ISTQB CTAL-TM Practice Questions

Shared by Spence on 26-10-2026

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Question 1

Question Type: MultipleChoice

In an Agile project, when Is it acceptable lo not write a formal defect report when a defect is found''

Options:

A- Never
B- If the defect can be fixed in the same iteration in which it was found
C- the defect can be fixed in a later hardening sprint
D- If the defect must be fixed by another team

Answer:

B

Explanation:

Context Analysis:

Agile emphasizes efficiency and collaboration. If a defect is quickly resolved within the same iteration, documenting it formally may not add value.

Evaluation of Options:

A . Never:

Incorrect. Agile allows flexibility; not all defects require formal reports.

B . If the defect can be fixed in the same iteration in which it was found:

Correct. Aligns with Agile principles of immediacy and adaptability, minimizing overhead (Syllabus section TM-1.2.4).

C . If the defect can be fixed in a later hardening sprint:

Incorrect. Documentation is needed if a defect remains unresolved within the iteration.

D . If the defect must be fixed by another team:

Incorrect. Clear documentation is critical for external team collaboration.

Syllabus Alignment: ISTQB Advanced Test Management highlights Agile principles, including flexibility in defect reporting based on project needs (TM-1.2.4).

ISTQB Advanced Level Test Management Syllabus

Question 2

Question Type: MultipleChoice

You plan to introduce a new tester to your Agile team who has expertise in test automation, a necessary skill lacking in current team members. The individual has a high degree of technical competence but has only ever worked alone and admits to finding face-to-face communication difficult.

What would be the BEST course of action?

Options:

A- Provide them with details of an online self-study program covering communication skills
B- Send them on an external training course covering communications skills and connect them with an experienced mentor
C- Peer learning and sharing occurs naturally in Agile teams, so there is no need for any training
D- Do not use this person. Face-to-face communication is essential in Agile and they will only prove disruptive

Answer:

B

Explanation:

The ISTQB syllabus encourages the development of social and interpersonal competencies including communication and teamwork, especially in Agile environments. A tester in an Agile team must collaborate effectively. Therefore, supporting a technically competent tester with targeted communication training and mentorship is the optimal development approach.

Question 3

Question Type: MultipleChoice

Which option best metrics is MOST LIKELY to trigger a control directive to increase test

execution resources?

Options:

A- Percentage of manual test cases by their execution status, showing that the number of tests run is less than planned
B- Percentage of test cases that have been automated, showing that this is less than planned
C- Percentage of test cases by their execution status, showing that the number of failures is greater than expected
D- Percentage of test environment availability during scheduled hours, showing that this is less than planned

Answer:

A

Explanation:

The most direct trigger for resource adjustment is evidence that test execution is behind schedule.

''Test control... includes re-prioritizing tests... or changing the test schedule due to availability of resources.''

-- ISTQB-CTFL_Syllabus_2018_V3.1, section 5.3

Option A points directly to under-execution relative to plan, suggesting a need to scale up resources.

Question 4

Question Type: MultipleChoice

Which of the following statements correctly describes a 'depth-first approach' to managing risk based testing? Choose ONE OPTION

Options:

A- The highest risks are tested in more depth than the lowest risks.
B- A sample of tests is selected to ensure coverage of every risk item at least once.
C- The lowest risk tests should only be run once the highest risk tests have passed.

D- All of the highest-risk tests are run before any lower risk tests, and tests are run in strict risk order.

Answer:

A

Question 5

Question Type: MultipleChoice

Which option best statements define a test monitoring activity?

Options:

A- Establishing a testing schedule and monitoring framework to enable tracking of the status of testing
B- Identifying and analyzing new product risks that should be mitigated through test design and execution
C- Comparing actual results against the expected results as the test cases are executed
D- Comparing actual progress against the test plan and implementing the necessary corrective actions

Answer:

D

Explanation:

According to the ISTQB Advanced Test Manager syllabus, test monitoring involves tracking test progress and comparing actual results with planned progress. It helps to identify deviations and allows the Test Manager to take corrective actions.

'Test monitoring involves the ongoing comparison of actual progress against the plan using metrics defined in the test plan'

(Source: ISTQB Advanced Level Test Manager Syllabus 2012, Section 1.3.1)

Hence, Option D reflects a test monitoring activity precisely.

Question 6

Question Type: MultipleChoice

Which two items are MOST relevant for inclusion in your tool selection plan for functional test automation in Agile?

Options:

A- Demonstrating that the tool will deliver a positive ROI for the project
B- Nominating the person who will be responsible for the tool
C- Estimating the costs of the tool evaluation and selection process
D- Demonstrating that only one tool will be needed
E- Anticipating the risks to achieving positive ROI with the tool

Answer:

A, E

Explanation:

For Agile test tool selection, the ISTQB syllabus emphasizes the importance of:

Business case justification: Positive ROI must be demonstrated

Risk mitigation: It's crucial to evaluate risks associated with ROI

Statements A and E reflect these priorities clearly.

ISTQB-CTFL_Syllabus_2018_V3.1, section 6.2.1 ''Main Principles for Tool Selection'' and 6.2.3 ''Success Factors for Tools''

Question 7

Question Type: MultipleChoice

SCENARIO 1

DreamPartner dating agency are redesigning their dating application following a major security breach in which sensitive customer data was made publically available. The redesign includes stronger security encryption and performance tuning.

The product risk register for the redesign project, which was produced after all requirements had been agreed, includes the following:

Risk Id	Risk	Probability	Impact
1	The new application will remain vulnerable to further security breaches	Medium	High
2	Response times for partner searches will not meet the agreed SLA	Low	High

The organisational Test Strategy contains the following objectives:

1. A Risk-based lest approach must be adopted for all projects

2. Functional regression testing should start as soon as functional testing is complete

3. Automated tests may be run before or in parallel with manual tests

The project Test Plan has allocated 6 weeks to complete all test execution, with functional testing taking 3 weeks to execute, performance and security testing 2 weeks each and regression testing 1 week.

Which of the following options places the test suites (TS1 to TS5) in the correct order for test execution?

SELECT ONE OPTION

Options:

A- TS3, TS1, TS2, TS5, TS4.
B- TS1, TS2, TS5, TS3, TS4.
C- TS3, TS4, TS1, TS2, TS5.
D- TS5, TR1, TS3 TSA, TS2

Answer:

A

Question 8

Question Type: MultipleChoice

The test team is using a distributed model for testing.

What is the main factor you should consider with this model? [1]

Options:

A- Alignment of methodologies
B- Co-location of test team
C- Provision of growth opportunities for the individual testers
D- Planned vs. actual hours

Answer:

A

Explanation:

A distributed model for testing is a testing model that involves testers working in different locations, time zones, or organizations, such as onshore, offshore, or nearshore1.The primary factor that you should consider with this model is the alignment of methodologies, which means that the testers follow the same or compatible testing processes, standards, tools, and techniques, regardless of their location, time zone, or organization2.The alignment of methodologies can help to ensure the consistency, quality, and efficiency of the testing activities, as well as to facilitate the communication, coordination, and collaboration among the testers3. Therefore, option A is the correct answer. Option B is incorrect because co-location of test team is not a factor that you should consider with a distributed model for testing, but rather a factor that is contrary to a distributed model for testing.Co-location of test team means that the testers work in the same physical location, which can have some advantages, such as easier communication, faster feedback, and stronger team spirit, but also some disadvantages, such as higher costs, limited resources, and less diversity4. Option C is incorrect because provision of growth opportunities for the individual testers is not a factor that you should consider with a distributed model for testing, but rather a factor that is relevant to any testing model. Provision of growth opportunities for the individual testers means that the testers are given the chance to learn new skills, gain new experiences, and advance their careers, which can have some benefits, such as increased motivation, productivity, and retention of the testers. Option D is incorrect because planned vs. actual hours is not a factor that you should consider with a distributed model for testing, but rather a factor that is relevant to any testing model. Planned vs.actual hours is a testing metric that compares the estimated and the actual effort spent on the testing activities, which can help to measure the accuracy of the test estimation, the efficiency of the test execution, and the variance of the test schedule.Reference:1: ISTQB Glossary, Distributed Testing2:Distributed Testing - Software Testing Fundamentals3: ISTQB Advanced Level Test Manager Syllabus, Section 3.2.14:Co-located vs. Distributed Teams: What's the Difference?:How to Provide Growth Opportunities for Employees:Software Testing Metrics: What is, Types & Example

Question 9

Question Type: MultipleChoice

You are a new Test Manager on a maintenance release for an existing mature product that is expected to be retired in the not too distant

future. The previous release had utilized a performance regression test suite written in an in-house custom tool using the same

programming language as the product itself. This suite will most likely require tweaking to ensure it works with the new version of the

product. While there are several members in the performance testing team, the original author of the performance testing tool has moved on

to another company, and none of the remaining staff have a great deal of familiarity with the performance test scripts used to test this

product.

How would you recommend this scenario be addressed? [3]

Options:

A- Retire the in-house tool and switch to a vendor supported tool for performance testing.
B- Reduce the scope of the product testing to exclude performance testing.
C- Make the in-house tool available to the open source community.
D- Leverage the development team to fill any knowledge gaps in the in-house tool.

Answer:

D

Explanation:

The best option to address this scenario is to leverage the development team to fill any knowledge gaps in the in-house tool. This option allows the test team to reuse the existing performance test suite and avoid the risks and costs of switching to a new tool or excluding performance testing altogether. The development team can provide support and guidance to the test team on how to use and modify the in-house tool, since it is written in the same programming language as the product itself. This option also preserves the intellectual property of the organization and does not expose the in-house tool to the open source community.ISTQB Advanced Level Test Manager SyllabusAdvanced Software Testing - Vol. 2Reference:

ISTQB Advanced Level Test Manager Syllabus

Advanced Software Testing - Vol. 2, 2nd Edition

Question 10

Question Type: MultipleChoice

Which option best organizational structures would be considered unorthodox? [1]

Options:

A- Developers within the same team unit test each others' code prior to handing over to a separate testing team for system testing
B- Developers and testers are integrated within the same project team, each role focusing on a different level of testing
C- After developers are done unit testing, business analysts alpha test the system before handing over to a separate testing team for system testing
D- DBAs confirm the referential integrity of the database and developers complete their unit testing before handing over to
external organization for system testing

Answer:

C

Explanation:

The unorthodox structure mentioned in option C involves business analysts performing alpha testing. Typically, alpha testing is conducted by internal staff or a team close to the development environment, not specifically by business analysts. This step is unusual as business analysts are generally responsible for requirements analysis and ensuring that the developed system meets business needs, rather than conducting alpha testing, which is more focused on identifying bugs and issues from a user's perspective.

ISTQB Glossary, Distributed Testing

ISTQB Advanced Level Test Manager Syllabus, Section 3.2.1

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