Manual Testing

Performing the testing without using any tools is known as Manual Testing. Here a tester / person will do the testing.

Example: https://www.msn.com (Manually test whether the 'Sign In' option is taking Microsoft Sing in page)

Automation Testing

Performing the testing with the help of tools is known as Automation Testing. Here instead of a person, a tool will perform the testing. The tool used for replacing the person is nothing but a Test Automation tool.

Example: https://www.msn.com (Execute the test case in Selenium IDE Automation tool to verify whether the 'Sign In' option is taking Microsoft Sing in page)

How can a tool perform Testing ?

Testers will do some coding and put the developed code into the Automation tool. Automation tool will perform testing with the help of the code developed by the testers.

Selenium

Selenium in simple terms is a Test Automation Tool. i.e. Instead of a person performing testing manually, Selenium tool will automatically perform the testing with the help of developed code.

Type of Applications that Selenium can automate

Selenium can only automate Web Applications (i.e. The applications which run on the browser).

Example: https://www.msn.com

Selenium cannot automate Desktop Applications (i.e. The applications which dont run on the browsers).

Example: Skype, Adobe PDF Reader and many more.

Selenium is a free tool

Selenium is a free tool. (i.e. You don't need to pay any license amount for using Selenium tool.)