Disciplined Agile Certification Test Example

Read Me First
Here are some good things to know:
1. This document contains ten sample questions on the following pages. These questions are representative of the types of questions that you will be given on the test for Certified Disciplined Agilist (CDA) and Certified Disciplined Agile Practitioner (CDAP).
2. The answers for the questions, and a marking sheet, are provided at the end of the test. Our recommendation is to write the test and then mark yourself afterwards.
3. The first four questions are “easy” questions, the next three are “medium” questions, and the last three are “hard” questions.
4. The CDA test is made up of roughly 40% easy questions, 50% medium questions, and 10% hard questions.
5. The CDAP test is made up of roughly 10% easy questions, 50% medium questions, and 40% hard questions.
6. The questions are selected randomly from a database, so you may end up with a slightly different mix of easy/medium/hard questions than described above. But, odds are it will be close to the mixes described above.

How Questions are Scored
1. For True/False questions, you get one point for the right answer and zero if you get it wrong.
2. For multiple choice questions, you get one point for each correct choice, lose a point for an incorrect choice, nothing happens if you miss a choice, and the lowest mark you can get is zero (so if you got 2 correct choices and 3 incorrect ones, the score of -1 is rounded up to 0).
3. At the end of this document we work through several scoring scenarios for a multiple-choice question.

How The Test is Scored
1. The score from each question is added up.
2. You need to get an overall mark of 70% or better to pass.
3. At the end of the document is a scoring sheet for this test and instructions of how to mark your answers.
Question #1: Disciplined Agile Delivery (DAD) supports several lifecycles.
   A. True
   B. False

Question #2: The Inception phase ends when you have proven the architecture with working code.
   A. True
   B. False

Question #3: Which roles appear on Disciplined Agile Delivery (DAD) teams?
Choose all that apply.
   A. Product Owner
   B. Agile Architect
   C. ScrumMaster
   D. Agile Project Manager
   E. Team Member
   F. DevOps Engineer

Question #4: Which of the following value statements are part of the Disciplined Agile Manifesto? Choose all that apply.
   A. Individuals and interactions over procedures and documents
   B. Individuals and interactions over processes and tools
   C. Lightweight documentation over detailed models
   D. Consumable solutions over comprehensive documentation
   E. Working software over comprehensive documentation
   F. Responding to feedback over following a plan
   G. Customers and demos over plans and contracts

Question #5: Disciplined Agile Delivery (DAD) supports the following lifecycles.
Choose all that apply.
   A. Agile Model Driven Development (AMDD)
   B. Continuous Delivery: Lean
   C. Continuous Delivery: Agile
   D. Exploratory
   E. Test-Driven Development (TDD)
   F. Traditional/Waterfall
Question #6: The following agile practices are required during the Construction phase:

A. Daily coordination meeting  
B. Iteration/sprint demo  
C. Test-Driven Development (TDD)  
D. Continuous Integration (CI)  
E. Version control  
F. Iteration/sprint planning  
G. All of the above  
H. None of the above

Question #7: Which of the following techniques are potential options for developing a potential estimate for your team during Inception? Choose all that apply.

A. Formal point counting – e.g. Function points  
B. Planning poker  
C. Educated guess by the team  
D. Educated guess by an experienced individual  
E. Cost set by the stakeholders

Question #8: Which of the following are principles of Lean Software Development? Choose all that apply.

A. Reduce waste  
B. Reduce work in progress (WIP)  
C. Create knowledge  
D. Respect stakeholders  
E. Defer commitment  
F. Build in quality  
G. Enterprise awareness  
H. Visualize work flow  
I. Deliver quickly  
J. All of the above

Question #9: Which of the following process goals are appropriate for Construction? Choose all that apply.

A. Produce a potentially consumable solution  
B. Ensure the solution provides sufficient functionality  
C. Improve quality  
D. Secure funding  
E. Install development tools  
F. The team tests its own work (whole-team testing)
Question #10: What are responsibilities of a Product Owner (PO)? Choose all that apply.
   A. Work closely with team members to define the test plan
   B. Prioritize the work
   C. Negotiate requirements with stakeholders
   D. Size the work with story points
   E. Organize demos of the solution to stakeholders
   F. Participate in acceptance testing
   G. Run daily coordination meetings
   H. Provide information in a timely manner
Marking Sheet

Fill in this marking sheet to determine your score.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Correct Answer(s)</th>
<th>Number Correct</th>
<th>Number Wrong</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>True</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>False</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>A, E</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>B, D, F</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>B, C, D</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>H</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>A, B, C, D, E</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>C, E, F, I</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>A, C</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>B, C, E, F, H</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To calculate your mark:
1. Identify the number of correct answers you gave for each question.
2. Identify the number of wrong answer you gave for each question. If you missed an answer that does not count as being “wrong”.
3. Calculate the score for the question by subtracting the number wrong from the number correct. A negative score (e.g. -1, -2, ...) counts as 0 (zero).
4. Divide your Total Score into 27 (the total number of correct answers) to determine your mark.

If the mark is greater than or equal to 70%, you have passed the test.
Explaining the Answers

Here's our thinking behind each question:

1. Question #1: DAD supports multiple lifecycles. See http://www.disciplinedagiledelivery.com/lifecycle/

2. Question #2: The Inception phase ends when you've come to an agreed-to vision. See http://www.disciplinedagiledelivery.com/dad-milestones/

3. Question #3: We’re asking if you know about the roles on DAD teams. See http://www.disciplinedagiledelivery.com/roles-on-dad-teams/

4. Question #4: The Disciplined Agile Manifesto is posted at http://www.disciplinedagiledelivery.com/disciplinedagilemanifesto/

5. Question #5: Disciplined Agile Delivery (DAD) supports the several lifecycles, see http://www.disciplinedagiledelivery.com/lifecycle/. Sometimes we have an easy version of a question (Q#1) and sometimes something that goes into a bit more detail, such as this one.

6. Question #6: DAD doesn't REQUIRE specific practices. This was a trick question that explores whether you recognize that DAD is not prescriptive.

7. Question #7: This question explores whether you are familiar with where major activities, in this case estimating, are in the process goals. The test is open book, so you have enough time to look up one or two things like this if you have a reasonable idea where they are in the framework. So, either have detailed knowledge of the framework or have sufficient knowledge to traverse it to find the details when you need it. You should be able to get the latter by being familiar with the goal diagrams. See http://www.disciplinedagiledelivery.com/develop-initial-release-plan/

8. Question #8: Understanding fundamental ideas from lean and agile are critical for agile practitioners. This question is a bit tricky because it explores whether you really know this (for example, it’s ELIMINATE waste, not just reduce it). See http://www.disciplinedagiledelivery.com/lean-principles/

9. Question #9: Explores whether you are familiar with the goals. Because the framework has evolved over the years, questions like this are limited to the intersection of the original material and the new material. What we mean by this is that a goal would need to appear both in the original 2012 DAD book and the more current Intro to DAD 2nd Edition (2018). In early 2019 we will be revamping the test, and of course DisciplinedAgileDelivery.com, to reflect our new book Choose Your WoW! (December 2018). See http://www.disciplinedagiledelivery.com/process-goals/

10. Question #10: This explores how well you know the roles, in this case PO. See http://www.disciplinedagiledelivery.com/roles-on-dad-teams/
Example of Marking a Question
Which of the following are patterns for executing a successful Inception phase? Choose all that apply.

A  Keep Inception short and sufficient
B  Used ranged estimates
C  Produce minimal but sufficient documentation
D  Have an Inception phase as part of every project
E  Never write any code while still in Inception

Correct Answers
A, D

Why the other answers are wrong
1. B and C are both very good ideas, but not necessary for successfully executing Inception.
2. E isn’t true because you may be writing code for a spike or for a prototype.

How to Score It
Let’s work through a few scenarios:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answers</th>
<th>Correct</th>
<th>Incorrect</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1 (1-0)</td>
<td>You missed D, but we don’t count that against you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A&amp;D</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Maximum score for this question</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A&amp;B</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0 (1-1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A, D, E</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 (2-1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A, B, C</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0 (1-2)</td>
<td>We round up to 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>