

Professional Scrum Product Owner I (PSPO I) Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. Is it true that a Scrum Team can only meet with stakeholders during Sprint Review?**
 - A. True**
 - B. False**
 - C. Only during daily stand-ups**
 - D. Only at Sprint Planning**
- 2. What can occur during a Sprint regarding scope?**
 - A. It cannot be modified at all**
 - B. It may be clarified and re-negotiated**
 - C. It is always reduced**
 - D. All changes must be approved by management**
- 3. Who is responsible for all estimates in the Product Backlog?**
 - A. The Scrum Master**
 - B. The Development Team**
 - C. The Product Owner**
 - D. The Stakeholders**
- 4. Which two activities are typical for a Product Owner during a Sprint?**
 - A. Only conducting retrospectives and planning**
 - B. Working with the Development Team on backlog refinement and stakeholder collaboration**
 - C. Focusing solely on user testing**
 - D. Managing administrative tasks only**
- 5. Who is responsible for gathering marketplace data for the Product Owner?**
 - A. The Scrum Master**
 - B. Only the Product Owner**
 - C. Anyone on the Scrum Team**
 - D. It does not matter who does the legwork**

- 6. What is the outcome of the Sprint Retrospective?**
- A. A refined Sprint Backlog**
 - B. A list of the completed items**
 - C. Improvements to the Scrum process**
 - D. A report for stakeholders**
- 7. How often should a Sprint Retrospective occur?**
- A. Once a year**
 - B. At the beginning of every Sprint**
 - C. At the end of every Sprint**
 - D. Only when issues arise**
- 8. What two actions should the Development Team take during the first Sprint?**
- A. Develop at least one piece of functionality and create an increment of potentially releasable software**
 - B. Focus solely on code quality**
 - C. Conduct a market analysis and develop long-term goals**
 - D. Engage with stakeholders and complete documentation**
- 9. Which document helps the Product Owner in making strategic decisions about future releases?**
- A. Release notes**
 - B. The Product Backlog**
 - C. User feedback reports**
 - D. Performance dashboards**
- 10. What should the Product Owner prioritize in the Product Backlog?**
- A. Team preferences**
 - B. Customer needs and feedback**
 - C. Trends in technology**
 - D. The comfort of the Development Team**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Is it true that a Scrum Team can only meet with stakeholders during Sprint Review?

A. True

B. False

C. Only during daily stand-ups

D. Only at Sprint Planning

A Scrum Team can engage with stakeholders at various points during the Scrum framework, not just during the Sprint Review. The Sprint Review is indeed a critical event specifically designed for the Scrum Team to showcase the increment of work completed during the Sprint and gather feedback from stakeholders, but it's not the only opportunity for such interactions. Continuous communication with stakeholders is essential to ensure that the team is aligned with the stakeholders' needs and expectations. This could happen in various ways, such as through informal discussions, presentations, or other types of meetings. By fostering ongoing dialogue, the Scrum Team can gain insights, clarify requirements, and adapt their approach based on stakeholder input throughout the Sprint, thereby increasing the chances of delivering valuable increments. This flexibility in communication supports a collaborative framework, which is key to the agility of Scrum and enhancing the product's value over time. It reflects the foundational Scrum principles, which emphasize adaptability, team collaboration, and responsiveness to feedback.

2. What can occur during a Sprint regarding scope?

A. It cannot be modified at all

B. It may be clarified and re-negotiated

C. It is always reduced

D. All changes must be approved by management

During a Sprint, the scope of the work can indeed be clarified and re-negotiated. This flexibility is a fundamental principle of Agile and Scrum methodologies, which are designed to adapt to changing circumstances, stakeholder feedback, and evolving requirements. The Product Owner plays a key role in managing the Product Backlog, which includes making decisions about the scope of work for the Sprint based on current insights and team capacity. As the team progresses through the Sprint, new information can emerge that may change the understanding of how to achieve the Sprint Goal. This might involve reorganizing priority items in the backlog or even adding new items that align with the goals of the project. Such adaptations help ensure that the delivered product remains relevant and meets the needs of stakeholders effectively. It's also important to emphasize that while the scope can be adjusted, these changes typically should not disturb the team's focus during the Sprint. Changes should support the overarching goal and be agreed upon collaboratively, maintaining a balance between flexibility and stability within the Sprint framework.

3. Who is responsible for all estimates in the Product Backlog?

- A. The Scrum Master
- B. The Development Team**
- C. The Product Owner
- D. The Stakeholders

The responsibility for all estimates in the Product Backlog lies with the Development Team. This is because the Development Team possesses the technical knowledge and expertise required to assess the complexity and effort involved in completing the different items in the backlog. By providing estimates, the Development Team ensures that the estimates are realistic and grounded in their understanding of the work needed to deliver the product increment. The Product Owner collaborates closely with the Development Team to clarify the backlog items and express the desired outcomes, but it is ultimately the Development Team that performs the estimation based on their skill set and experience. The Scrum Master serves as a facilitator and coach for the team, but they do not directly contribute to estimating backlog items. Likewise, stakeholders can provide valuable input regarding priorities and requirements, but they do not engage in the estimating process. Thus, all estimates are a function of the Development Team's expertise and should reflect their consensus on the effort needed for each backlog item.

4. Which two activities are typical for a Product Owner during a Sprint?

- A. Only conducting retrospectives and planning
- B. Working with the Development Team on backlog refinement and stakeholder collaboration**
- C. Focusing solely on user testing
- D. Managing administrative tasks only

The correct choice highlights the essential activities typical for a Product Owner during a Sprint, particularly involving collaboration and backlog refinement. Working with the Development Team on backlog refinement is critical because it ensures that the product backlog remains well-organized and prioritized. By refining items in the backlog, the Product Owner helps clarify and detail requirements, which in turn aids the Development Team in understanding what to work on next, enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the Sprint. Furthermore, stakeholder collaboration is another vital aspect of the Product Owner's role. Engaging with stakeholders allows the Product Owner to gather valuable feedback and insights, ensuring that the development process aligns with user needs and business goals. This ongoing communication is crucial for adjusting priorities and ensuring that the product evolves in a manner that maximizes value. The other options do not encapsulate the full scope of the Product Owner's responsibilities during a Sprint. Conducting only retrospectives and planning would neglect the ongoing engagement and refinement needed throughout the Sprint. Focusing solely on user testing is a narrower responsibility that does not reflect the broader role of continuous collaboration and backlog management. Finally, managing administrative tasks only does not capture the strategic engagements and collaborative efforts that are fundamental to the effectiveness of the Product Owner within the Scrum framework.

5. Who is responsible for gathering marketplace data for the Product Owner?

- A. The Scrum Master**
- B. Only the Product Owner**
- C. Anyone on the Scrum Team**
- D. It does not matter who does the legwork**

The role of the Product Owner in a Scrum Team involves understanding customer needs and market dynamics to ensure the product vision aligns with both user expectations and market demands. While the Product Owner has the ultimate responsibility to gather and understand the marketplace data, it is not solely limited to their efforts. In a collaborative team environment, various members may contribute by conducting research, performing analysis, and gathering insights about the market. This distributed approach allows the Product Owner to leverage the diverse skills and insights of the entire Scrum Team, ultimately leading to a more comprehensive understanding of the market. As such, the actual legwork of collecting marketplace data can be performed by anyone, enhancing collaboration and ensuring that the team is aligned with the current market trends and customer needs. Focusing solely on one individual for this task may not only limit the breadth of the insights gathered but also overlooks the valuable contributions that other team members can provide. Hence, the emphasis is on the collective responsibility within the Scrum Team to support the Product Owner in understanding the market landscape effectively.

6. What is the outcome of the Sprint Retrospective?

- A. A refined Sprint Backlog**
- B. A list of the completed items**
- C. Improvements to the Scrum process**
- D. A report for stakeholders**

The outcome of the Sprint Retrospective is improvements to the Scrum process. During this event, the Scrum Team reflects on the past Sprint to identify what went well, what didn't go well, and what could be improved. The goal is to foster a culture of continuous improvement within the team, enabling them to enhance collaboration, effectiveness, and efficiency in future Sprints. The Scrum framework emphasizes the importance of inspecting and adapting not only the product but also the processes used to create and deliver that product. By discussing challenges and successes, the team can suggest actionable improvements that can be implemented in subsequent Sprints. This iterative learning process is crucial in helping the team evolve and deliver higher value over time. While other options relate to aspects of the Scrum process, they do not accurately reflect the main purpose of the Sprint Retrospective, which is focused on process improvements rather than artifacts or reports.

7. How often should a Sprint Retrospective occur?

- A. Once a year
- B. At the beginning of every Sprint
- C. At the end of every Sprint**
- D. Only when issues arise

A Sprint Retrospective is a key event in the Scrum framework that occurs at the end of every Sprint. The purpose of the Retrospective is to allow the Scrum Team to reflect on the past Sprint, discussing what went well, what didn't, and how the team can improve processes moving forward. This regular cadence ensures that the team continually looks for opportunities to enhance their work and adapt to changes efficiently. By having this meeting at the end of each Sprint, the team can assess their effectiveness while the experiences are still fresh, making it easier to identify practical improvements. Regularly scheduled Retrospectives promote a culture of continuous improvement and collaboration, which can lead to increased productivity and better team dynamics over time. This structured support allows teams to become more self-aware, facilitating ongoing development and alignment with Scrum principles.

8. What two actions should the Development Team take during the first Sprint?

- A. Develop at least one piece of functionality and create an increment of potentially releasable software**
- B. Focus solely on code quality
- C. Conduct a market analysis and develop long-term goals
- D. Engage with stakeholders and complete documentation

The selected answer highlights the primary objective of the Development Team during the first Sprint, which is to develop a piece of functionality that contributes to the creation of an increment of potentially releasable software. This aligns perfectly with the Scrum framework, where the focus is on delivering value and producing a usable product increment at the end of each Sprint. In the context of Scrum, particularly for the first Sprint, the Development Team should prioritize building a functional part of the product that can be reviewed and potentially released to stakeholders. This practice ensures that the project is on the right track, maintaining a focus on customer needs and requirements, and lays the groundwork for future sprints where more functionalities can be built upon this initial increment. This approach also emphasizes the iterative nature of Scrum, where each Sprint builds on top of the last, adding new features while refining the existing ones based on feedback. It's about creating a tangible outcome that stakeholders can interact with, which facilitates gathering insights for further development. Other options suggest actions that may not directly contribute to the immediate goal of delivering software during the first Sprint. For instance, focusing solely on code quality, conducting market analysis, or engaging in documentation processes, while important, do not immediately yield a product increment ready for stakeholder inspection and feedback.

9. Which document helps the Product Owner in making strategic decisions about future releases?

- A. Release notes
- B. The Product Backlog**
- C. User feedback reports
- D. Performance dashboards

The Product Backlog is a prioritized list of everything that might be needed in the product and serves as the single source of truth for what the development team will work on next. This document is essential for the Product Owner as it contains user stories, features, enhancements, bug fixes, and technical work that are required to develop a successful product. By prioritizing backlog items based on factors such as customer value, business needs, and strategic goals, the Product Owner can make informed decisions about what to include in future releases. The Product Backlog is continuously refined and updated, allowing the Product Owner to respond to changing market conditions, stakeholder feedback, and emerging opportunities. This adaptive approach is vital for aligning the product vision with business objectives, making it easier to strategize future releases based on priorities and available resources. In contrast, while release notes, user feedback reports, and performance dashboards provide valuable information, they are more reactive or detail-specific in nature. Release notes summarize what has been accomplished, user feedback reports provide insights into customer satisfaction and preferences, and performance dashboards offer metrics on how the product is performing. These documents are beneficial for assessing the current state of the product but do not inherently guide the strategic decision-making process for future development and releases the way the

10. What should the Product Owner prioritize in the Product Backlog?

- A. Team preferences
- B. Customer needs and feedback**
- C. Trends in technology
- D. The comfort of the Development Team

The focus for the Product Owner when prioritizing the Product Backlog should primarily be on customer needs and feedback. This is because the role of the Product Owner is centered around maximizing the value of the product, which is best achieved by understanding and addressing the needs of the customers. By giving priority to customer input and feedback, the Product Owner ensures that the team is working on the most valuable features and enhancements that directly address the users' pain points or desires. Prioritizing customer needs not only helps deliver a product that is aligned with market expectations but also fosters customer satisfaction and loyalty. It supports a value-driven approach to product development, where the ultimate goal is to create a product that meets or exceeds user expectations. In contrast, while team preferences, trends in technology, and the comfort of the Development Team are important considerations, they should not take precedence over the direct needs and feedback from the customers. Team preferences may sometimes result in a less customer-centric approach, while trends in technology might not always align with what the customers truly need. The comfort of the Development Team is essential for productivity and morale, but it is the customer's needs that primarily drive product success. Prioritizing customer needs anchors the Product Owner's decisions in the market realities and user expectations