AT&T Academy Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide

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Questions

1. What does Velocity measure in Agile?

A. The speed of task completion

B. The number of User Stories developed

C. The rate of work acceptance over time

D. The total effort estimated for tasks

2. How can an Agile Team improve analysis, estimation, and planning?

A. By focusing on individual task completion

B. Through increased productivity and sustainability

C. By reducing team collaboration

D. By implementing longer timeboxes

3. Who is the content authority of a backlog in Agile?

A. Scrum Master

B. Agile Team

C. Product Owner (PO)

D. Project Manager

4. What is the primary purpose of network protocols?

A. To relax security measures

B. To standardize communication between devices

C. To limit data access

D. To increase network complexity

5. Which responsibility falls on Delivery Team members when resolving defects?

A. Only document defects

B. Ensure only they communicate findings

C. Maximize code reuse and demonstrate improvements

D. Request additional resources for defect resolution

6. Where should a Kanban board typically be located?

A. In a private office

B. In a place that is easily seen and accessed

C. Only online via a software tool

D. In team members' personal workspaces

7. Which approach is NOT a method for maintaining a sustainable pace?

A. Cadence

B. Burnout

C. Capacity

D. Commitment

8. What does minimizing WIP help focus on effectively?

A. Minimizing team communication

B. Making more decisions quickly

C. Correct decisions, completion, and quality of tasks

D. Starting as many tasks as possible at once

9. What is a benefit of limiting Work in Progress (WIP) on a Kanban board?

A. Increases the number of ongoing tasks

B. Allows for more project revisions

C. Creates a better workflow and enhances task completion

D. Encourages taking on additional responsibilities

10. What does the term 'scalability' refer to in network design?

A. The ability to reduce network costs

B. The ease of creating network policies

C. The ability of a network to grow and handle increased loads

D. The complexity of network configurations

Answers

1. C
2. B
3. C
4. B
5. C
6. B
7. B
8. C
9. C
10. C

Explanations

1. What does Velocity measure in Agile?

A. The speed of task completion

B. The number of User Stories developed

C. The rate of work acceptance over time

D. The total effort estimated for tasks

Velocity in Agile is primarily a measure of the amount of work completed by a team within a specific iteration or sprint. Specifically, it indicates the number of story points or units of work a team can complete over a given time frame, which typically aligns with a sprint duration. The correct choice highlights that velocity represents the rate of work acceptance over time, as it not only considers the completed tasks but also the context of team performance across iterations. This measure helps teams estimate their capacity for future sprints based on past performance, facilitating better planning and management of workload. Considering the other options: measuring the speed of task completion and the number of User Stories developed does not provide a holistic view of a team's delivery capacity since these metrics can vary significantly without reflecting actual effort or efficiency. Total effort estimated for tasks relates more to initial planning than to actual outputs, which is not the focus of velocity as a performance measure in Agile.

2. How can an Agile Team improve analysis, estimation, and planning?

A. By focusing on individual task completion

B. Through increased productivity and sustainability

C. By reducing team collaboration

D. By implementing longer timeboxes

An Agile team can improve analysis, estimation, and planning by focusing on increased productivity and sustainability. This approach emphasizes the importance of maintaining a consistent work pace that balances workload with team capacity, leading to improved analysis and more accurate estimations over time. When a team is productive, it can devote time to refining its backlog, understanding user stories more clearly, and leveraging past experiences to make better estimates. Sustainable practices ensure that team members are not overworked, which can lead to burnout. A sustainable pace fosters a healthy team environment where continuous improvement can take place. This, in turn, contributes to better planning, as teams become more adept at recognizing their capabilities and limitations, which leads to more realistic and achievable goals. The other options imply practices that could hinder the Agile process. Focusing solely on individual task completion may lead to a lack of collaboration, potentially resulting in misaligned priorities and inadequate communication. Reducing team collaboration can stifle the collaborative spirit that Agile promotes, undermining the benefits of collective insights and shared knowledge. Implementing longer timeboxes might introduce rigidity, moving away from the Agile principle of adaptability and responsiveness to change.

3. Who is the content authority of a backlog in Agile?

A. Scrum Master

B. Agile Team

C. Product Owner (PO)

D. Project Manager

The Product Owner (PO) is recognized as the content authority of a backlog in Agile methodologies. This role is crucial because the Product Owner is tasked with defining and prioritizing the features or user stories that need to be developed to deliver the product effectively. They not only understand the needs of the stakeholders but also translate those needs into actionable items for the development team. By managing the product backlog, the Product Owner ensures that it is visible, transparent, and clear to all, as well as prioritizing it so that the team can focus on delivering the most value in their sprints. The PO collaborates closely with team members and stakeholders to refine the backlog items, making sure they are well-defined and ready for the team to work on. In contrast, while roles like the Scrum Master, Agile Team, and Project Manager have important responsibilities in the Agile framework, they do not hold the same level of authority over backlog content decisions as the Product Owner. The Scrum Master facilitates the process and removes impediments, the Agile Team executes the work by developing the product, and the Project Manager (if present) often focuses on project execution and management aspects, but they do not have the final say on what features or items are prioritized in the backlog.

4. What is the primary purpose of network protocols?

A. To relax security measures

B. To standardize communication between devices

C. To limit data access

D. To increase network complexity

The primary purpose of network protocols is to standardize communication between devices. Network protocols are sets of rules and conventions that dictate how data is transmitted and received over a network. By establishing standardized methods for communication, these protocols ensure that devices from different manufacturers or with different specifications can understand and interpret the data they send and receive. This interoperability is crucial for the functionality of the internet and local networks, allowing diverse systems to work together seamlessly. Protocols also facilitate various aspects of communication, such as error handling, data compression, and the structure of messages. This standardization is essential for maintaining consistent and reliable communication, which forms the backbone of modern networking.

5. Which responsibility falls on Delivery Team members when resolving defects?

A. Only document defects

B. Ensure only they communicate findings

C. Maximize code reuse and demonstrate improvements

D. Request additional resources for defect resolution

Delivery Team members are primarily focused on continuous improvement and ensuring the quality of the software being developed. One of their key responsibilities in the context of resolving defects is to maximize code reuse and demonstrate improvements. This approach not only helps in efficiently addressing existing issues but also contributes to a more maintainable and robust codebase. By focusing on code reuse, the team can minimize redundancy and enhance overall productivity, leading to fewer defects in future iterations. This responsibility aligns with best practices in software development, emphasizing efficiency and high-quality outcomes. The other choices reflect responsibilities that might not fully capture the active role of Delivery Team members in the defect resolution process. Documenting defects is important, but it's more of an administrative task rather than a means of improvement. Communicating findings should involve collaboration, not just restricted to team members. Requesting additional resources could be necessary in certain scenarios, but it's not a core responsibility of the team itself; instead, the focus should be on resolving issues with the available resources while implementing improvements.

6. Where should a Kanban board typically be located?

A. In a private office

B. In a place that is easily seen and accessed

C. Only online via a software tool

D. In team members' personal workspaces

A Kanban board is an essential tool in the Kanban methodology, serving as a visual representation of work processes, tasks, and workflow. For maximum effectiveness, it should be placed in a location that is easily seen and accessed by all team members. This visibility allows everyone involved in the project to stay informed about the status of tasks, understand priorities, and collaborate effectively. When the board is prominent and accessible, it fosters better communication among team members, as they can quickly reference it during discussions and stand-up meetings. This open access also encourages accountability, as everyone can see the progress being made and identify any bottlenecks in the workflow. Having the Kanban board in private offices or only online does not allow for the same level of visibility and collaboration that an easily accessible location provides. While online tools have their merits, a physical board facilitates immediate, tactile interaction with the current work items. Similarly, placing the board in individual workspaces can isolate the information and hinder team coordination. Thus, ensuring the Kanban board is in a central, visible location is key to maximizing its effectiveness in managing workflow and enhancing team collaboration.

7. Which approach is NOT a method for maintaining a sustainable pace?

A. Cadence

B. Burnout

C. Capacity

D. Commitment

Maintaining a sustainable pace in work or project management is essential for ensuring that teams can consistently produce high-quality results without sacrificing well-being or productivity over time. The other approaches—cadence, capacity, and commitment—are all strategies aimed at achieving balance and ensuring that work can be done at a steady, manageable rate. Burnout is characterized by physical, emotional, and mental exhaustion, often resulting from prolonged stress and over-exertion. It negatively impacts productivity and overall team morale, making it unsustainable in any work environment. Unlike the other methods that contribute to a healthy work rhythm where teams can thrive, burnout is the outcome of a lack of balance and excessive demands. Therefore, identifying burnout as the method that does not support maintaining a sustainable pace highlights the importance of well-being in any effective work strategy.

8. What does minimizing WIP help focus on effectively?

A. Minimizing team communication

B. Making more decisions quickly

C. Correct decisions, completion, and quality of tasks

D. Starting as many tasks as possible at once

Minimizing Work In Progress (WIP) is a key principle in Lean and Agile methodologies that emphasizes limiting the number of tasks being worked on simultaneously. By doing so, teams can concentrate their efforts on completing tasks rather than spreading their focus too thin across multiple, concurrent projects. This focus allows team members to ensure that each task receives the necessary attention to enhance its quality and ensure appropriate completion. When WIP is limited, the team can better manage their workflow, leading to improved decision-making regarding the tasks at hand. They can assess the progress of work more effectively, identifying any issues or bottlenecks promptly. As a result, minimizing WIP not only drives towards correct decisions but also enhances the overall quality of outcomes. The emphasis on finishing tasks rather than starting new ones improves efficiency and results in higher satisfaction among team members due to visible progress and completed work. This approach fosters a culture of accountability and reduces the risks associated with multitasking, ultimately aligning with the principles of quality and effective project management.

9. What is a benefit of limiting Work in Progress (WIP) on a Kanban board?

A. Increases the number of ongoing tasks

B. Allows for more project revisions

C. Creates a better workflow and enhances task completion

D. Encourages taking on additional responsibilities

Limiting Work in Progress (WIP) on a Kanban board is crucial for creating a more efficient workflow and enhancing task completion. By restricting the number of tasks that can be in progress at any one time, teams can focus on completing current tasks before starting new ones. This approach minimizes context switching and helps individuals maintain focus, leading to faster task completion and higher quality results. Moreover, limiting WIP can highlight bottlenecks in the process, allowing teams to address issues that slow down progress. As tasks are completed more efficiently, this creates a smoother flow in the workflow, improving overall productivity. Ultimately, the practice fosters a more organized and effective working environment, which is essential for achieving project goals.

10. What does the term 'scalability' refer to in network design?

A. The ability to reduce network costs

B. The ease of creating network policies

C. The ability of a network to grow and handle increased loads

D. The complexity of network configurations

The term 'scalability' in network design refers to the ability of a network to grow and adapt to increased demands or loads without sacrificing performance. This characteristic is essential for organizations anticipating changes in traffic, users, or data volume over time. A scalable network can accommodate more devices or higher data throughput by adding resources or adjusting architecture without requiring a complete redesign. In a scalable network, administrators can implement upgrades like additional bandwidth, new hardware, or enhanced infrastructure to support growth. This ensures that service quality remains high, even as demand increases. Scalability is a crucial consideration for businesses as it directly impacts their capability to expand operations and respond to market needs efficiently.