Inside the Mind of an exploratory Tester

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The article talks about exploratory testing and walks through the steps in what an exploratory tester should do and how it acts towards testing. However, exploratory testing is any testing that the tester actively controls the design of the tests as those teste are performed and uses information gained to design new and better testes.

One aspect of exploratory testing is that, instead of looking for problems you are looking for connections. The process is not a random selection. In fact the author, to explain what exploratory testing is and how it is performed, it compares is as how to build jigsaw puzzle and some technics that can be used in order to reassemble it.

The author explains that exploratory testing is the opposite of scripting testing. In scripting testing, tests are specified in advance of test execution and don’t get changed. However the author suggests to see exploratory testing and scripting testing opposite sides of the spectrum.

An exploratory tester, the author continues in the article, is first and foremost a test designer and how it is used in exploratory testing is to design it in order to craft a question that will reveal vital information about the product.

Another aspect of an exploratory tester is that he is an excellent critical thinker. They are able to review and explain their logic. This skill is important when reporting or investigating a defect.

Still, continuing in the characteristics of an exploratory tester is that he has rich resources. That is, they build a deep inventory of tools, information sources, test data, and friends to draw upon.

Another key aspect of being an exploratory tester is to be a rapid learner. The author explains that, yes intelligence helps, but it is most a matter of skill and practice.