

# **The Tester Who Came In from the Cold**



## **Helping Testers Make an Agile Transition**

**Janet Gregory and Lisa Crispin**

# Agenda

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- Introduction
- The Wall
- Support for the Transition
- Transition of Traditional Testing Activities
- Breaking down the Wall
- Q & A
- References



# Introductions

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- Lisa's background



- Janet's background

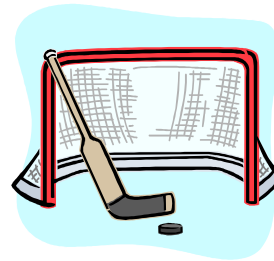


- Our Goals

- Give you traction in agile testing
- Show you what to look for
- And where to find it

- Audience Goals

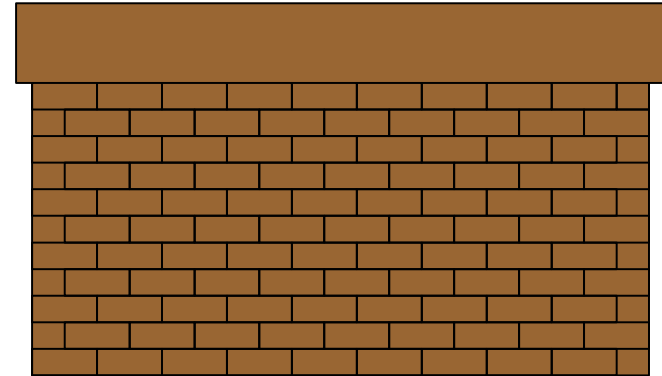
- What are your problems?
- What do you hope to get out of this presentation?



# The “Wall” of Challenges

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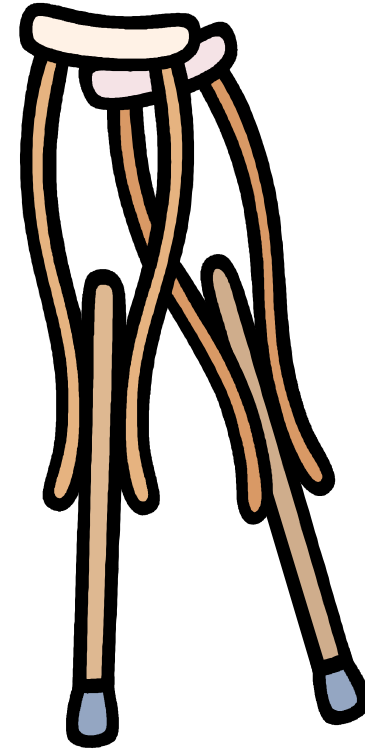
1. Separate test team
2. No common language
3. Fear – loss of identity
4. Testing always at the end
5. Organizational culture
6. Don't know enough about agile concepts
7. Lack technical and tool skills
8. Physical limitations – work space



# What Support do you Need?

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1. Management support
2. Whole Team Support
3. The Right Physical Logistics
4. Training
  - . New Roles
  - . Agile Principles
  - . Communication Strategies
  - . New Testing Terminology
  - . Tools



# Management Commitment

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- Allow self-direction
- Provide the right motivation
- Provide time to learn
- Provide resources
  - To enable learning
  - To do the job successfully (tools)



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# Whole Team Commitment

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- Deliver quality
- Deliver value
- Every role has equal value
- Automation
- Ensure testing is done
- Anyone can pick up a testing task
- Manage resources as a team



# Physical Logistics

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- Workspaces
- Seating arrangements
- Test environments
- Distributed teams





# Training Needs

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- New Roles
  - Tester
  - QA Manager
- Agile Principles
- Communication Strategies
- New Testing Terminology
- Tools



# Agile Tester Role

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- Provide feedback
  - Defects are only one kind
- Estimating and planning
- Elicit and clarify requirements
  - Uncover hidden assumptions
  - Watch for testability
- Drive development - capture examples as tests
- Collaborate: customers & programmers



# QA Manager Role

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- Practice manager
- Resourcing
- Letting testers do what they do best
- Provide support
- Consider performance / reward changes
- No blame



# Agile Principles, Vocabulary

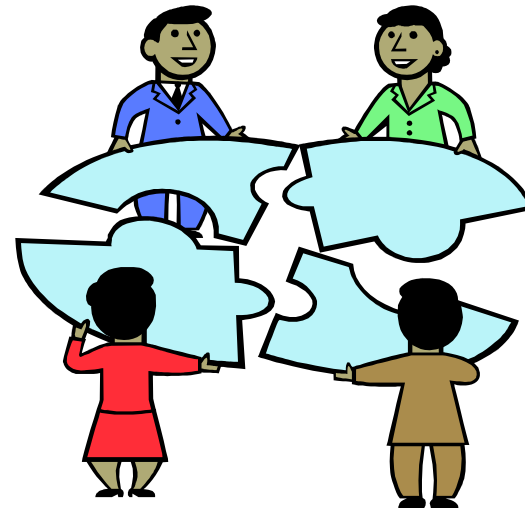
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## Agile Manifesto

- Individuals and interactions
- Working software
- Customer collaboration
- Responding to change

## Vocabulary

- Release Planning
- Iterations
- Stories
- Continuous Integration



# Effective Communication and Collaboration

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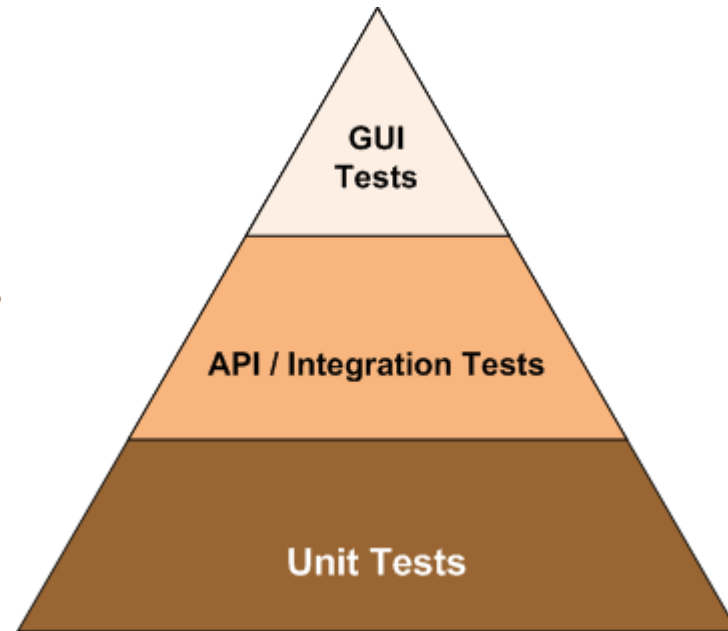
- Elicit examples, requirements
- Examples as a common language
- Work both customer and programmer sides
- Work with technical team members
- Play double agent



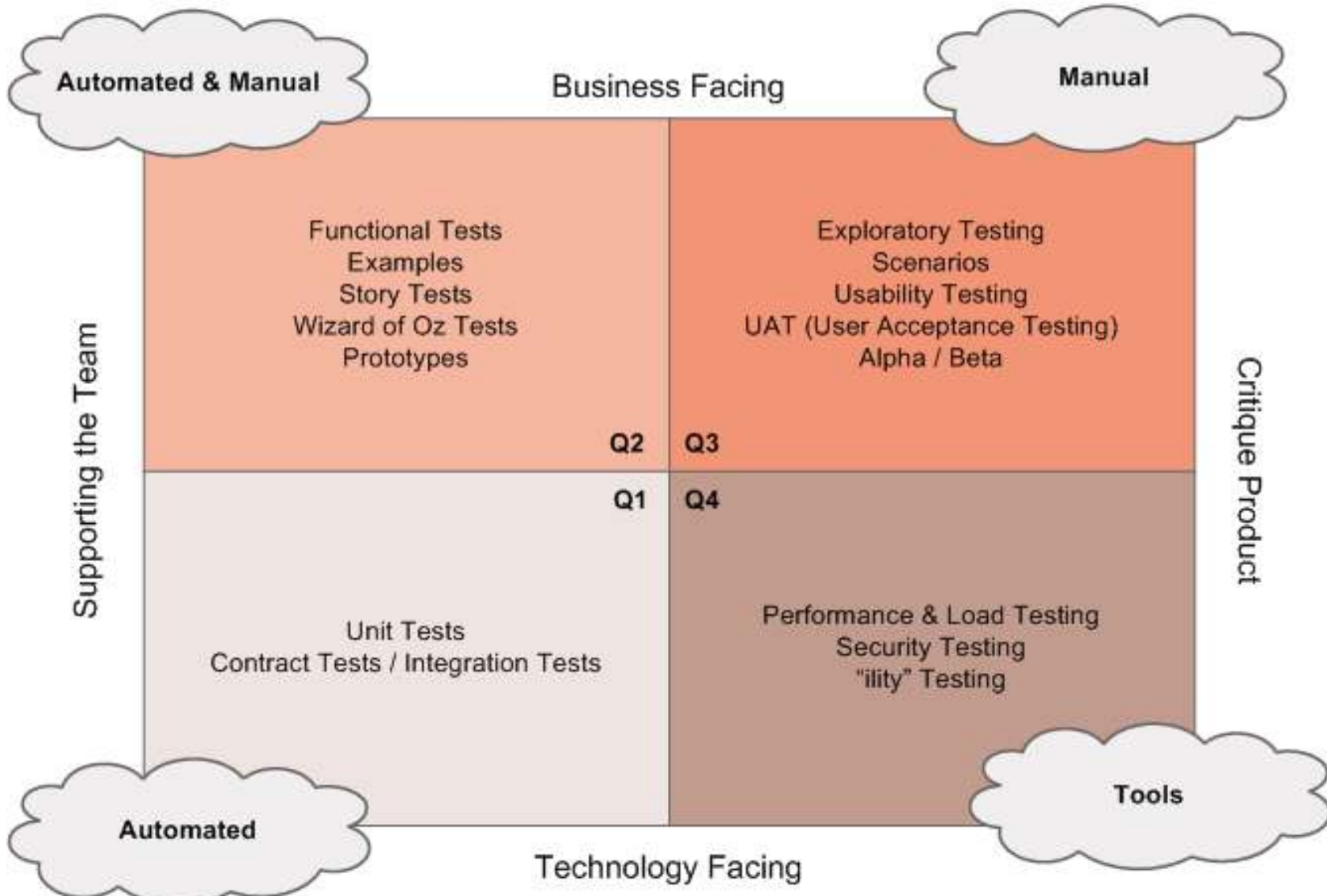
# Testing Terminology

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- Acceptance Tests
- Exploratory Testing
- Session-based Testing
- Automation Pyramid
- Agile Testing Quadrants
  - Think about all the pieces



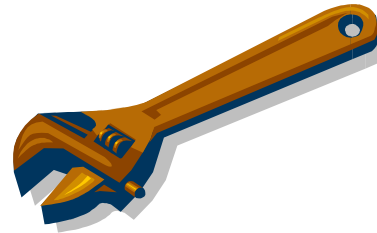
# Agile Testing Quadrants



# Tools

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- To Manage Code
  - Source code control
  - Continuous integration
  - Test environment deployment and maintenance
- To automate tests
  - Scripting language
  - Functional test tools

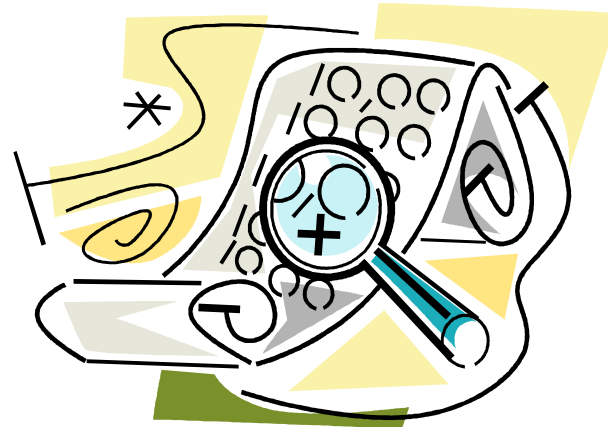




# Transition Traditional Test Activities

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- User Acceptance Testing (UAT)
  - Get users involved early
- Defect Tracking
  - Consider alternatives
  - focus on prevention, not tracking
- Quality Models
  - ITIL
  - SOX
  - CMM
- Audits



# Discussion

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Give us an example of an obstacle blocking your or your test team's transition to agile.

Who has an idea of how to help overcome that obstacle?

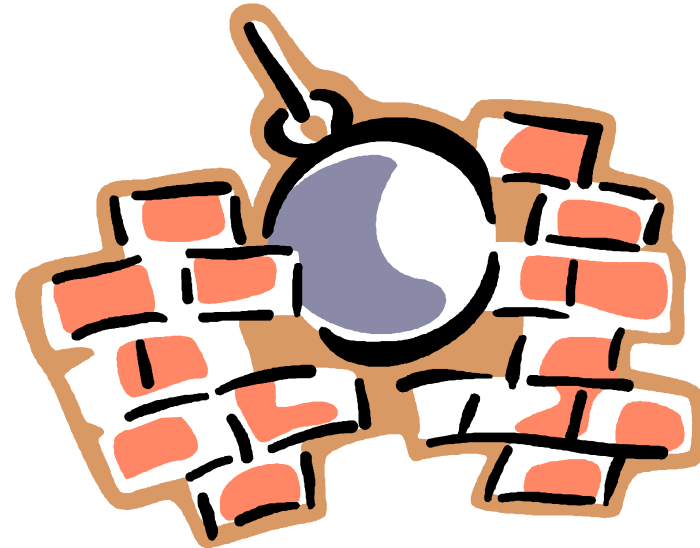
(We will discuss and possibly role-play as time permits).



# Break Down the Wall

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- Let go of your fears
- Share responsibility
- Use a team approach to solving problems
- Take charge of your education
  
- **JUST TRY IT!!**



# Q & A

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# Resources

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- [agile-testing@yahooogroups.com](mailto:agile-testing@yahooogroups.com)
- [lisa.crispin.home.att.net](http://lisa.crispin.home.att.net)
- [www.janetgregory.ca](http://www.janetgregory.ca)
- [www.exampler.com](http://www.exampler.com)
- *Testing Extreme Programming*, By Lisa Crispin and Tip House
- *Fearless Change: Patterns for introducing new ideas*, Linda Rising and Mary Lynn Manns
- *Collaboration Explained*: Jean Tabaka
- *Implementing Lean Software Development: From Concept to Cash*, Mary and Tom Poppendieck



Coming in early 2009!

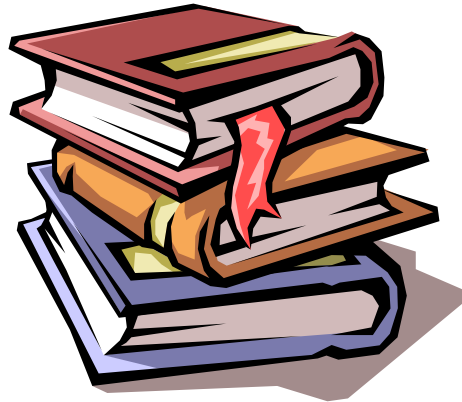
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## *Agile Testing:*

The Tester Role on an Agile Team

By Janet Gregory and Lisa Crispin

[www.agiletester.ca](http://www.agiletester.ca)



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