

SENG438

Assignment 1

Notes

Definitions

- Exploratory Testing: A term used for software testing performed without planning and usually without any test script.

The tests are designed to be run once, unless a defect is discovered. Exploratory testing has been criticized because it isn't structured, but this can also be a strength. By doing exploratory testing, major issues can be found quickly. It is performed with improvisation; the tester seeks to find bugs with any means that seem appropriate. It contrasts to regression testing in the way that it looks for a specific issue with detailed reproduction steps, and a clear expected result. Exploratory testing is most often used as a complement to other testing.

- Manual Scripted Testing: Oldest and most rigorous type of software testing. Test cases are designed and reviewed by the team before executing. There are many variations of this basic approach. Test cases can be created at the basic functionality level or they can be created at the scenario level.

The value of scripted testing has been questioned by some experts. They claim that scripted manual testing closes the mind of the tester and inhibits their creativity. This approach is very heavy on the documentation and requires a considerable amount of resources to create the test scripts in the first place and they often get outdated because of the inevitable change of the system.

Despite these drawbacks, manual testing is used in many organisations of all sizes. Test cases are made repeatable and easy enough for a new person to come on board and start testing with minimum supervision. Manual scripted testing is also used in places where contractual agreement states that written specification of the software must be met for the successful implementation of the project. Scripted test cases might be useful where tests are used for the benchmarking purpose and tests have to be executed exactly in the same way every time.

- Regression Testing: Any type of software testing that seeks to uncover new errors, or regressions, in existing functionality after changes have been made to a system, such as functional enhancements, patches or configuration changes.

The intent of regression testing is to ensure that a change, such a bug fix, did not introduce new faults. One of the main reasons for regression testing is that it's often extremely difficult for a programmer to figure out how a change in one part of the software will affect other parts of software. Regression testing can be done in manual or automated testing fashion. (This assignment only manual regression)