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Welcome everyone to Module Eight of CS-320 Software Test Automation and QA,

Congratulations on making it to Week 8! It's time to look back on how much you've learned in the world of developing quality software! You've learned how to write unit tests that will significantly improve the quality of your code before the QA team tests your code. Unit tests offer a fantastic safety net for future refactoring of your code, adding a new requirement, changing a requirement, or fixing a defect. Unit tests should be executed often during your coding and in a Continuous Integration pipeline to ensure quality. Some teams will add a quality gate in their CI/CD pipeline by failing all builds (and preventing code commits to main) if unit tests fail. I've seen projects where unit tests were in the thousands of tests and it gave the developers an extreme amount of confidence as they would make code changes in mission critical areas of the code.



https://miro.medium.com/v2/resize:fit:720/format:webp/0*8Lp_j3GPzqLYGIZS

Photo by Scott Graham on Unsplash

The TDD (Test Driven Development) strategy is where a developer writes their unit tests first based on the requirements. The unit tests fail because there is no code written. Then the code is written to pass the unit tests. The unit tests, based on the requirements, will guide the development of the code to meet the requirements and the requirements only. TDD is about 50/50 for those writing unit tests in the industry. I'm a fan of it and others are not. It's the choice of you and your team. I like TDD as it helps me define the interface of my code early. It helps me keep on track and not diverge or go overboard from the requirements.

When you go to interview for your first software engineer position, having unit testing experience and a portfolio of your jUnit tests available for review, will impress those who you are interviewing.

You've also learned the various strategies and methods of QA. This will be very helpful as you as a developer can suggest these methods to your QA team if they are not happening. For some of you now and in the future, you will be your QA team.

This is the recommended plan for completing the reading assignments and activities within the module.

1. Read the Module Eight resources:
 1. The QA Engineer Role is Changing to Keep Pace with Automation
 2. Java Cucumber Tutorial 01 (Setting Up Cucumber) QAShahin
(Optional but highly recommended). A transcript for the video is here:
Transcript for Java Cucumber Tutorial 01
2. Post your initial response to this week's discussion (initial post due Thursday).
3. Submit your Journal: Portfolio Item by Sunday
4. Post peer responses to the discussion by Sunday

Let me know if you have any questions.

Rob