Exploratory testing

Exploratory testing is a type of software testing that is performed without a predefined test plan or script. Instead, it involves testers using their experience and intuition to explore the application under test in order to discover defects, issues, and opportunities for improvement. The goal of exploratory testing is to find as many defects as possible in a short amount of time, while also gaining a deeper understanding of the application and its users.

Exploratory testing is a highly effective way to discover defects that might not be found through other types of testing. Because it is not limited by a pre-determined test plan or script, testers are free to explore the application in a more creative and intuitive way, which often results in finding defects that would otherwise be missed.

One real-life example of exploratory testing in action is a project I worked on for a mobile banking application. The application was designed to allow users to manage their finances, make payments, and view their account information from their mobile devices. As a tester on this project, I was tasked with ensuring that the application was functioning as expected and that there were no defects or issues that would prevent users from completing their desired actions.

During my exploratory testing sessions, I started by logging in to the application and exploring the various menus and screens that were available to users. I tried out different features and functions, such as making a payment or transferring funds between accounts, and recorded any issues or bugs that I encountered. I also paid close attention to the user interface and overall usability of the application, noting any areas that could be improved or simplified to make the user experience more enjoyable.

One of the issues that I discovered during my exploratory testing was a problem with the application's password reset feature. When I tried to reset my password, I received an error message that stated that the feature was temporarily unavailable. I reported this issue to the development team, who were able to quickly identify and fix the problem.

Another issue that I discovered during my exploratory testing was a problem with the application's menu navigation. When I tried to navigate to a specific menu item, I found that it was not listed in the correct location, making it difficult for users to find. I reported this issue to the development team, who were able to redesign the menu system to make it more intuitive and user-friendly.

Overall, the exploratory testing that I performed on this project was instrumental in helping to identify and resolve defects and usability issues that could have negatively impacted the user experience. By using my experience and intuition to explore the application in a creative and intuitive way, I was able to uncover issues that might have been missed through other types of testing, ultimately leading to a better product for the end user.