



BCS CTFL4 Practice Questions

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Question 1

Question Type: MultipleChoice

A test manager decided to skip static testing since he believes bugs can be found easily by doing dynamic testing. Was this decision right or wrong?

Options:

- A- The decision was wrong. Ensuring quality mandates that static testing is performed after performing the dynamic testing.
- B- The decision was right. Static testing is usually redundant if a product is planned to go through a full-cycle of dynamic testing.
- C- The decision was right. Most of the bugs are easier to identify during the dynamic testing.
- D- The decision was wrong. Static testing can find defects early in the development process, reducing the overall cost of testing and development

Answer:

D

Explanation:

Static testing is a form of testing that does not involve executing the software or system under test. It includes activities such as reviews, inspections, walkthroughs, and analysis of documents, code, and models. Static testing can find defects early in the development process, before they become more expensive and difficult to fix in later stages. Static testing can also improve the quality of the software or system by preventing defects from being introduced in the first place. Static testing can complement dynamic testing, which involves executing the software or system under test and checking the results against expected outcomes. Dynamic testing can find defects that static testing may miss, such as performance, usability, or integration issues. However, dynamic testing alone is not sufficient to ensure quality, as it may not cover all possible scenarios, inputs, or paths. Therefore, a test manager who decides to skip static testing is making a wrong decision, as he or she is ignoring the benefits of static testing and relying solely on dynamic testing, which may not be effective or efficient enough to find and prevent defects. Reference= ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level Syllabus, Version 4.0, 2018, Section 2.1.1, page 14; ISTQB Glossary of Testing Terms, Version 4.0, 2018, page 36; ISTQB CTFL 4.0 - Sample Exam - Answers, Version 1.1, 2023, Question 3, page 9.

Question 2

Question Type: MultipleChoice

Consider the following examples of risks identified in different software development projects

[I]. It may not be possible to generate the expected workloads to run performance tests, due to the poor hardware equipment of the machines (load injectors) that should generate these workloads.

[ii]. A user's session on a web application is not invalidated after a certain period of inactivity (configured by the system administrator) of the user,

[iii]. The test team will not have an adequate requirements specification (since many requirements will still be missing) by the time test design and analysis activities should begin according to the test plan.

[IV]. Following a failure, the system is unable to continue to maintain its pre-failure operation and some data becomes corrupted.

Which of the following statements is TRUE?

Options:

- A- [ii] and [IV] are product risks; [i] and [iii] are project risks
- B- [ii] and [iii] are product risks. [I] and [IV] are project risks.
- C- [i], and [iv] are product risks; [ii] and [iii] are project risks
- D- [i], [II] and [iii] are product risks, [IV] is a project risk.

Answer:

A

Explanation:

In software testing, risks are categorized into product risks and project risks. Product risks are associated with the potential of a product to fail in meeting its quality criteria. Project risks are related to potential issues that could affect the project's ability to deliver a product.

[i] is a project risk because it concerns the availability and adequacy of hardware resources for performance testing.

[ii] is a product risk because it pertains to a security and functionality issue within the web application.

[iii] is a project risk because it involves the availability of necessary requirements documentation for the testing process.

[iv] is a product risk because it relates to the system's functionality and data integrity after a failure.

Thus, statement A correctly classifies [ii] and [iv] as product risks and [i] and [iii] as project risks.

Question 3

Question Type: MultipleChoice

Select which of the following statements describe the key principles of software testing?

- i. Testing shows the presence of defects, not their absence.
- ii . Testing everything Is possible.
- iii . Early testing Is more expensive and is a waste of time.
- iv . Defects cluster together.
- v. Testing is context dependent.
- vi. Beware of the pesticide paradox.
- vii . Absence of errors is a fallacy.

Select the correct answer:

Options:

- A- i, iv, v, vi and vii
- B- I, ii, v. vi and vii
- C- iii . iv, v. vi and vii
- D- ii, iii, iv, v and vi

Answer:

A

Explanation:

The key principles of software testing include: i. Testing shows the presence of defects, not their absence. iv . Defects cluster together. v. Testing is context dependent. vi. Beware of the pesticide paradox. vii . Absence of errors is a fallacy. These principles highlight the importance of recognizing the limitations and context of testing, as well as the potential for repeated tests to become less effective.

Question 4

Question Type: MultipleChoice

Which of the following lists factors That contribute to PROJECT risks?

Options:

- A- skill and staff shortages; problems in defining the right requirements, contractual issues.
- B- skill and staff shortages; software does not perform its intended functions; problems in defining the right requirements.
- C- problems in defining the right requirements; contractual issues; poor software quality characteristics.
- D- poor software quality characteristics; software does not perform its intended functions.

Answer:

A

Explanation:

Project risks are the uncertainties or threats that may affect the project objectives, such as scope, schedule, cost, and quality. According to the ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level (CTFL) v4.0 syllabus, some of the factors that contribute to project risks are:

Skill and staff shortages: This factor refers to the lack of adequate or qualified human resources to perform the project tasks. This may result in delays, errors, rework, or low productivity.

Problems in defining the right requirements: This factor refers to the difficulties or ambiguities in eliciting, analyzing, specifying, validating, or managing the requirements of the project. This may result in misalignment, inconsistencies, gaps, or changes in the requirements, affecting the project scope and quality.

Contractual issues: This factor refers to the challenges or disputes that may arise from the contractual agreements between the project parties, such as clients, suppliers, vendors, or subcontractors. This may result in legal, financial, or ethical risks, affecting the project delivery and satisfaction.

The other options are not correct because they list factors that contribute to PRODUCT risks, not project risks. Product risks are the uncertainties or threats that may affect the quality or functionality of the software product or system. Some of the factors that contribute to product risks are:

Poor software quality characteristics: This factor refers to the lack of adherence or compliance

to the quality attributes or criteria of the software product or system, such as reliability, usability, security, performance, or maintainability. This may result in defects, failures, or dissatisfaction of the users or stakeholders.

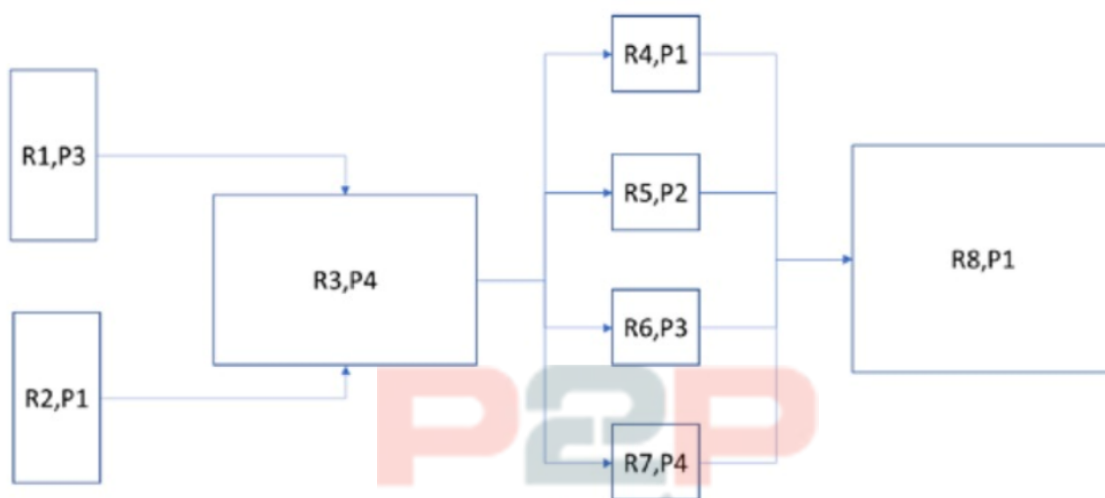
Software does not perform its intended functions: This factor refers to the deviation or discrepancy between the expected and actual behavior or output of the software product or system. This may result in errors, faults, or malfunctions of the software product or system.

Reference= ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level (CTFL) v4.0 syllabus, Chapter 1: Fundamentals of Testing, Section 1.5: Risks and Testing, Pages 14-16.

Question 5

Question Type: MultipleChoice

The following diagram displays the logical dependencies between requirements and the individual requirement priorities. For example, "R2->R3" means that R3 is dependent on R2. Priority is indicated by the number next to the letter "P" i.e. P1 has a higher priority than P2.



Which one of the following options best describes the test execution sequence using both requirement dependency and priority

Options:

- A- R2, R1, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8.
- B- R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8.
- C- R2, R4, R8, R5, R1, R6, R3, R7.
- D- . R2, R1,R3,R7,R6,R5,R4,R8.

Answer:

D

Explanation:

The correct test execution sequence should consider both the dependencies between the requirements and their priorities. According to the diagram, the sequence begins with R2 (P1) as it is a prerequisite for R3 (P4). Then R1 (P3) can be tested. R3 follows as it depends on R2. Next, R7 (P4) should be tested before R6 (P3) and R5 (P2), as indicated by their dependencies. Finally, R4 (P1) and R8 (P1) can be tested. Therefore, the best sequence is R2, R1, R3, R7, R6, R5, R4, R8. Reference: ISTQB CTFL Syllabus V4.0, Section 5.1.5

Question 6

Question Type: MultipleChoice

Which option best statements is incorrect regarding the involvement of testers in the software development lifecycle (SDLC)?

Options:

- A- Testers should contribute to all activities in the SDLC and participate in design discussions.
- B- Testers should be involved from the beginning of the SDLC to increase understanding of design decisions and detect defects early.
- C- Testers should only be involved during the testing phase.
- D- Testers' involvement is essential; developers find it difficult to be objective.

Answer:

C

Explanation:

Involving testers only during the testing phase is incorrect as per the ISTQB CTFL syllabus. Effective involvement of testers is crucial throughout the entire software development lifecycle (SDLC). This includes early stages such as requirement analysis and design, which allows testers to understand the design decisions and detect defects early. Early involvement helps in better understanding the project and ensures that quality is built into the product from the beginning. Furthermore, the ISTQB syllabus emphasizes the importance of testers contributing to all activities in the SDLC, including design discussions, to enhance defect detection and

prevention.

Question 7

Question Type: MultipleChoice

Which of the following is a role that is usually responsible for documenting the findings (e.g., action items, decisions, recommendations) made by the review team as part of a typical formal review?

Options:

- A- Review leader
- B- Facilitator.
- C- Recorder.
- D- Moderator

Answer:

C

Explanation:

In a formal review process, the recorder's role is typically responsible for documenting the findings of the review team, including action items, decisions, and recommendations. This ensures that there is an accurate record of what was discussed and agreed upon, facilitating follow-up and continuous improvement. Therefore, statement C is correct as per the ISTQB CTFL syllabus.

Question 8

Question Type: MultipleChoice

For the same financial institution in Question 12, with the same requirements and expectations, what would be the most likely investment values used in testing if two-point boundary value analysis is used to design test cases specific to the 13% interest rate equivalence partition?

Options:

- A- R100 000, R100 001, R500 000, R500 001.
- B- R99 999, R100 000, R499 999, R500 000.
- C- R100 000. R500 000.
- D- R99 000, R500 001.

Answer:

A

Explanation:

For boundary value analysis, the test cases should include the boundary values just inside and just outside the equivalence partition for the 13% interest rate range:

R100,000 (just inside the previous range)

R100,001 (start of the 13% range)

R500,000 (end of the 13% range)

R500,001 (just outside the range)

These values ensure that both the edges of the partition are tested.

Question 9

Question Type: MultipleChoice

Can "cost" be regarded as Exit criteria?

Options:

- A- Yes. Spending too much money on testing will result in an unprofitable product, and having cost as an exit criterion helps avoid this
- B- No. The financial value of product quality cannot be estimated, so it is incorrect to use cost as an exit criterion
- C- Yes. Going by cost as an exit criterion constrains the testing project which will not achieve the desired quality level defined for the project
- D- No The cost of testing cannot be measured effectively, so it is incorrect to use cost as an exit criterion

Answer:

A

Explanation:

Cost can be regarded as an exit criterion for testing, because it is a factor that affects the profitability and feasibility of the software product. Testing is an investment that aims to improve the quality and reliability of the software product, but it also consumes resources, such as time, money, and human effort. Therefore, testing should be planned and executed in a way that balances the cost and benefit of testing activities. Having cost as an exit criterion helps to avoid spending too much money on testing, which may result in an unprofitable product or a loss of competitive advantage. Cost can also help to prioritize and focus the testing efforts on the most critical and valuable features and functions of the software product. However, cost should not be the only exit criterion for testing, as it may not reflect the true quality and risk level of the software product. Other exit criteria, such as defect rate, test coverage, user satisfaction, etc., should also be considered and defined in the test plan.

The other options are incorrect, because they either deny the importance of cost as an exit criterion, or they make false or unrealistic assumptions about the cost of testing. Option B is incorrect, because the financial value of product quality can be estimated, for example, by using cost-benefit analysis, return on investment, or cost of quality models. Option C is incorrect, because going by cost as an exit criterion does not necessarily constrain the testing project or help achieve the desired quality level. Cost is a relative and variable factor that depends on the scope, complexity, and context of the software product and the testing project. Option D is incorrect, because the cost of testing can be measured effectively, for example, by using metrics, such as test effort, test resources, test tools, test environment, etc.

Question 10

Question Type: MultipleChoice

A document describes the test procedures that have been derived for the identified test sets. Among other things, the order in which the test cases in the corresponding test set are to be executed according to the dependencies described by preconditions and postconditions is specified. This document is a typical work product produced as part of:

Options:

- A- Test design.
- B- Test analysis
- C- Test Implementation.
- D- Test monitoring and control

Answer:

C

Explanation:

Test implementation involves finalizing the test procedures, including the order of execution of test cases based on their dependencies, preconditions, and postconditions. This phase ensures that all necessary test scripts, test data, and test environments are ready for execution. According to the ISTQB CTFL Syllabus v4.0, test implementation is the phase where detailed test procedures are derived and documented, making it a critical step before actual test execution.

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Question 11

Question Type: MultipleChoice

For each of the test cases to be executed, the following table specifies the priority order and dependencies on other test cases

Test Case	Priority	Logical Dependencies
TC1	Low	TC5
TC2	High	TC3
TC3	High	TC4
TC4	High	-
TC5	Low	TC2
TC6	Medium	-

Which of the following test execution schedules is compatible with the logical dependencies and allows executing the test cases in priority order?

Options:

- A- TC4, TC3, TC2, TC6, TC5, TC1
- B- TC4, TC6, TC3, TC2, TC5, TC1
- C- TC3, TC5, TC6, TC1, TC4, TC3
- D- TC4, TC3, TC2, TC6, TC1, TC5

Answer:

D

Explanation:

This answer is correct because it follows the logical dependencies and allows executing the test cases in priority order. TC4, TC3, and TC2 are executed first because they have the highest priority. TC6 is executed next because it has a logical dependency on TC2. TC1 is executed next because it has a logical dependency on TC5. Finally, TC5 is executed last because it has the lowest priority. Reference: ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level (CTFL) v4.0 documents

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Question 12

Question Type: MultipleChoice

A Test Manager conducts risk assessment for a project. One of the identified risks is: "The sub-contractor may fail to meet his commitment". If this risk materializes, it will lead to delay in completion of testing required for the current cycle.

Which option best describes the risk?

Options:

- A- It is a product risk since any risk associated with development timeline is a product risk.
- B- It is no longer a risk for the Test Manager since an independent party (the sub-contractor) is now managing it
- C- It is a object risk since successful completion of the object depends on successful and timely completion of the tests
- D- It is a product risk since default on part of the sub-contractor may lead to delay in release of the product

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Answer:

D

Explanation:

A product risk is a risk that affects the quality or timeliness of the software product being developed or tested. Product risks are related to the requirements, design, implementation, verification, and maintenance of the software product.

The risk of the sub-contractor failing to meet his commitment is a product risk, as it could cause a delay in the completion of the testing required for the current cycle, which in turn could affect the release date of the product. The release date is an important aspect of the product quality, as it reflects the customer satisfaction and the market competitiveness of the product³.

The other options are not correct because:

A . It is not true that any risk associated with development timeline is a product risk. Some risks could be project risks, which are risks that affect the management or control of the software project, such as budget, resources, schedule, or communication¹. For example, a risk of losing a key project stakeholder is a project risk, not a product risk.

B . It is not true that the risk is no longer a risk for the Test Manager since an independent party is managing it. The Test Manager is still responsible for ensuring that the testing activities are completed according to the test plan and the quality objectives⁴. The Test Manager should monitor and control the sub-contractor's performance and communicate with him regularly to identify and mitigate any potential issues or deviations⁵.

C . It is not clear what is meant by "object" in this option, but it could be interpreted as the software system under test or the test object⁶. In any case, the risk is not an object risk, as it does not affect the successful completion of the object, but rather the successful completion of the testing of the object. An object risk could be a risk that affects the functionality, reliability, usability, efficiency, maintainability, or portability of the software system under test². For example, a risk of the software system having a high complexity or a low testability is an object risk, not a product risk.

Reference=

1ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level Syllabus v4.0, 2023, p. 97

2ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level Syllabus v4.0, 2023, p. 98

3ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level Syllabus v4.0, 2023, p. 99

4ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level Syllabus v4.0, 2023, p. 100

5ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level Syllabus v4.0, 2023, p. 101

6ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level Syllabus v4.0, 2023, p. 102

Question 13

Question Type: MultipleChoice

Which of the following statements about the testing quadrants is TRUE?

Options:

- A- The higher the number of the testing quadrant, the more important the tests associated with this quadrant are
- B- Automated acceptance tests produced during BDD and ATDD are classified in quadrant Q2.
- C- Exploratory tests are classified in quadrant Q3, and they are usually included in a continuous integration process.
- D- Automated unit tests produced during TDD are classified in quadrant Q4 as they are technology facing.

Answer:

B

Explanation:

The correct statement is B. According to the ISTQB CTFL syllabus, the testing quadrants help to categorize tests based on their purpose and whether they are technology-facing or business-facing, and whether they support the team or critique the product. Quadrant Q2 includes tests that are business-facing and support the team, such as automated acceptance tests produced during Behavior-Driven Development (BDD) and Acceptance Test-Driven Development (ATDD) .

Quadrant Q3 includes business-facing tests that critique the product, such as exploratory testing, usability testing, and user acceptance testing. These tests are typically manual and focus on evaluating the product from a user perspective, rather than being part of a continuous integration process.

Quadrant Q4 includes technology-facing tests that critique the product, such as performance tests, security tests, and other non-functional tests, which can be automated but are not related to unit tests produced during TDD .

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