# Applying Scrum Principles to ER Instruction 

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## 1993: A new way of doing things



- In a nutshell: Small teams working towards a common goal produces favorable results more quickly.


## What is Scrum?

- Scrum is a way to manage projects.
- Organizations use Scrum to manage software projects: FBI, Microsoft, Silicon Valley
- Newspapers use Scrum to research and tell big stories: NPR
- Universities don't use scrum when they do long, inefficient, and boring meetings.


It is 5PM. The meeting started at 3PM. And it is scheduled to end at 6PM, but it will go over. Your back and butt are starting to ache. What's worse, nothing is getting done. It is actually a criminal waste of time.

You think to yourself, What if we sat in small groups of 3-4 and decided specific tasks to do? What if we briefly discussed the status of ongoing tasks and talked about how to improve the process of doing them? And what if we reported to each other about which tasks we finished? And best of all, what if this meeting only lasted 15 minutes?"

In other words, what if we did SCRUM?

## The CTO (Chief Tadoku Officer):

- Scrum projects have a CTO.
- CTO's give vision to Scrum teams.
- Teacher is the CTO of the Scrum Reading Project.
- VISION: Read big. Enjoy reading big. Believe we can succeed at reading big.


## Masters:

- Every Scrum Team has a Master.
- The Scrum Master helps the Scrum Team plan and manage reading goals.
- With the CTO's help, students choose a Scrum Master for their team.

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## Teams:

- With Scrum, students work in teams.
- Scrum teams have 3-4 members.
- The CTO helps students make their Scrum Team.
- Scrum teams meet in class 1-2 times per week.


## Book Piles:

- With Scrum, students use Story Notes to plan.
- Each group member writes 2 Story Notes of books to read.


## On each story note, students write:

- Their name.
- A book they WANT to read.
- A number (1, 2 or 3 ) for the order they read their 3 books.
- The word count/reading time (based on their reading speed).

Reading Sprints:

- With Scrum, students do Reading Sprints each week.
- Students manage Reading Sprints on the Scrum Board.



## How to use the Scrum Board:

- Students write each Reader's name in the Reader column (on the left).
- Students put their 3 Story Notes for the week in the "To Read" column. These are Reading Sprint goals for the week.
- If student is already reading a book, they put it in the "Reading" column.



## Why use Scrum Boards?

- To SEE goals and support each other.



## To Read:

Students see books they plan to read.



## Read:

Students see books they have read and tracked.


Scrum Goals：During every Scrum，students ask 3 questions about their goals：
－What did you read last week？
－What will you read today and this weekend？
－What is slowing you down？How can you read and enjoy more？


## Review \＆Reflection：

－Every 2 weeks，class does a Sprint Review．
－Teams report results to the Class．
－The CTO（Teacher）asks 3 questions：
1．What went well？
2．What could be better？
3．How can we improve？


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| BEFORE AND DURING | ALL WORDS AVERAGES |
| Advanced Before Scrum | 34,811 |
| Advanced During Scrum | 43,048 |
| Intermediate Before Scrum | 24,236 |
| Intermediate During SCRUM | 49,715 |
| All Before Scrum（ $\mathrm{N}=27$ ） | 28,670 |
| All During Scrum $(\mathrm{N}=27)$ | 46,919 |


|  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Yellow: Before Scrum | GRADED | ONLINE | ALL | TOTAL |
| green: During Scrum | READERS | STORIES | WORDS | WORDS |
| Advanced: $\mathrm{n}=9$, Inter. $\mathrm{N}=18$ | WORD AVEWORD AVE | TOTAL |  |  |
| AVE | ALL SS |  |  |  |
| Advanced Before Scrum | 30,357 | 4,453 | 34,811 | 452,538 |
| Advanced During Scrum | 37,893 | 5,155 | 43,048 | 559,626 |
| Intermediate Before Scrum | 21,157 | 3,079 | 24,236 | 436,241 |
| Intermediate During SCRUM | 45,443 | 4,271 | 49,715 | 894,864 |
| All Before Scrum ( $\mathrm{N}=27$ ) | 25,015 | 3,655 | 28,670 | 888,779 |
| All During Scrum ( $\mathrm{N}=27$ ) | 42,277 | 4,642 | 46,919 | $1,454,490$ |

## Benefits of Scrum in EFL:

- Students focus on one common goal and work as a team to reach that goal in the shortest amount of time possible.
- Students encourage each other to reach their common goal.


## Thank you!

- If you have any ideas for using Scrum in class, please let us know!

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