# Scaled Agile SSM Practice Questions

**Shared by Frazier on 26-10-2026**

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## Question 1

Question Type: MultipleChoice

What is one SAFe Core Competency?

### Options:

A- Design Thinking Practices
B- Agile Product Delivery
C- Growth Mindset
D- Built-in Quality

### Answer:

B

### Explanation:

SAFe defines seven core competencies that enable business agility. One of these is Agile Product Delivery, which focuses on building a customer-centric approach to defining, developing, and releasing valuable solutions.

This competency emphasizes Design Thinking, DevOps, continuous delivery, and release on demand to ensure fast, high-quality value delivery aligned with customer needs. While Built-in Quality is a foundational SAFe principle, it is not categorized as a core competency.

From SAFe guidance:

''Agile Product Delivery is a customer-centric approach to defining, building, and releasing a continuous flow of valuable products and services to customers and users.''

Therefore, the correct answer is B. Agile Product Delivery, as it is one of SAFe's official seven core competencies.

## Question 2

Question Type: MultipleChoice

What is one element of the CALMR approach to DevOps?

## Options:

A- Commit to accelerated delivery
B- Create a culture of shared responsibility
C- Create a flow of value
D- Communicate risk

## Answer:

B

## Explanation:

The CALMR approach to DevOps in SAFe stands for Culture, Automation, Lean Flow, Measurement, and Recovery. It represents the foundational mindset required to achieve continuous delivery and operational excellence.

The ''C'' in CALMR stands for Culture, which emphasizes building a culture of shared responsibility between development, operations, and business teams. This shared responsibility ensures alignment, collaboration, and a collective focus on delivering value rather than working in silos.

From SAFe guidance:

''DevOps is founded on a culture of shared responsibility for the delivery of value, encouraging collaboration across all roles and reducing handoffs.''

Therefore, the correct answer is B. Create a culture of shared responsibility, as it reflects the first and most essential principle of the CALMR approach.

# Question 3

Question Type: MultipleChoice

What is one example of Scrum Masters/Team Coaches helping without diminishing the commitment of others?

## Options:

A- Facilitating necessary meetings for the team
B- Demoing the team's completed work
C- Encouraging handoffs so each team member contributes to the work
D- Coaching the team to refrain from relying on external resources

## Answer:

A

## Explanation:

One example of Scrum Masters/Team Coaches helping without diminishing the commitment of others is facilitating necessary meetings for the team.Facilitating means providing guidance and support to the team in conducting effective and productive meetings, such as Iteration Planning, Daily Stand-up, Iteration Review, and Iteration Retrospective1Facilitating does not mean taking over the meeting or making decisions for the team.Rather, it means creating a safe and respectful environment, ensuring clear and shared objectives, encouraging participation and collaboration, managing time and agenda, resolving conflicts and issues, and summarizing outcomes and action items23By facilitating necessary meetings for the team, Scrum Masters/Team Coaches help the team to achieve their goals, improve their processes, and deliver value to the customers and the organization14At the same time, they respect and empower the team's autonomy, self-organization, and self-management, and do not interfere with their commitment or accountability14

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Scrum Master/Team Coach - Scaled Agile Framework

Facilitation - Scaled Agile Framework

How to Facilitate Effective Meetings as a Scrum Master | Agile Velocity

The Scrum Master Balancing Act | Scrum.org

# Question 4

Question Type: MultipleChoice

Team A wants to use the IP Iteration to continue their 'usual work.' What is one benefit the Scrum Master/Team Coach could share with the team about using the IP Iteration as intended?

## Options:

A- There will be time for infrastructure improvements
B- There will be time for gathering additional customer feedback
C- There will be time for writing requirements
D- There will be time for neglected maintenance work

## Answer:

A

## Explanation:

The Innovation and Planning (IP) Iteration is a key element in SAFe's Program Increment (PI) cadence. It provides dedicated time for innovation, exploration, education, and infrastructure improvements, as well as PI planning and inspect-and-adapt activities.

When teams attempt to use the IP Iteration for their ''usual work,'' they miss opportunities for reflection, learning, and systemic improvement. Using it as intended promotes relentless improvement and allows teams to invest in long-term value creation.

From SAFe guidance:

''The IP Iteration provides teams with time to innovate, improve infrastructure, and plan for the next PI. It ensures a sustainable pace and supports continuous improvement.''

Therefore, the correct answer is A. There will be time for infrastructure improvements, as this is one of the primary intended uses of the IP Iteration.

# Question 5

Question Type: MultipleChoice

What is one recommended practice for Scrum Masters/Team Coaches when facilitating Iteration Review?

## Options:

A- Limit participants to just the team members
B- Encourage team members to spend 3+ hours preparing
C- Encourage the team member with the best presentation skills to demo each Iteration
D- Begin to consider how and what to demo in Iteration Planning

## Answer:

D

## Explanation:

One of the recommended practices for Scrum Masters/Team Coaches when facilitating Iteration Review is to begin to consider how and what to demo in Iteration Planning. This helps the team to have a clear vision of the expected outcome and to align their work with the iteration goals. It also facilitates the preparation and execution of the demo, as the team can anticipate the feedback and questions from the stakeholders.

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Iteration Review - Scaled Agile Framework

SAFe Scrum Master Course Outline

## Question 6

Question Type: MultipleChoice

What is one way uncommitted objectives help Agile Teams make a plan for the PI?

### Options:

A- They ensure the team has additional development options
B- They generate additional ways to measure team progress
C- They create an opportunity for teams to take on harder work
D- They maintain the predictability of achieving the objectives

### Answer:

D

### Explanation:

One way uncommitted objectives help Agile Teams make a plan for the PI is that they maintain the predictability of achieving the objectives. Uncommitted objectives are PI objectives that are not included in the team's commitment or counted against teams in the ART predictability measure.They are used to identify work that can be variable within the scope of a PI, such as stretch goals, spikes, innovation, or exploration1Uncommitted objectives help improve the predictability of delivering business value since they allow the team to adjust their scope based on the actual progress and feedback during the PI.They also provide the team with some flexibility and capacity to respond to changing needs and expectations, as well as to pursue learning and improvement opportunities12

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PI Objectives - Scaled Agile Framework

PI Planning - Scaled Agile Framework

## Question 7

Question Type: MultipleChoice

What is one Scrum Master/Team Coach technique for guiding team members toward finding solutions together?

### Options:

A- Asking powerful questions
B- Pairing team members to grow T-shaped skills
C- Facilitating a process improvement workshop
D- Bringing in new team members to refresh the team dynamic

### Answer:

A

### Explanation:

An essential coaching technique for Scrum Masters/Team Coaches in SAFe is asking powerful questions. Instead of providing direct solutions, effective Scrum Masters guide the team toward self-discovery and collaborative problem-solving.

Powerful questions are open-ended, thought-provoking inquiries that stimulate deeper reflection and creative thinking. This approach aligns with the servant-leader mindset, enabling team members to take ownership of their challenges and develop collective accountability.

Examples include:

''What options have we not yet considered?''

''What's the smallest next step we could take?''

''What's blocking our progress, and how might we remove it together?''

From SAFe guidance:

''Scrum Masters and Team Coaches enable teams to find their own solutions by asking powerful questions rather than providing answers. This encourages collaboration and fosters a culture of

continuous learning.''

Therefore, the correct answer is A. Asking powerful questions, as it directly supports self-management and team empowerment.

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