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You are developing a complex system for a large company. The code will be complex, and the language is fairly new to the programming team. Your boss has requested that you use an evolutionary prototype in the development. Is this the appropriate prototype model to use.? If it is not, how should you handle your boss's request?

The problem with an evolutionary prototype when working with a new programming language is that the programmers have a large learning curve that must be factored into the schedule. Before the first iteration of the application would be accessible in development, the programmers would have to learn the syntax, features, and methodologies of the new programming language.

I would take some time to make it clear to my boss that most of the iterative development would actually be taking place behind the scenes. Once the programmers have a first draft of the application up and running on development, they will then need to go back through their code and evaluate it for best practices. Then, if better methodologies were identified, the programmers would need to refactor their solution.

My supervisor would need to be aware that the customer would see no progress being made on the prototype at this time, which might lead them to believe development is taking place too slowly. The system analyst would therefore need to be ready to manage expectations about the project.