

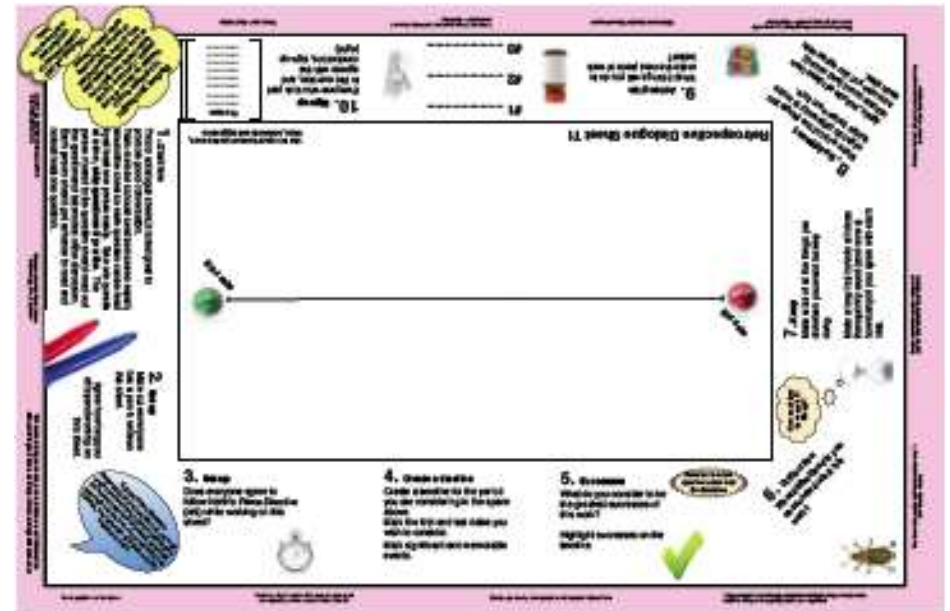


Retrospective Dialogue Sheets

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<http://www.allankelly.net>

<http://www.dialoguesheets.com>



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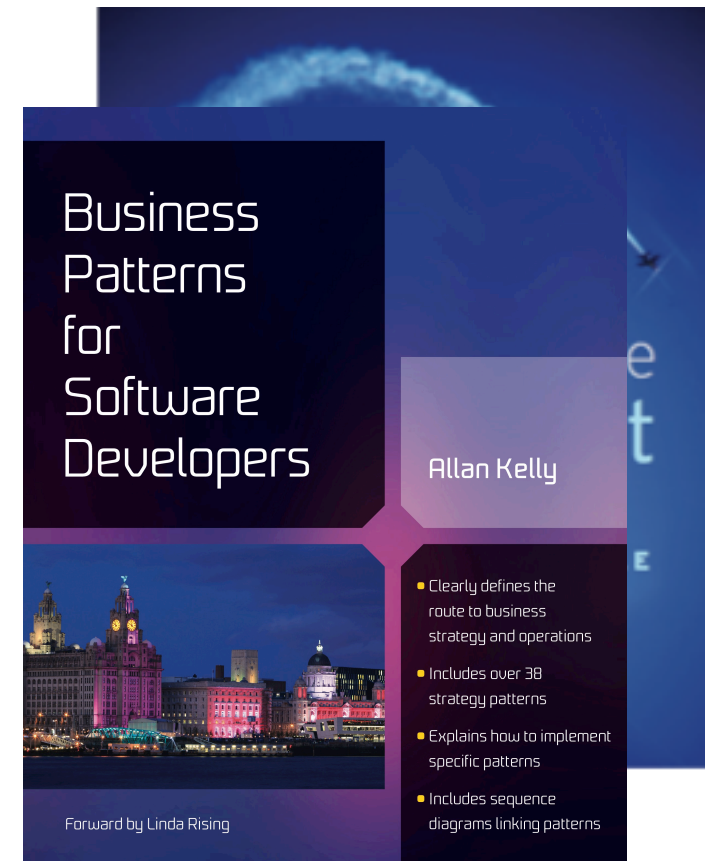
Author

- *Changing Software Development: Learning to be Agile* (2008, Wiley)
- **Business Patterns for Software Developers** (2012, Wiley - ISBN: 978-1119999249)



*Context Encapsulation in
Pattern Languages of Program Design
Volume 5, 2006*

97 Things Every Programmer Should Know
Henney, 2010



Dialogue Sheets

Perspective Dialogue Sheet 1

1. Introduction
This dialogue sheet is designed to provide a structured framework for students to explore different perspectives on a given topic. It encourages them to think critically, listen actively, and express their own views in a respectful and constructive manner.

2. Set up
Divide the class into pairs or small groups. Assign each group a different perspective to explore. Provide them with the dialogue sheet and a timer to manage the discussion.

3. Swap
Give everyone 2 minutes to prepare their own perspective. Then, have them swap roles and listen to the other perspective for 2 minutes.

4. Share a story
After the swap, have each group share a story or example of how they felt about the experience. This helps to build empathy and understanding.

5. Agree
Ask the class to agree on a common goal or action plan. This helps to build a sense of community and shared purpose.

6. Summary
Summarize the key points of the dialogue. Highlight any common themes or areas of agreement. This helps to reinforce the learning and build a sense of closure.

7. Reflection
Ask the class to reflect on the experience. How did they feel about the dialogue? What did they learn? This helps to solidify the learning and build self-awareness.

8. Evaluation
Ask the class to evaluate the dialogue process. What worked well? What could be improved? This helps to build critical thinking skills and encourages continuous improvement.

9. Conclusion
Summarize the key points of the dialogue. Highlight any common themes or areas of agreement. This helps to reinforce the learning and build a sense of closure.

10. Appendix
This section contains additional resources and information related to the dialogue process. It includes a list of questions to ask, a list of topics to explore, and a list of resources to use.

11. Glossary
This section contains definitions of key terms used in the dialogue process. It includes definitions for terms such as perspective, empathy, and active listening.

12. Index
This section contains a list of topics and a list of resources. It helps students to find the information they need quickly and easily.

What people have said...

Just to let you know we had our retrospective this morning using a cobbled together print out of the T2 dialogue sheet (I have since found an appropriate printer) and **the difference from the last few times was like night and day**. I had some worries going in some team members would be reluctant to engage but found that **no one held back and everyone got involved in scribbling on the sheet and talking about the sprint**.

Afterwards I got some very enthusiastic feedback from the people who I'd originally worried about! One big plus for us, I think, was the written instructions around the outside and that there was no need for anyone to "buy in" to using the sheet (no long induction process or training).

What people have said...

Using the sheet definitely promoted discussion in the retrospectives and, by bringing the focus away from the facilitator, the team concentrates more on the project.

I've used one of the sheets now one time. The team thought it was a fun way of doing a retrospective, it felt fresh. When I asked them if we should try using them in the future, the answer was a definite yes.

What people have said...

First let me say as a manager, I was impressed by the Dialog Sheets, especially in the way it provides a simple path that pulls everyone into being a contributor, helps analysis by introducing/recommending tools (Fishbone), and finally leads to action steps. Walking around the pods, it was interesting to see that the teams posted their resulting sheets, and in one case had referenced it several times during a conversation about an issue they were discussing.

SIEMENS



I was a bit nervous about trying something ... but the energy in the room was tremendous. In fact I had several people tell me it was the best retrospective they have had in years.

Statnett - Norway

* The sheet **stimulates equality among team members** during the discussions, by the fact that all must be seated around a table (no one standing up and facilitating the discussions).

...

* The sheet is very physical and with **few/no barriers for participants to express themselves** on the sheet for everyone to see - even if it is only by drawing "stick men" on the edge ...

* The sheet and rules (when followed) **prevent the Scrum Master from falling into a "team leaderish" role** when the rest of the team gets lazy and won't bother to involve in the process - they all have to take their part of a common responsibility for getting through the questions and to the end of the "game".

...and there are more.

These characteristics make our retrospective **sessions less bureaucratic and more inspiring** than with our old technique. We have been using the more traditional technique for several years...

... **we spend our time on issues of real value to the team instead of ceremony parts no one really likes**, and more in line with the original intentions for this session. And the **sheet can be put directly on a wall after the meeting**, for everyone to see. ...

More....

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