

PROFESSIONAL SCRUM PRODUCT OWNER I (PSPO I) PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

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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

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- 1. 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
- 2. If an item in the Sprint Backlog cannot be finished by the end of the Sprint due to underestimated work, does this mean the Sprint is cancelled?**
 - A. True
 - B. False
 - C. It is up to the Product Owner
 - D. It is up to the Scrum Master
- 3. Who is responsible for determining how work is performed during a Sprint?**
 - A. The Scrum Master
 - B. The Product Owner
 - C. The Development Team
 - D. The stakeholders
- 4. What costs are considered in the Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) by a Product Owner?**
 - A. Costs related only to development and delivery
 - B. All investments needed for conception, development, operation, and maintenance
 - C. Only operational costs once the product is launched
 - D. Exclusively costs for marketing and sales
- 5. What is another appropriate action for a Scrum Master concerning the Development Team's skills?**
 - A. Coaching the team to improve over time
 - B. Assigning new members with higher skills
 - C. Monitoring performance daily
 - D. Requesting external training only

- 6. When do Development Team members take ownership of a Sprint Backlog item?**
- A. When the item is completed
 - B. Only one member owns each item
 - C. Never, items are owned by the entire Development Team
 - D. Only the Scrum Master assigns ownership
- 7. When does the next Sprint Planning session occur?**
- A. At the start of the project
 - B. Immediately after the conclusion of the previous Sprint
 - C. Before each Daily Scrum
 - D. Only if the previous Sprint did not meet our goals
- 8. Should all Scrum Teams working on the same product have the same Sprint length?**
- A. Yes, for consistency
 - B. No, it can vary based on team needs
 - C. Only if approved by the Product Owner
 - D. Yes, if they are using the same tools
- 9. How is the product backlog ordered?**
- A. At random
 - B. By the Development Team's convenience
 - C. Higher priority items are at the top
 - D. Alphabetically by item
- 10. During the Sprint Review, what should the Product Owner focus on?**
- A. Only on the completed items from the last Sprint
 - B. Explaining market influences on future work
 - C. Reviewing only the Development Team's performance
 - D. Documenting the technical details of the Increment

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. 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.

2. If an item in the Sprint Backlog cannot be finished by the end of the Sprint due to underestimated work, does this mean the Sprint is cancelled?

- A. True
- B. False**
- C. It is up to the Product Owner
- D. It is up to the Scrum Master

When a Sprint Backlog item is not completed by the end of the Sprint due to underestimation, it does not necessitate the cancellation of the entire Sprint. The purpose of a Sprint is to deliver a potentially releasable increment of the product, and not all items in the Sprint Backlog must be completed for the Sprint to be deemed successful. The team can still achieve its commitment and potentially deliver valuable increments by focusing on the items that were completed. In this scenario, the Scrum Team reflects on what went wrong during the Sprint Review and Sprint Retrospective, and adjusts their planning and estimation practices for future Sprints instead of canceling the current one. Cancelling a Sprint is a significant action that generally occurs under more extreme circumstances, such as when the project has lost its viability or when the work is no longer relevant. Therefore, while underestimation is something to address, it does not automatically imply that the Sprint must be cancelled.

3. Who is responsible for determining how work is performed during a Sprint?

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

The responsibility for determining how work is performed during a Sprint lies with the Development Team. They are the ones who possess the technical skills and expertise necessary to execute the work, allowing them to self-organize and decide on the best methodologies and practices to accomplish their goals. The Development Team collaborates to plan their work and how they will carry it out, taking into account factors such as current team capabilities, efficiency, and best practices in their technical domain. This autonomy enables them to adapt and become more effective over time, improving their processes based on hands-on experience and collective insights. This self-organizing characteristic is one of the key principles of Scrum, emphasizing trust in the team's abilities and their intimate understanding of the work. It also allows for more engagement and ownership, which can lead to increased motivation and better results. While the Scrum Master aids in facilitating the processes and ensuring that the team follows Scrum practices and values, and the Product Owner is focused on maximizing the product value, it is ultimately the Development Team that decides how to execute the work throughout the Sprint. Stakeholders may provide input and share feedback but do not determine the implementation details of the work.

4. What costs are considered in the Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) by a Product Owner?

- A. Costs related only to development and delivery
- B. All investments needed for conception, development, operation, and maintenance**
- C. Only operational costs once the product is launched
- D. Exclusively costs for marketing and sales

The Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) is an essential concept that encompasses all investments related to a product throughout its entire lifecycle. This includes not only the costs associated with conception, development, and delivery but also the ongoing expenses involved in operating and maintaining the product once it is live in the marketplace. When considering TCO, a Product Owner must look at the big picture of costs. This means evaluating not only the initial investment required to bring a product to market but also the expenses related to its ongoing operation, updates, training for users, and maintenance. Including all these factors allows for a more accurate understanding of the overall financial commitment required for the product. In contrast, focusing solely on development and delivery overlooks important future costs that can significantly impact the profitability and success of the product. Furthermore, concentrating only on operational costs post-launch does not account for the initial investment needed to create the product or ongoing maintenance costs. Exclusively considering costs related to marketing and sales also misses the broader financial picture, as these are just a part of the overall investments necessary for the product's lifecycle. By recognizing that TCO includes all investments for conception, development, operation, and maintenance, a Product Owner can make more informed decisions and better prioritize features and initiatives that align with

5. What is another appropriate action for a Scrum Master concerning the Development Team's skills?

- A. Coaching the team to improve over time**
- B. Assigning new members with higher skills
- C. Monitoring performance daily
- D. Requesting external training only

Coaching the team to improve over time is an essential action for a Scrum Master regarding the Development Team's skills. Scrum Masters play a pivotal role in fostering a culture of continuous improvement within the team. By providing guidance, facilitating workshops, and encouraging team members to share knowledge with one another, a Scrum Master can help individuals and the whole team enhance their capabilities. This coaching approach not only contributes to the team's skill development but also promotes collaboration, self-organization, and accountability, all core principles of Scrum. In contrast, assigning new members with higher skills may not be the most effective solution, as it could disrupt team dynamics and hinder the team's established working relationships. Monitoring performance daily might lead to a micromanagement style that is counterproductive, as Scrum encourages self-management and collective ownership of tasks. Requesting external training only limits the development opportunities to formal sessions instead of leveraging the ongoing learning that occurs naturally in a Scrum environment, which is typically more effective when done through hands-on experience and peer support. Therefore, coaching the team aligns more closely with the Scrum Master's role in facilitating growth and fostering an environment conducive to skill enhancement.

6. When do Development Team members take ownership of a Sprint Backlog item?

- A. When the item is completed
- B. Only one member owns each item
- C. Never, items are owned by the entire Development Team**
- D. Only the Scrum Master assigns ownership

The Scrum framework emphasizes that the Development Team acts as a cohesive unit, meaning ownership of Sprint Backlog items belongs to the entire team, rather than individual members. This collective ownership fosters collaboration and accountability, ensuring that responsibilities for delivering the work are shared. By adopting this approach, team members can support each other, address obstacles collaboratively, and utilize the diverse skill sets within the team to achieve the Sprint goal. This method not only enhances teamwork but also improves adaptability, as team members can step in to assist or manage tasks as needed, rather than being solely responsible for a specific item. In contrast, attributing ownership to a single member would undermine this collaborative spirit and could lead to bottlenecks if that member is unavailable or overburdened. Additionally, relying on the Scrum Master to assign ownership contradicts the self-organizing nature of Scrum teams, which should manage their work independently and cohesively. Thus, the collective ownership defined in the Scrum framework promotes a more effective and balanced approach to delivering value through the Sprint Backlog.

7. When does the next Sprint Planning session occur?

- A. At the start of the project
- B. Immediately after the conclusion of the previous Sprint**
- C. Before each Daily Scrum
- D. Only if the previous Sprint did not meet our goals

The next Sprint Planning session occurs immediately after the conclusion of the previous Sprint because it is a key event in the Scrum framework that sets the stage for the upcoming Sprint. In Scrum, each Sprint is time-boxed, typically lasting from one to four weeks, and Sprint Planning is designed to establish what can be delivered in the next Sprint and how that work will be achieved. At the end of a Sprint, the team reflects on what was accomplished and holds a Sprint Review, which often includes stakeholder input on the product increment. Following this review, Sprint Planning takes place to define the objectives for the next Sprint. This continuous cycle of planning, executing, and reviewing helps ensure that the team is always aligned with the product goals and can adapt to any changes or feedback efficiently. Choosing to have Sprint Planning only at the start of the project would not align with the iterative, incremental nature of Scrum, as it undermines the importance of regular reviews and adjustments. Additionally, having Sprint Planning only before daily Scrums or conditional upon previous Sprint outcomes would also disrupt the planned cadence and commitment to delivering value in every Sprint cycle. Thus, the correct timing for Sprint Planning being immediately after the conclusion of the previous Sprint ensures effective and purposeful transitions between Sprints.

8. Should all Scrum Teams working on the same product have the same Sprint length?

- A. Yes, for consistency
- B. No, it can vary based on team needs**
- C. Only if approved by the Product Owner
- D. Yes, if they are using the same tools

The idea that Scrum Teams working on the same product can have varying Sprint lengths is rooted in the flexibility of Scrum to adapt to the needs of individual teams. Each Scrum Team is self-organizing and may have different circumstances, capacities, and workflows that necessitate different lengths for their Sprints. By allowing teams to choose their Sprint lengths based on what works best for them, Scrum encourages teams to optimize their own processes for productivity and efficiency. Additionally, different activities or levels of complexity in the work may lead a team to require a longer or shorter Sprint to effectively deliver value. Variations can also be influenced by the team's experience, their ability to estimate work, or even by particular stakeholder demands. The emphasis in Scrum is on delivering value and teams should have the autonomy to determine how quickly they can deliver increments of usable software, which may not align strictly across teams. Having all teams work with the same Sprint length might create an artificial sense of uniformity that does not cater to the realities of the work being done by each team. Thus, the ability for teams to have different Sprint lengths is a reflection of Scrum's focus on adapting to context and fostering team independence.

9. How is the product backlog ordered?

- A. At random
- B. By the Development Team's convenience
- C. Higher priority items are at the top**
- D. Alphabetically by item

The product backlog is ordered with higher priority items placed at the top, which is essential for effective product development. This prioritization reflects the value and importance of the backlog items, allowing the Scrum Team to focus on delivering the most valuable features or functionality first. The Product Owner is responsible for managing and ordering the backlog based on stakeholder needs, business value, and urgency, ensuring that the Development Team works on the items that will deliver the greatest benefits. Prioritizing items in this manner helps to guide the Development Team in selecting which items to work on during the upcoming Sprint, fostering an environment where the highest-impact work is completed first. This approach not only aligns with Agile principles but also enables adaptability, as priorities can change based on new information or market shifts. The effectiveness of Scrum relies heavily on this clear ordering of the product backlog to maximize value delivered to customers and stakeholders.

10. During the Sprint Review, what should the Product Owner focus on?

- A. Only on the completed items from the last Sprint
- B. Explaining market influences on future work**
- C. Reviewing only the Development Team's performance
- D. Documenting the technical details of the Increment

During the Sprint Review, the Product Owner should focus on explaining market influences on future work because this aligns with one of their primary responsibilities: ensuring that the product's direction is informed by market feedback and stakeholder expectations. The Sprint Review serves as an opportunity to gather insights from stakeholders regarding the completed Increment and any adjustments needed for future Sprints. By sharing market influences, the Product Owner can provide context on why certain features may be more prioritized based on customer needs or competitive pressures. This information is crucial as it guides the Development Team on how to adjust or refine the product backlog to better meet the market's demands. It also fosters collaboration and ensures that everyone involved understands the broader landscape impacting the product's development. This focus on market influences ultimately helps in aligning the product vision with stakeholder needs, paving the way for informed decisions regarding upcoming work. The other choices do not encapsulate the strategic role of the Product Owner in the Sprint Review as effectively as emphasizing market influences does.

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://professionalscrumproductowner1.examzify.com>

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

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