CERTIFIED SCRUM MASTER PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE

SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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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. Which role listens, re-orders, negotiates scopes, and clarifies during PBR?

A. The ScrumMaster

B. The Product Owner

C. The Developers

D. Stakeholders

2. How does Continuous Integration benefit the development process?

A. It provides a barrier for frequent changes

B. It offers a safety net for making changes confidently

C. It eliminates the need for testing

D. It centralizes work in one update phase

3. 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

4. What ensures that the top of the Product Backlog is ready for the next Sprint?

A. The ScrumMaster

B. The Developers

C. The Product Owner

D. Continuous feedback from stakeholders

5. What should the team do if they cannot complete a user story during a Sprint?

A. Delete the user story

B. Move the user story to the next Sprint

C. Review and adjust the scope of the user story

D. Inform the Product Owner only

6. During a Sprint, what is the main responsibility of the Developers?

A. Facilitating team meetings

B. Delivering a working quality increment

C. Prioritizing the product backlog

D. Assessing team dynamics

7. Which role collaborates to ensure the successful delivery of work within the team?

A. Scrum Master

B. Product Owner

C. Developers

D. All team members

8. Who is responsible for Time Management within the Scrum team?

A. Scrum Master

B. Product Owner

C. Developers

D. Everyone

9. Who is responsible for tracking Sprint progress?

A. Scrum Master

B. Development Team

C. Product Owner

D. Project Manager

10. In Scrum terminology, what does 'increment' refer to?

A. A task completed during a Sprint

B. The sum of all completed product backlog items during a Sprint

C. The documentation provided at the end of a Sprint

D. A new user story added to the backlog

Answers

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

Explanations

1. Which role listens, re-orders, negotiates scopes, and clarifies during PBR?

A. The ScrumMaster

B. The Product Owner

C. The Developers

D. Stakeholders

The correct answer is indeed the Product Owner. In the context of Product Backlog Refinement (PBR), the Product Owner is responsible for managing and prioritizing the items in the backlog. This role requires active communication and collaboration, wherein the Product Owner listens to the feedback and insights from the team, negotiates the scope of work based on project requirements and stakeholder needs, and clarifies any uncertainties regarding the backlog items. The Product Owner plays a crucial part in ensuring that the backlog is well-defined, which allows the team to focus on delivering value. By re-ordering the backlog, the Product Owner makes sure that the most important tasks are prioritized, facilitating an efficient workflow for the Developers. The other roles involved in a Scrum team serve different purposes. The ScrumMaster focuses on facilitating the Scrum process and removing impediments, the Developers are primarily focused on delivering the increment of the product, and Stakeholders provide input and feedback but do not have direct responsibility for backlog management. Thus, the unique responsibilities of the Product Owner in PBR highlight why this role is the most aligned with the actions of listening, negotiating, and clarifying.

2. How does Continuous Integration benefit the development process?

A. It provides a barrier for frequent changes

B. It offers a safety net for making changes confidently

C. It eliminates the need for testing

D. It centralizes work in one update phase

Continuous Integration (CI) significantly enhances the development process by providing a safety net that allows developers to make changes to the codebase with confidence. This approach involves automatically integrating code changes from multiple contributors into a shared repository several times a day. By running automated tests on each integration, CI ensures that new code does not break existing functionality or introduce new bugs. This feedback loop is crucial because it allows developers to identify and address issues quickly, thus reducing the risk associated with integrating new features or changes. The ability to see the impact of changes immediately encourages a culture of experimentation and innovation, as developers are less fearful of potential negative consequences. As a result, teams can deliver updates and new features more rapidly while maintaining high code quality. In contrast, the other options do not accurately reflect the core principles of Continuous Integration. Barriers to frequent changes would hinder development rather than facilitate it, and testing is still essential even with CI; the practice does not eliminate the need for thorough testing but rather enhances and streamlines the testing process. Additionally, CI does not centralize work in one update phase; instead, it promotes regular and incremental updates, which contributes to a more agile and responsive development environment.

3. 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.

4. What ensures that the top of the Product Backlog is ready for the next Sprint?

A. The ScrumMaster

B. The Developers

C. The Product Owner

D. Continuous feedback from stakeholders

The correct answer is related to the role of the Product Owner in the Scrum framework. The Product Owner is responsible for managing the Product Backlog and ensuring that the highest priority items are well-defined and ready for the next Sprint. This preparation involves clarifying requirements, defining acceptance criteria, and ensuring that the items are understood by the Development Team. While the ScrumMaster plays an essential role in facilitating the Scrum process and helping the team adhere to Scrum practices, it is ultimately the Product Owner who is accountable for maintaining the Product Backlog in a way that ensures the team can effectively plan and execute the upcoming Sprint. The ScrumMaster aids in this process by supporting the Product Owner and the team, but the responsibility for content and readiness firmly rests with the Product Owner. Continuous feedback from stakeholders is important for the Product Owner to make informed decisions about prioritization and requirement clarity, but it doesn't directly ensure that the top of the backlog is ready. The Developers also play a crucial role in delivering the product increments, but they rely on the guidance and prioritization provided by the Product Owner for their upcoming work.

5. What should the team do if they cannot complete a user story during a Sprint?

A. Delete the user story

B. Move the user story to the next Sprint

C. Review and adjust the scope of the user story

D. Inform the Product Owner only

When a team finds that they cannot complete a user story during a Sprint, the most appropriate action is to move the user story to the next Sprint. This approach allows the team to maintain a transparent and organized workflow, ensuring that the user story continues to receive attention in future sprints. By moving the incomplete story to the backlog for the next iteration, the team acknowledges the issue and schedules it for future work, keeping the focus on delivering value iteratively while still managing the product backlog efficiently. Additionally, this decision aligns with the principles of Scrum, where teams work in time-boxed iterations (sprints) and adapt to changes as they arise. The process of moving user stories forward helps ensure that the team remains aligned with the Sprint goal while still working towards fulfilling the overall product vision. While it might be tempting to consider other options, such as deleting the user story or informing only the Product Owner, these actions could lead to misunderstandings or gaps in communication within the team. Adjusting the scope can also be a useful step; however, in the event a user story is not completed, the straightforward approach of moving it forward maintains the ongoing development process and reflects a commitment to completing the user story as originally intended.

6. During a Sprint, what is the main responsibility of the Developers?

A. Facilitating team meetings

B. Delivering a working quality increment

C. Prioritizing the product backlog

D. Assessing team dynamics

The main responsibility of the Developers during a Sprint is to deliver a working quality increment. This aligns with the core principles of Scrum, where the focus is on creating a potentially shippable product increment at the end of each Sprint. Developers are tasked with translating the Product Backlog items into a usable product, ensuring that the work meets the definition of done established by the team. This reflects the commitment to continuous improvement and delivering value to stakeholders. While facilitating team meetings, prioritizing the product backlog, and assessing team dynamics are important activities within Agile and Scrum, these responsibilities are either shared by the entire Scrum Team or fall squarely under the remit of the Scrum Master, Product Owner, or the team collectively, rather than the Developers alone.

7. Which role collaborates to ensure the successful delivery of work within the team?

A. Scrum Master

B. Product Owner

C. Developers

D. All team members

The reason "All team members" is the correct choice is rooted in the collaborative nature of Scrum as a framework. In Scrum, every role plays an essential part in the delivery of work, and collaboration among all team members is crucial for achieving the project's goals. The Scrum Master's primary responsibility is to facilitate processes and remove impediments, fostering an environment conducive to teamwork. The Product Owner is responsible for understanding the needs of stakeholders and prioritizing the work that needs to be completed. However, it's the Developers who are responsible for turning the Product Backlog items into working increments of software. Yet, none of these roles can work in isolation; their interactions and ongoing collaboration are vital for successful delivery. In a Scrum team, the synergy between all roles—Scrum Master, Product Owner, and Developers—contributes to a holistic approach to product development. Therefore, the successful delivery of work is not just the responsibility of a single role, but rather the collective effort of every team member. This teamwork aspect underlines the importance of collaboration within Agile methodologies, making "All team members" the most accurate answer.

8. Who is responsible for Time Management within the Scrum team?

A. Scrum Master

B. Product Owner

C. Developers

D. Everyone

The responsibility for time management within the Scrum team is shared by everyone, reflecting the collaborative nature of Scrum. Each team member contributes to effectively managing their time to ensure the team's productivity and meet the goals of the Sprint. The Scrum framework encourages self-organization, meaning that team members must work together to prioritize tasks, manage their workload, and communicate effectively about progress and challenges. While the Scrum Master supports the team by facilitating discussions and removing impediments, and the Product Owner focuses on the product backlog and ensuring that the most valuable work is done, it is fundamentally the Developers – as a cohesive unit along with everyone else involved – who must collaboratively manage their time to deliver the increments of the product. This collective approach to time management helps the team adapt to changing circumstances, maintain alignment with project goals, and continuously improve efficiency through reflection and adjustment during retrospective meetings. Emphasizing shared responsibility promotes accountability and fosters a strong team dynamic essential for achieving success in a Scrum environment.

9. 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.

10. In Scrum terminology, what does 'increment' refer to?

A. A task completed during a Sprint

B. The sum of all completed product backlog items during a Sprint

C. The documentation provided at the end of a Sprint

D. A new user story added to the backlog

The term "increment" in Scrum refers to the sum of all completed product backlog items during a Sprint. This means that at the end of a Sprint, the increment represents the tangible progress made, illustrating the functionality that has been added to the product. This increment is essential because it reflects the team's work and provides a measure of what has been achieved so far, while also being valuable in terms of delivering a potentially shippable product. This choice underscores the cumulative nature of work completed within a Sprint, emphasizing the collaborative effort of the team to enhance the product iteratively. The increment is also crucial as it helps in validating that the team is progressing effectively towards the project goals, ensuring that there is a clear path forward in future iterations.

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!