of delivering an Increment.
- C. Encourage the Product Owner to accept partially done Increments until the situation improves.
- D. Have the Scrum Team establish a Definition of Done that is actually possible to achieve given current circumstances.
- E. Declare the Scrum Team not ready for Scrum.

Correct Answer: AD



Scrum Explore The correct answers are A and D.

A. Coach the Scrum Team to improve its skills, tools and environment over time and adjust the Definition of Done accordingly. This is an appropriate action for a Scrum Master, as it helps the Scrum Team to overcome the impediments that prevent them from delivering a potentially releasable Increment. The Definition of Done should reflect the current reality of the Scrum Team, but also be a source of continuous improvement¹². D. Have the Scrum Team establish a Definition of Done that is actually possible to achieve given current circumstances. This is also an appropriate action for a Scrum Master, as it ensures that the Scrum Team has a clear and shared understanding of what it means to complete a Product Backlog item. The Definition of Done should be realistic and achievable, but also challenging and ambitious¹². B. Refocus the current Sprint on establishing the Scrum Team's environment instead of delivering an Increment. This is not an appropriate action for a Scrum Master, as it violates the purpose of the Sprint, which is to deliver a valuable product Increment that meets the Sprint Goal. The Scrum Team should not change the Sprint Goal or scope during the Sprint, unless the Product Owner decides to cancel the Sprint³. C. Encourage the Product Owner to accept partially done Increments until the situation improves. This is not an appropriate action for a Scrum Master, as it compromises the quality and value of the product. The Product Owner should only accept Increments that meet the Definition of Done and the acceptance criteria. Partially done Increments increase technical debt and risk, and reduce transparency and feedback¹². E. Declare the Scrum Team not ready for Scrum. This is not an appropriate action for a Scrum Master, as it undermines the Scrum values and principles. The Scrum Master should support the Scrum Team in adopting and applying Scrum, regardless of the challenges and constraints they face. The Scrum Master should foster a culture of empiricism, self-organization, collaboration, and continuous improvement.

QUESTION 10

True or False: The Sprint Backlog is a result of Sprint Planning, and it includes the Sprint Goal.

- A. True
- B. False

Correct Answer: A

It is true that the Sprint Backlog is a result of Sprint Planning, and it includes the Sprint Goal. This is because:

Sprint Planning is an event where the Scrum Team plans for the upcoming Sprint. The purpose of Sprint Planning is to align the entire Scrum Team around a common goal and a plan for delivering an Increment that meets that goal. The

Sprint Backlog is the set of Product Backlog items selected for the Sprint, plus a plan for delivering them as a "Done" Increment. The Sprint Backlog is owned by the Developers who use it to organize and manage their work during the Sprint.

The Sprint Goal is a short-term objective that provides guidance and focus to the Scrum Team throughout the Sprint. It is a flexible and negotiable commitment that can be adjusted as more is learned throughout the Sprint. The Sprint Backlog

is created by the collaborative work of the entire Scrum Team during Sprint Planning. The Product Owner proposes how the product could increase its value and utility in the current Sprint. The Developers discuss how they can deliver a

"Done" Increment that meets this proposal. Together, they define a Sprint Goal that summarizes why the Sprint is valuable to stakeholders. Then, they select enough Product Backlog items from the top of the ordered Product Backlog to

satisfy the Sprint Goal. Finally, they create a plan for how they will deliver those items as a "Done" Increment.

References:

[Scrum Guide], page 14, section "Sprint Planning" [Scrum Guide], page 15, section "Sprint Backlog" [Scrum Guide], page 15, section "Sprint Goal"

QUESTION 11

Which of the following practices might help the Product Owner minimize waste in developing and sustaining the Product Backlog?

(choose the best two answers)

- A. Avoid distracting the Scrum Team by maintaining newly gathered Product Backlog items in a separate Product Backlog until they are fully understood.
- B. Hand off ownership of the Product Backlog to someone else.
- C. Remove items from the Product Backlog that have not been addressed in a long time.
- D. Only fully describe Product Backlog items when it seems likely they will be implemented.

Correct Answer: CD

The practices that might help the Product Owner minimize waste in developing and sustaining the Product Backlog are:

Remove items from the Product Backlog that have not been addressed in a long time. This helps keep the Product Backlog relevant, concise, and focused on delivering value. Items that have not been addressed in a long time may indicate

that they are not important, feasible, or desirable anymore. They may also clutter or confuse the Product Backlog and make it harder to order and prioritize. Only fully describe Product Backlog items when it seems likely they will be

implemented. This helps avoid spending too much time or effort on items that may change or be discarded later. Items that are likely to be implemented soon should have more detail and precision than items that are further away or uncertain.

The level of detail and precision required for each item depends on its order, size, and complexity.

Other options, such as avoiding distracting the Scrum Team by maintaining newly gathered Product Backlog items in a separate Product Backlog until they are fully understood or handing off ownership of the Product Backlog to someone

else, are not practices that might help minimize waste in developing and sustaining the Product Backlog. They may actually create more waste by reducing transparency, collaboration, alignment, or ownership.

References:

[Scrum Guide], page 11, section "Product Backlog" [Scrum Guide], page 6, section "Product Owner"

[Scrum Guide], page 12, section "Product Backlog Refinement"

QUESTION 12

Scrum is based on empiricism. All of its artifacts must be transparent to ensure sufficient accuracy of inspection. How can the Scrum Team maintain the Product Backlog to maximize its transparency?

(choose the best answer)

- A. The Product Backlog is only updated at the Sprint Review, when both the Scrum Team and the stakeholders are available.
- B. Product Backlog items should hold no more than 8 points of work, which is the average in the range of acceptable sizes of 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, and 13.
- C. Product Backlog items must be sized such that the highest ordered items are no bigger than a Sprint.
- D. The Product Backlog is only updated at a release planning meeting with the stakeholders and the change control board present.
- E. The Product Backlog is continually kept up to date with the most recent insights.

Correct Answer: E

The Scrum Team can maintain the Product Backlog to maximize its transparency by continually keeping it up to date with the most recent insights because:

It reflects the current state of the product and the work. The Product Backlog is a dynamic and emergent artifact that represents all the possible features, functions, requirements, enhancements, and fixes that constitute changes to the

product. By updating it frequently, the Scrum Team can ensure that the Product Backlog is accurate, complete, and relevant.

It enables the Product Owner to optimize the value of the product and the work of the Scrum Team. The Product Owner is accountable for effective Product Backlog management, which includes ordering, refining, and communicating the

Product Backlog items. By updating it frequently, the Product Owner can incorporate new learnings, feedback, opportunities, and changes into the product decisions and priorities.

It supports the inspection and adaptation of the Scrum Team and the stakeholders. The Product Backlog is a source of information and transparency for everyone involved in the product development. By updating it frequently, the Scrum

Team and the stakeholders can inspect the progress and outcomes of each Sprint, and adapt their plans and actions accordingly.

References:

Scrum Guide 2020, page 10: "The Product Backlog is an emergent, ordered list of what is needed to improve the product."

Scrum Guide 2020, page 11: "The Product Owner is accountable for effective Product Backlog management, which includes ... ensuring that the Product Backlog is transparent, visible and understood." Scrum Guide 2020, page 11: "The

ordering of the items in the Product Backlog is the sole responsibility of the Product Owner. They order Product Backlog items to best achieve goals and missions."

Scrum Guide 2020, page 11: "Higher ordered Product Backlog items are clearer and more refined than lower ordered ones."

Scrum Guide 2020, page 15: "The Sprint Review is an informal meeting, not a status meeting, and the presentation of the Increment is intended to elicit feedback and foster collaboration."

QUESTION 13

Scrum requires that the Product Owner must use which of the following items?

(choose all that apply)

- A. Burndown chart.
- B. Feature burn-up.
- C. Critical Path Analysis.
- D. Project Gantt chart.
- E. None of the above.

Correct Answer: E

Explanation: Scrum does not require that the Product Owner must use any of the following items:

Burndown chart: A burndown chart is a graphical representation of work left to do versus time. It can be used to track progress and forecast completion dates of projects or Sprints. However, it is not mandatory or prescribed in Scrum. It is one

of the possible techniques that a Product Owner may use to monitor and communicate product development.

Feature burn-up: A feature burn-up chart is a graphical representation of features completed versus time. It can be used to track progress and forecast scope changes of projects or Sprints. However, it is not mandatory or prescribed in

Scrum. It is one of the possible techniques that a Product Owner may use to monitor and communicate product development.

Critical Path Analysis: Critical Path Analysis is a project management technique that identifies the sequence of tasks that must be completed on time for a project or Sprint to finish on schedule. It can be used to plan, monitor, and control

complex projects or Sprints. However, it is not mandatory or prescribed in Scrum. It is one of the possible techniques that a Product Owner may use to manage product development.

Project Gantt chart: A project Gantt chart is a graphical representation of tasks, dependencies, durations, and milestones of a project or Sprint. It can be used to plan, monitor, and control complex projects or Sprints. However, it is not

mandatory or prescribed in Scrum. It is one of the possible techniques that a Product Owner may use to manage product development. Therefore, the correct answer is none of the above.

References:

[Scrum Guide], page 6, section "Product Owner"

[Scrum Guide], page 11, section "Product Backlog" [Professional Scrum Product Owner™ Training], page 8, section "Release Management"

QUESTION 14

True or False: Dependencies could influence how the Product Owner orders Product Backlog items.

- A. True
- B. False

Correct Answer: A

QUESTION 15

A new Developer is having continuing conflicts with existing members of the Scrum Team, which is impacting the delivery of the Increment. If necessary, who is responsible for removing the Developer from the Scrum Team?

(choose the best answer)

- A. The Product Owner is responsible, they control the return on investment (ROI).
- B. The Scrum Team is responsible.
- C. The Scrum Master is responsible, they remove impediments.
- D. The hiring manager is responsible, they hired the Developer.

Correct Answer: B

The Scrum Team is a self-managing unit that organizes its own work and delivers a valuable product¹. The Scrum Team consists of one Scrum Master, one Product Owner, and Developers². The Scrum Team is accountable for creating a

valuable, useful Increment every Sprint³³. If a Developer is having conflicts with other team members that affect the delivery of the Increment, the Scrum Team is responsible for resolving the issue and deciding whether to remove the

Developer from the team or not. The Product Owner, the Scrum Master, and the hiring manager do not have the authority to remove a Developer from the Scrum Team, as this would violate the principle of self-management⁴.

References:

1: The Scrum Guide, November 2020, p. 5

2: The Scrum Guide, November 2020, p. 6 [3][3]: The Scrum Guide, November 2020, p. 9

4: Understanding and Applying the Scrum Framework, Scrum.org, accessed on December 16, 2023

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