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CS-250: Journal: Tester

Instructor: Erin Jasmine

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When developing initial test cases, the following elements of user stories are particularly helpful such as acceptance criteria, user roles, and functional requirements. Clearly defined conditions that must be met for the story to be considered complete. These criteria provide a concrete basis for determining whether the software meets the user’s needs and expectations, ensuring that the test cases are aligned with the desired outcomes. Understanding who the end-users are helps tailor test cases to their specific needs. This perspective allows testers to simulate real-world usage scenarios, ensuring that the software is user-friendly and meets the expectations of its intended audience. Details about what the software should do provide a basis for creating relevant test scenarios. These requirements help testers focus on the core functionalities that need to be validated, ensuring that the software performs as expected.

Communication between the tester and the Product Owner is critical for several reasons: clarification, prioritization, and feedback. The Product Owner can clarify any ambiguities in the user stories, ensuring that test cases are aligned with the product vision. This is crucial for avoiding misunderstandings that could lead to misaligned test cases and ultimately affect the quality of the final product. The Product Owner can help prioritize which user stories are most important, guiding the focus of testing efforts. This ensures that the most critical functionalities are tested first, aligning with the project’s goals and timeliness. Regular feedback from the Product Owner can help refine test cases and ensure they meet user expectations. This iterative process allows for continuous improvement and adaptation of test cases to better meet user needs.

Common elements that may be missing from user stories include detailed user scenarios, edge cases, and performance metrics. Detailed user scenarios cover specific examples of how users will interact with software. These scenarios provide context for the test cases, helping testers understand the user’s journey and identify potential issues. Edge cases are scenarios that cover less common but possible user interactions. Testing these cases ensures that the software is robust and can handle unexpected inputs or actions. Performance metrics are information on expected performance standards for the software. These metrics help testers evaluate whether the software meets the required speed, responsiveness, and reliability standards.

To obtain additional information, there would be follow-up meetings, surveys or questionnaires, and collaborative workshops. Schedule a meeting with the Product Owner to discuss user stories in detail. This direct communication can help clarify any uncertainties and provide the necessary details for comprehensive test cases. Create a document that outlines specific questions regarding user scenarios and edge cases. This structured approach can help gather detailed information from stakeholders. Organize workshops with stakeholders to brainstorm and gather insights. These sessions can foster collaboration and ensure that all perspectives are considered in the test case development process.

**Sample Email to the Product Owner**

To: Nicholle

Subject: User Story Testing Ideas

Dear Nicholle,

I hope this message finds you well. As I work on developing test cases for the travel booking software, I have encountered a few areas in the user stories that would benefit from further clarification.

Specifically, I would appreciate your insights on the following:

1. \*\*Detailed User Scenarios\*\*: Could you provide examples of how different user roles will interact with the software?
2. \*\*Edge Cases\*\*: Are there any specific edges you believe we should consider while testing?
3. \*\*Performance Metrics\*\*: What are the expected performance standards for the application that we should keep in mind?

Your guidance on these points will greatly enhance the quality of our test cases and ensure they align with user expectations.

Thank you for your assistance, and I look forward to your response.

Best regards,

Chris Williford

Tester

1-555-555-5555

**Response from Product Owner**

To: Chris Williford

Subject: Re: User Story Testing Ideas

Dear Chris,

Thank you for reaching out with your questions regarding the travel booking software. I appreciate your diligence in developing comprehensive test cases. Here are my insights on the points you have raised.

**\*\*Detailed User Scenarios\*\*: Could you provide examples of how different user roles will interact with the software?**

A traveler is a user searching for flights that can filter results by price, duration, and airline. They can also save their preferences and receive notifications for price changes. An admin user can manage bookings, view analytics on user behavior, and generate reports on sales and cancellations. A customer support agent can access user accounts to assist with issues, view booking history, and process funds.

**\*\*Edge Cases\*\*: Are there any specific edges you believe we should consider while testing?**

Users attempting to book flights with invalid payment methods. Scenarios where users try to book a flight that is fully booked. Users changing their travel dates multiple times before finalizing the booking.

**\*\*Performance Metrics\*\*: What are the expected performance standards for the application that we should keep in mind?**

The application should load within 2 seconds for the homepage and search results. It should handle at least 500 concurrent users without degradation in performance. Response times for booking confirmations should be under 1 second.

I hope this information helps clarify the user stories and enhances your test case development. Please feel free to reach out if you need further details or have additional questions.

Best regards,

Nicholle

Product Owner

1-555-555-5555

References:

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