ISTQB Foundation: Exam Overview

Overview:

* What is the CFL exam about
* Different question categories
* Benefits of the exam and how to pass

Objectives

* Who the exam is for and how it can help

It is better to prevent issues than explain why they are there and review, best not to get stuck in reactive cycles

ISTQB – validates the skills of a tester, is not specific to certain softwares, provides basic testing understanding and identifies areas of importance

Common Problems:

* Communication between team members, common vocabulary is important
* Good planning and resource allocation – know the test techniques
* Established testing techniques

Benefits:

* Common expectations between members,
* Encourages best practice
* Ensures fewer bugs
* Increases the value of testing through efficiency

Overview:

* ISTQB Exam levels
* CTF exam structure
* Passing Requirements

ISTQB Levels:

* International Organisation Respected
* Member boards and exam providers may both carry out exams
* Diagram

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* Other Qualifications:
* Diagram

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ISTQB Exam Structure:

Passing Requirements:

* Chart, treemap chart

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* Mus correctly answer 26 questions
* Certificate is valid for life
* The syslabus does not have any learning objectives related to specific lifecycles, but it does ask how some concepts would be carried out in those lifecycles
* K2 – you should be able to select the most appropriate answer for the exam
* K3 – you should be able to recognise the correct application of a technique and apply it to a context:
* A picture containing text, businesscard

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Topics Covered:

* Foundation of Testing – 175 minutes study time
  + Terminologies, reason for testing, basic processes
* Testing throughout the software development lifecycle – 100min
  + Test types, test levels, SDLC and how it relates to testing, how testing is incorporated into a lifecycle
* Static Testing -135min
  + Testing techniques, reviews, requirements of static testing, how to apply a review techniwue to a work product to find defects
* Testing Techniques – 330min
  + Different testing techniques, black and white box, testing based on experience
* Test Management – 225 min
  + Managing and organising tests, risks, defects and explanation
* Tool Support for testing – 40 min

Business Outcomes Matrix:

* 12 business outcomes expected for a candidate who achieves the certificate

Question Format:

* All questions are multiple choice, all with one answer only
* All questions give 1 point only – so go through do the easy ones first, then go back to the harder ones to ensure you get them all done
* Table

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* Most questions are understanding based, you may need more time for K3
* How to identify the different types of question:
  + K1 is about remembering
  + K2 is about understanding (what is the best match?)
  + K3 about application (Provide a definition)

Recap

* You need at least 65% to pass
* The focus of the exam is to test your knowledge: How you remember the key definitions, how you understand the materials, how you apply these skills
* Use PDF from ISTQB website and practice tests until you can get 90%

Summary:

* To know the advantages of ISTQB
* To know the structure of the exams and the structure of questions

What are the benefits of the certificate?

* Most companies would like to see most of their staff certified to the basic level at least
* Efficient and cost effective
* Encourages best practice and effective bug finding
* Shows quality care
* Internationally Recognised – You can use the certified tester logo
* Career path support
* Reduces bug risk, gets new members up to speed faster

Self-study syllabus

Test case