Certified Scrum Master Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide

BY EXAMZIFY

Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

• Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
• Improve accuracy and speed,
• Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
• Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 – 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

1. **What should the focus be during a Sprint Retrospective?**
   A. Product features and pricing
   B. Team processes and effectiveness
   C. Market trends and competition
   D. Risk assessment and resource allocation

2. **Which Scrum role is focused on team dynamics and removing obstacles?**
   A. Development Team
   B. Product Owner
   C. Scrum Master
   D. Scrum Team

3. **What is the recommended length of a Sprint in Scrum?**
   A. One week or less
   B. Short enough to keep the business risk acceptable to the Product Owner
   C. Three weeks
   D. Any duration that suits the team

4. **Which role is responsible for fostering self-management and cross-functionality?**
   A. Scrum Master
   B. Product Owner
   C. Development Team
   D. Scrum Team

5. **Who is responsible for tracking Sprint progress?**
   A. Scrum Master
   B. Development Team
   C. Product Owner
   D. Project Manager

6. **What should be the result of having a Sprint Retrospective?**

    A. Determine promotions and raises

    B. Identify areas for improvement

    C. Negotiate project deadlines

    D. Create customer satisfaction surveys

7. **Who is responsible for managing business stakeholders in a Scrum environment?**

    A. Scrum Master

    B. Product Owner

    C. Development Team

    D. Stakeholder Manager

8. **When is Product Backlog Refinement (PBR) performed?**

    A. Only at the beginning of a Sprint

    B. Continuously and throughout as needed

    C. Only during Sprint Planning

    D. At the end of each Sprint

9. **Which role increases visibility and transparency in the Scrum process?**

    A. Development Team

    B. Scrum Master

    C. Product Owner

    D. Scrum Team

10. **Which of these roles is responsible for ensuring the team is following Scrum practices?**

    A. Product Owner

    B. Scrum Master

    C. Development Team

    D. Program Manager

Answers

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

Explanations

1. What should the focus be during a Sprint Retrospective?

A. Product features and pricing

B. Team processes and effectiveness

C. Market trends and competition

D. Risk assessment and resource allocation

During a Sprint Retrospective, the primary focus should be on team processes and effectiveness. This event is an opportunity for the Scrum Team to reflect on their work and interactions over the past sprint. By examining how the team collaborated, communicated, and executed their tasks, the team can identify strengths and areas for improvement.   This focus encourages a culture of continuous improvement, where the team can openly discuss what went well, what didn't, and how they can enhance their performance in future sprints. The goal is to create actionable insights that lead to improved processes, enhanced teamwork, and ultimately, better deliverables in the Scrum framework. While considerations like product features, market trends, and resource allocation are important in other contexts, they are not the central themes of the Sprint Retrospective. The retrospective is specifically designed to foster reflection on the team's internal dynamics, making it an essential component of Agile practices that emphasizes improvement in teamwork and workflow.

2. Which Scrum role is focused on team dynamics and removing obstacles?

A. Development Team

B. Product Owner

C. Scrum Master

D. Scrum Team

The Scrum Master is the role specifically dedicated to fostering a healthy team dynamic and facilitating the continuous improvement of the team's processes. This individual acts as a servant leader, ensuring that the team members work collaboratively and effectively, while also guiding them in adhering to Scrum practices. One of the primary responsibilities of the Scrum Master is to identify and remove impediments that may hinder the team's progress. This includes addressing any issues related to team collaboration, resources, or external distractions that could impact the team's ability to deliver value. By doing so, the Scrum Master helps maintain a productive work environment, enabling the team to focus on the work at hand without unnecessary interruptions. The Development Team, while focused on delivering the product increment and managing its own activities, does not hold the specific responsibility for team dynamics and removing obstacles in the same formal capacity as the Scrum Master. The Product Owner's role centers around managing the product backlog and prioritizing work based on stakeholder needs, rather than facilitating team processes or dynamics. The Scrum Team encompasses all roles within the framework but does not designate a specific person to focus on obstructions and team interactions. Thus, the Scrum Master is the critical role dedicated to nurturing productive teamwork and addressing any barriers to success effectively.

3. What is the recommended length of a Sprint in Scrum?

A. One week or less

B. Short enough to keep the business risk acceptable to the Product Owner

C. Three weeks

D. Any duration that suits the team

The recommended length of a Sprint in Scrum is indeed short enough to keep the business risk acceptable to the Product Owner. This principle aligns with the core Scrum tenet that Sprints should be time-boxed to ensure that the team can deliver increments of valuable product regularly. By keeping Sprints short, any risks associated with not delivering features or addressing market changes can be managed more effectively. This approach ensures that the team not only remains adaptive and able to respond to changes swiftly but also provides regular opportunities for the Product Owner to assess progress and reprioritize the backlog as needed. While the Scrum Guide specifies a typical duration of one to four weeks, choosing a length that aligns with acceptable business risk highlights the emphasis on flexibility and responsiveness in Scrum practices.   Other options imply definitive limits or arbitrary durations that may not align with Scrum's flexibility principle, which can lead to misalignment with the Product Owner's needs or the team's work cadence. Keeping the risk manageable encourages regular assessment and adjustments, ultimately driving better alignment with project goals and customer needs.

4. Which role is responsible for fostering self-management and cross-functionality?

A. Scrum Master

B. Product Owner

C. Development Team

D. Scrum Team

The Scrum Master plays a crucial role in fostering self-management and cross-functionality within the Scrum framework. This individual facilitates the Scrum process by encouraging the Development Team to take ownership of their work, make decisions collaboratively, and be accountable for their progress. By promoting an environment of trust and open communication, the Scrum Master encourages team members to develop cross-functional skills, allowing them to support each other and take on various roles as needed. This empowerment is central to maximizing the team's efficiency and effectiveness, leading to improved product outcomes. Other roles, while valuable in their own rights, do not specifically focus on fostering self-management and cross-functionality to the same extent. The Product Owner's primary responsibility is to manage the product backlog and ensure that the team delivers value to stakeholders. The Development Team is composed of professionals who create the product increment, but they rely heavily on the Scrum Master to lead the self-management and cross-functional collaboration process. The Scrum Team encompasses all roles, but it is the Scrum Master who specifically cultivates these traits within the team.

5. Who is responsible for tracking Sprint progress?

A. Scrum Master

B. Development Team

C. Product Owner

D. Project Manager

The Development Team is responsible for tracking Sprint progress because they are the ones actively engaged in the work during the Sprint. The team utilizes various tools and practices, such as the Scrum board and burndown charts, to monitor their progress towards achieving the Sprint Goal. Since the Development Team is composed of professionals with the skills to deliver potentially shippable increments of the product, they are best positioned to assess how much work has been completed and how much remains. The Scrum Master facilitates this process by helping to ensure that the team adheres to Scrum practices and may assist in resolving any impediments they encounter. However, the primary responsibility for tracking the progress lies with the Development Team itself, as they have firsthand knowledge of their work and performance.   The Product Owner plays a crucial role by clarifying the vision and prioritizing the work, but they do not track the progress of the Sprint directly. Similarly, a Project Manager, while potentially involved in many aspects of a project's progress tracking in traditional project management frameworks, does not fit within the Scrum framework. Scrum emphasizes self-management by the Development Team, shifting the focus away from traditional project management roles.

6. What should be the result of having a Sprint Retrospective?

A. Determine promotions and raises

B. Identify areas for improvement

C. Negotiate project deadlines

D. Create customer satisfaction surveys

The result of having a Sprint Retrospective should focus on identifying areas for improvement. This event is a fundamental part of the Scrum framework, aimed at reflecting on the past Sprint's performance and processes. During the retrospective, the Scrum Team discusses what went well, what didn't, and how they can improve in the next Sprint. The goal is to foster a culture of continuous improvement, where the team can adapt and enhance their practices based on their experiences. Promotions and raises are not typically a focus of the retrospective, as it is not meant for performance evaluations related to individual compensation. Negotiating project deadlines may be addressed in other forums or meetings, but it is not the purpose of the retrospective, which is centered on team dynamics and processes. Creating customer satisfaction surveys is outside the scope of the retrospective; while customer feedback is important, it is not the primary focus of this particular event in the Scrum process.

7. Who is responsible for managing business stakeholders in a Scrum environment?

A. Scrum Master

B. Product Owner

C. Development Team

D. Stakeholder Manager

The Product Owner is tasked with managing business stakeholders in a Scrum environment, which is crucial for ensuring that the product being developed aligns with business needs and priorities. This role serves as a bridge between the stakeholders and the Scrum Team, facilitating communication, understanding priorities, and gathering requirements. The Product Owner is responsible for defining and prioritizing the product backlog based on feedback from stakeholders, ensuring that the development team is working on the most valuable features first. This role involves continuous interaction with business stakeholders to refine product vision and gather input on requirements, which ultimately drives the success of the project. In Scrum, the effectiveness of the product development process hinges on having a well-defined product backlog, and the Product Owner plays a key role in creating and maintaining that backlog with proper input from stakeholders. This responsibility underscores the Product Owner's importance in stakeholder engagement and effective communication within the Scrum framework.

8. When is Product Backlog Refinement (PBR) performed?

A. Only at the beginning of a Sprint

B. Continuously and throughout as needed

C. Only during Sprint Planning

D. At the end of each Sprint

Product Backlog Refinement (PBR) is a key activity in the Scrum framework where the Product Owner and the Scrum Team collaborate to clarify, estimate, and prioritize items in the Product Backlog. Performing PBR continuously and throughout as needed allows for a more flexible and responsive approach to managing the backlog. This ongoing effort ensures that the most valuable items are refined and ready for future Sprints, aligning with the evolving needs of the product and stakeholders. By participating in PBR regularly, the team can better understand the requirements and complexities of backlog items, making it easier to plan for subsequent Sprints. It promotes adaptability, allowing the team to incorporate feedback and changes in priorities as they arise. Continuous refinement prevents the backlog from becoming stale or overwhelming, ensuring that the Scrum Team can readily identify the next steps in their iterative process. This practice encourages effective collaboration and communication between the Product Owner and the team, enhancing the overall efficiency of Sprint Planning and execution. Thus, by engaging in PBR throughout the project lifecycle, the team is positioned to deliver high-quality work that meets stakeholder expectations.

9. Which role increases visibility and transparency in the Scrum process?

A. Development Team

B. Scrum Master

C. Product Owner

D. Scrum Team

The role that primarily increases visibility and transparency in the Scrum process is the Scrum Master. This individual acts as a facilitator between the Scrum Team, including the Development Team and Product Owner, and the rest of the organization. The Scrum Master ensures that the Scrum framework is followed, fosters an environment conducive to collaboration, and helps the team understand and practice Scrum principles effectively. Additionally, the Scrum Master helps remove obstacles that can hinder the team's progress, enabling clearer communication and transparency throughout the project. By conducting regular Scrum ceremonies such as the Daily Standup, Sprint Planning, and Sprint Retrospective, the Scrum Master promotes visibility of the team's work and progress, ensuring that everyone involved has a clear understanding of the current state of the project. While the Development Team, Product Owner, and Scrum Team all contribute to transparency in different ways, it is the Scrum Master who is primarily responsible for fostering an environment where visibility is paramount, ensuring that all stakeholders are informed and engaged in the process.

10. Which of these roles is responsible for ensuring the team is following Scrum practices?

A. Product Owner

B. Scrum Master

C. Development Team

D. Program Manager

The Scrum Master is responsible for ensuring that the team adheres to Scrum practices, values, and principles. This role serves as a facilitator and coach, guiding the development team and the organization in understanding and implementing the Scrum framework effectively. By doing so, the Scrum Master helps to remove obstacles and support the team in functioning optimally, which ultimately enhances collaboration and productivity within the Scrum environment. In contrast, the Product Owner focuses on maximizing the value of the product being developed and managing the product backlog. The Development Team is responsible for delivering the product increment and self-organizing to accomplish work. The Program Manager, if involved, typically oversees broader program delivery and may coordinate between multiple teams but does not specifically enforce Scrum practices at the team level.

Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

https://certifiedscrummaster.examzify.com

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!