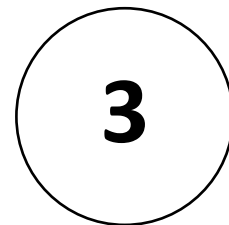
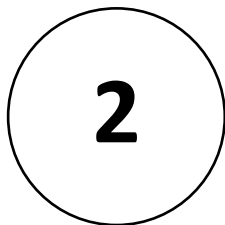
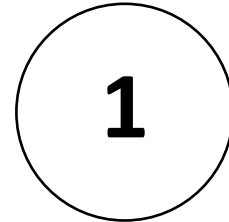


# An Agile Coach Choose Your Own Path Story

**(Turn this card over to begin)**

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*You made a choice for the coachee.*

Susan says “hmm, let me go ask the team and I’ll get back to you on that.” When you run into her a few days later and ask her what’s up, she says disappointedly, “the team decided we didn’t have enough time for that, so we asked the CEO for more time and he gave the project to another team.”

Try again.

Susan, an experienced Scrum Master, says to you “The CEO has tasked my team with reducing customer enrollment time from a month to a minute! And he’s only given us 8 weeks. We have no experience with such a short timeframe and are at our wits end!

If you say “Wow! Tell me more of your thoughts on this” go to **card # 3**

If you say “you should push back” go to **card # 2**

If you say “I think you should create an MVP, I have a 1-day workshop on that, when can we schedule it?” go to **card # 1**

*You chose the coaching option of asking an information gathering question.*

Susan says “Sure. We’ve chunked out the work into stories and estimated them. We just can’t get it all done in the time allotted. Some of the stories are really big so we can’t even see how to do just an MVP.

If you say, “looks like you gave it your all, time to push back” go to **card # 2**

If you say “What options do you see on the table at the moment?” go to **card # 5**

If you say “I used to be a PO, would you like some advice?” go to **card # 4**

If you say “What resources could you draw on to help?” go to **card # 6**

*You advocated a specific course of action for the coachee.*

Susan is quiet for a moment, says “Ok, talk to you later,” gives a quick smile and heads off. Later you find out from the product owner that Susan thought of the opportunity as a real challenge and was looking for ways to help the team get something done to impress the CEO.

Try again.

**4**

**5**

**6**

**7**

*You chose the coaching option of asking a question to uncover options.*

Susan says “well, I could ask the CEO for more time, but this is a huge opportunity and I’d rather find a way to show that we can rise to the occasion, so I’d prefer to find ways to produce something valuable in 8 weeks, I just don’t see how.”

If you say, “looks like you gave it your all, time to push back” go to **card # 2**

If you say “I used to be a PO, would you like some advice?” go to **card # 4**

If you say “What resources could you draw on to help?” go to **card # 6**

*You chose to explain your experience and offered the coachee the mentoring path.*

Susan agrees. You offer the team a 4 hour user story splitting workshop, a reference to a user-story splitting mini-book, or for you to take a look at some of the stories and give further advice. The team decides to read the book and give story splitting another go. The next day, she says “we’re close, but the book just wasn’t enough.”

If you say, “looks like you gave it your all, time to push back” go to **card # 2**

If you say “I have some anecdotes on how other teams have approached this” go to **card # 7**

If you say “what resources could you draw on to help?” go to **card # 6**

*You chose to explain your experience and offered the coachee the mentoring path.*

Susan agrees. You share a few stories about how a team in a similar space split their stories. The team gets some new ideas from the stories and create an MVP they are happy with. You find out later that the CEO was happy with the result and praised them at the company all-hands meeting.

Congratulations!

*You chose the coaching option of asking a question to uncover options.*

Susan says “good question. Well, I could ask Joe for help. He’s a really seasoned Product Owner and he’s great at splitting user stories, but I’d rather save that option in case we can’t figure it out on our own.

If you say, “looks like you gave it your all, time to push back” go to **card # 2**

If you say “I have some anecdotes on how other teams have approached this” go to **card # 7**