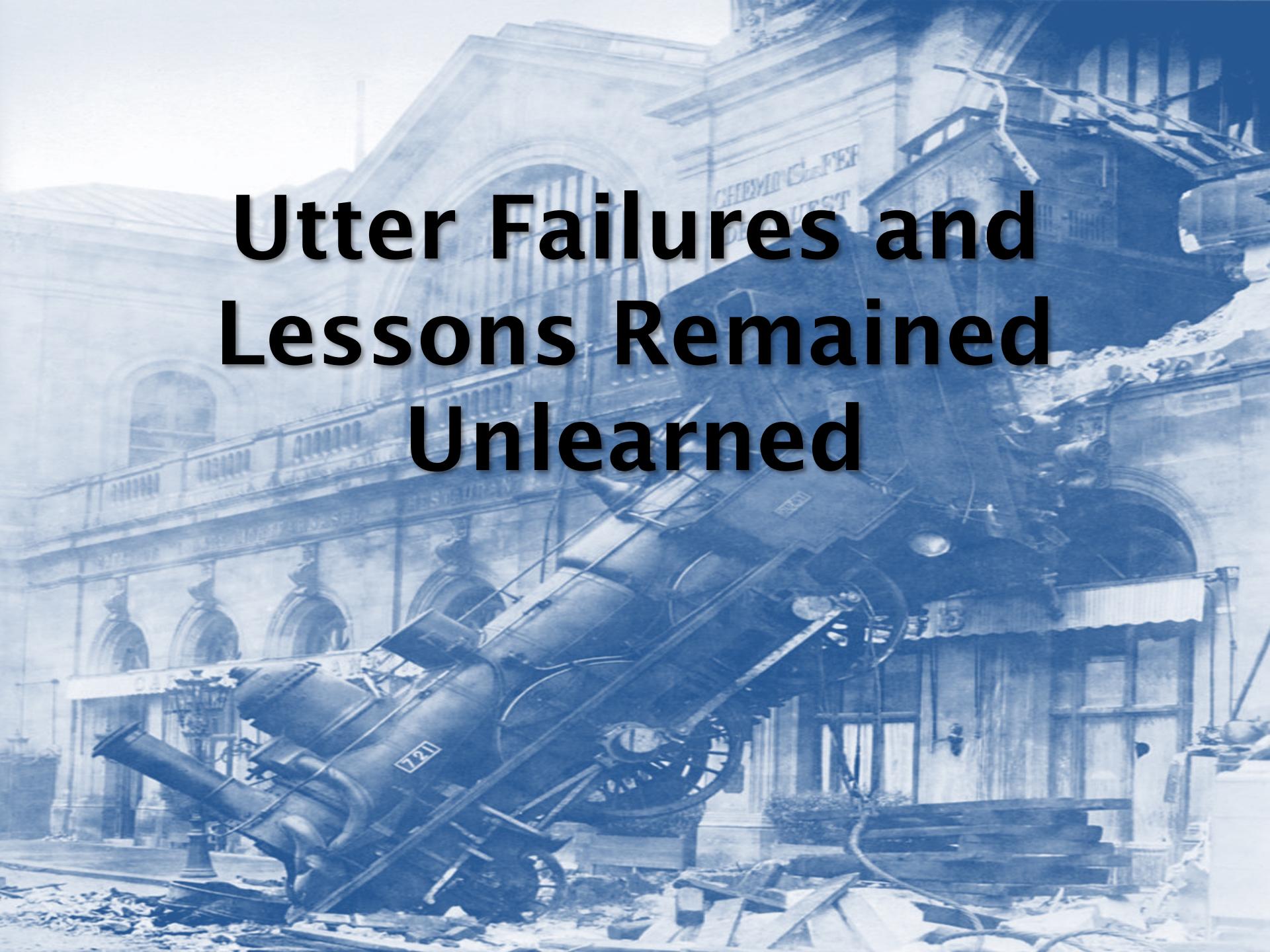


Utter Failures and Lessons Remained Unlearned



Who am I?



Ilari Henrik Aegerter

Manager Quality
Engineering Europe

@



Ilari Henrik Aegerter

President of



www.commonsensetesting.org

What is failure?



11:27

56 %



failure

► noun

- 1 lack of success.
- 2 an unsuccessful person or thing.
- 3 an instance of not doing something that is expected: *their failure to comply with the rules*.
- 4 an instance of something not functioning properly.

— SYNONYMS

- 1 *the failure of the escape attempt* **lack of success**, defeat, collapse, foundering.



11:29

56 %



fail

► verb

- 1 be unsuccessful in achieving something.
- 2 be unable to meet the standards set by a test.
- 3 neglect to do something: *she failed to keep the appointment*.
- 4 not happen in the way expected: *chaos has failed to materialize*.
- 5 stop working properly.
- 6 become weaker or less good: *his sight was failing*.

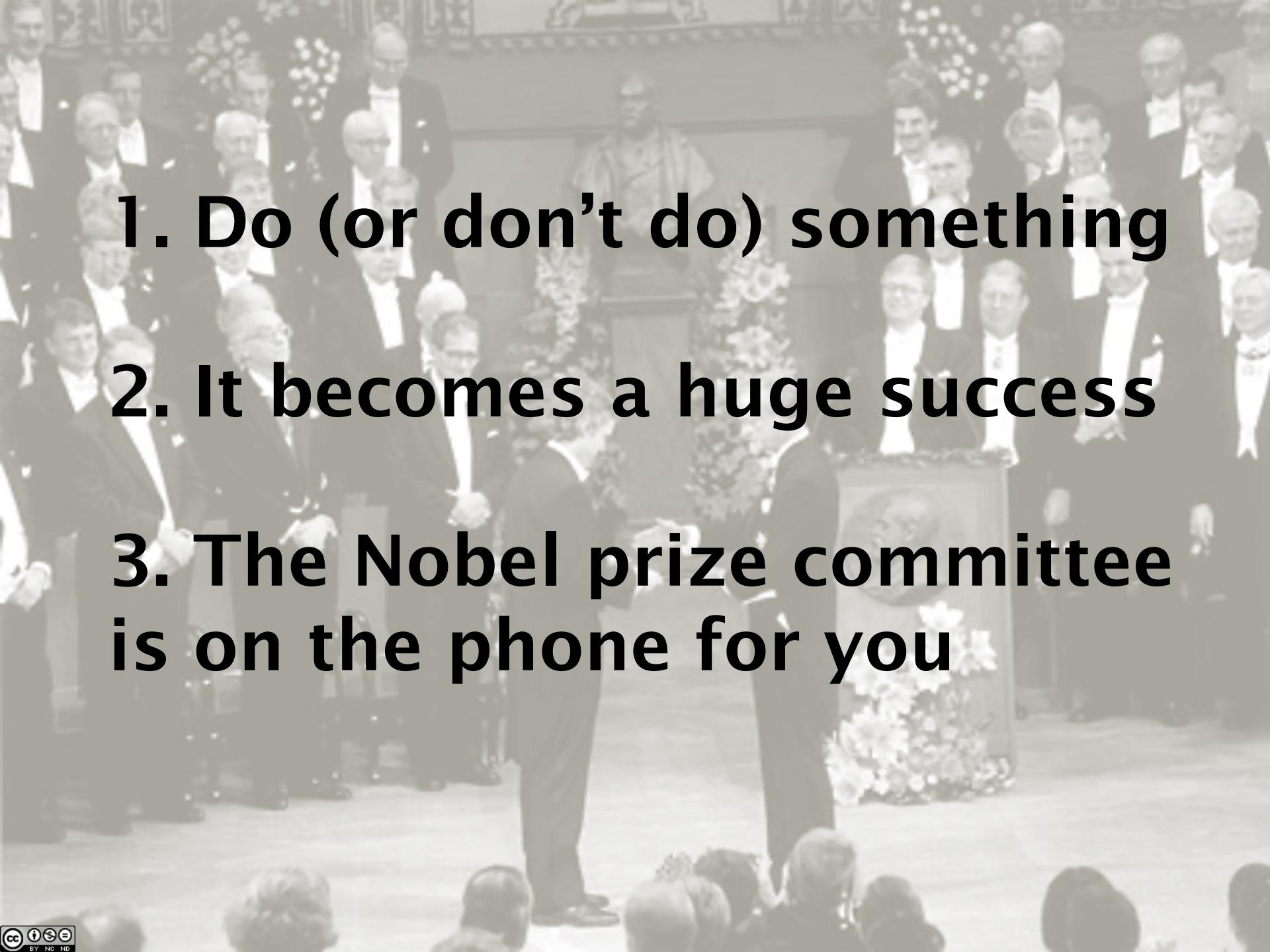
**fiasco, debacle, catastrophe,
disaster, flop, washout, dead
loss, snafu, loser,
underachiever, crash,
collapse, bomb, abandon,
betray**

Let's have a demonstration
of a failure



Unlearned

The Happy Path

- 
1. Do (or don't do) something
 2. It becomes a huge success
 3. The Nobel prize committee is on the phone for you

Is that how things usually happen?



Who here has ever failed?

It is (sometimes) ok to fail

“The best way to recover from failure is to learn from it”

- Pradeep Soundararajan, during today's coffee break

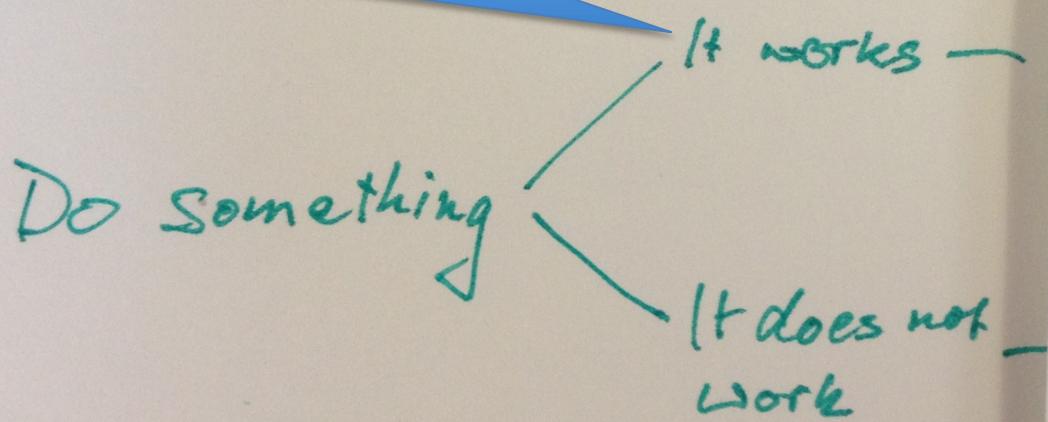
Paths of failures

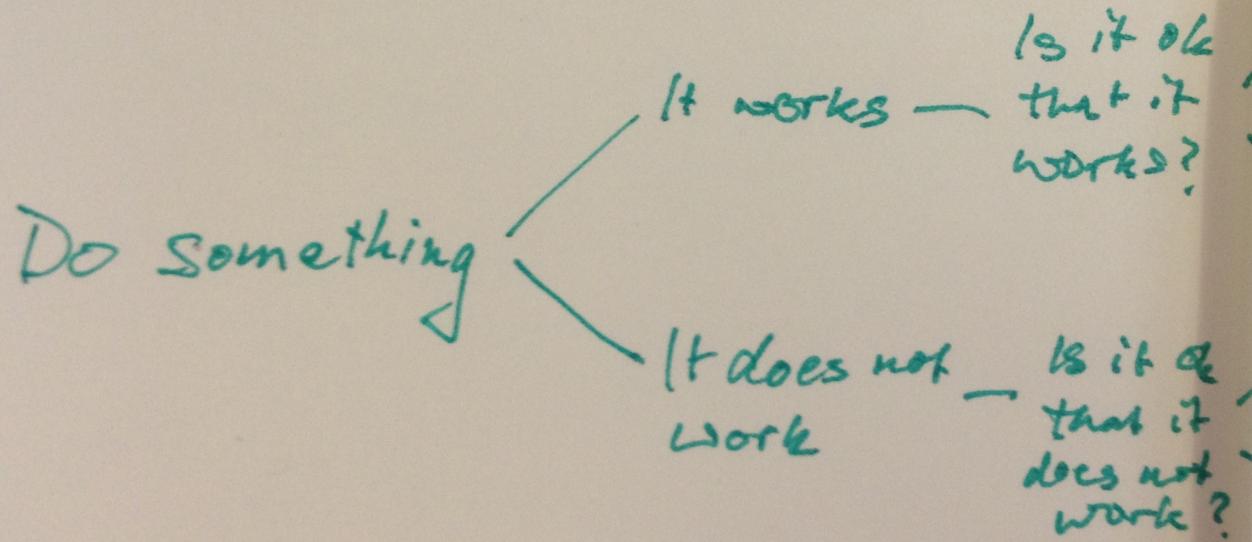
102

103

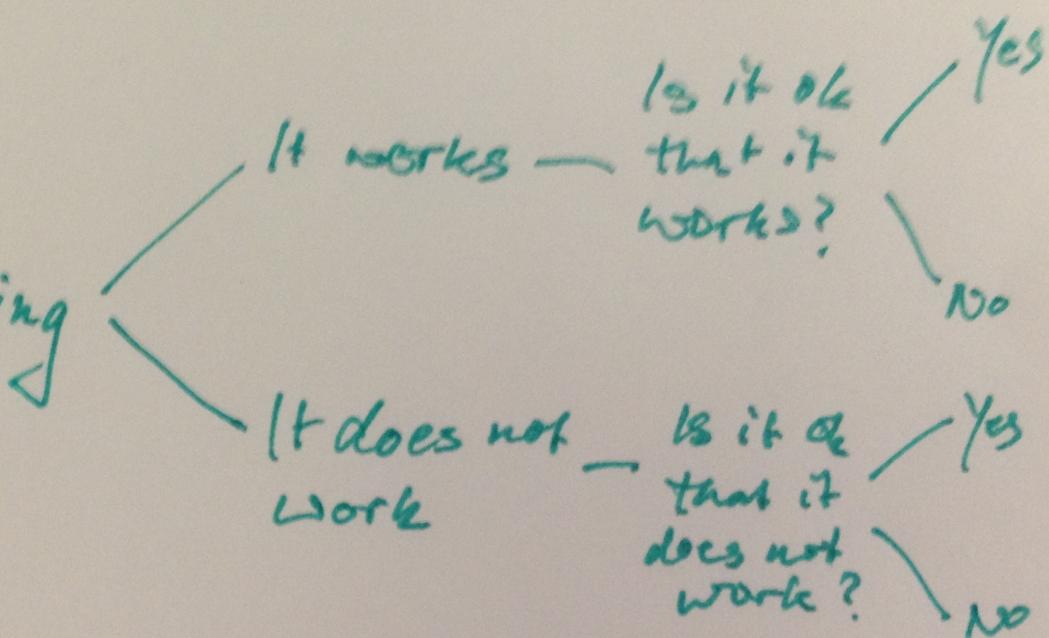
Do something

The thing you do
satisfies your own (or
somebody else's) criteria
for success to some
degree





Do something



Do something

It works —

It does not work

Is it ok
that it
works?

fail

Is it ok
that it
does not
work?

fail

No

No

Refrain from
doing something —

49 02778
EEN

Refrain from — Is that
doing something — ok?

Refrain from doing something — Is that ok?

Yes

No

Refrain from
doing something —

Is that
OK?

Yes

fail

No

104

105

Do something - It works - It's not ok that it works

Do something - It does not work - It is not ok that it does not work

Refrain from doing something - It is not ok that I refrained from doing something

Personal
vs.
Corporate
vs.
Community

Failures

Personal Failures

**Not to learn something
that would be helpful for
the job**

Not to work on relationships

Cultivate an “us vs. them” mindset

Be a pedantic asshole

Personal Failures Possible Reasons

000



999

2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1						
1	1	3	1	3	3	4	1	1	1	1	4	2	2	1	2	2	1	4	3	4	1	2			
1	1	1	1	1	3	3	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	3	1	2				
2	1	3	1	2	2	1	2	1	3	2	2	1	1	2	1	4	2	1	1	2	1	1			
2	1	3	1	1	1	1	3	4	1	3	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	3	2	1			
2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			
1	2	2	1	3	1	1	2	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	1			
1	3	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1			
2	3	1	3	5	1	4	1	1	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	2	1	1			
3	1	5	1	3	1	3	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1			
1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1			
3	4	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	3	1	4	3	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	1		
1	2	1	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	5	1	4	3	2	3	2	2	1		
2	1	2	3	1	2	1	1	3	1	3	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	3	3	3	2	1		
2	3	4	1	2	2	1	2	1	3	1	2	1	1	3	1	1	3	2	1	1	2	1	2		
1	1	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	3	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	3	4	1
2	3	3	2	2	4	1	3	2	1	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1
2	1	2	2	1	1	4	1	2	1	4	1	4	2	2	1	1	1	1	3	1	2	1	1	1	1
1	3	1	2	3	4	1	2	1	1	3	1	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	1
1	3	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	3	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	2
1	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	3	3	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	1	2	1
2	3	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	4	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	3	3	1
2	1	4	1	2	1	5	0	4	1	3	1	2	1	1	1	2	3	3	2	1	2	1	1	2	1
2	1	3	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	1	2	1	2	3

Incompetence

Lack of priority (NOT time)

Fear

Motivation/Procrastination

Underestimating effort

Halluzination

Zombie Apocalypse

Corporate Failures

**Not to develop an
understanding of what
software testing is and
what it isn't**

Systematically hire the wrong people

Rely on ridiculously useless certifications

Over-reliance on secondary work products

(Absence of evidence != Evidence of absence)

Corporate Failures Possible Reasons

Maybe we don't speak up
No relationship to C-levels
Few testers are managers

Zombie Apocalypse

Community Failures

Overestimate our importance

Peer certification without concrete evidence

Not every good puzzle solver is a good tester

Not to build relationships to C-level decision makers

**Allow worthless
certification scheme
dealers as sponsors of
some of our conferences**

Community Failures Possible Reasons

Lack of leadership

Halluzination

Wrong concept of “evidence”

Lack of sufficient lobbying

Zombie Apocalypse

The questions that bother me most

1.

How can we effectively influence decision makers to

- a) develop a sound understanding of testing and
- b) hire testers accordingly?

2.

**How do we massively grow
this community to become
the reference of how
excellent testing is done**

alright

A close-up photograph of a woman with long brown hair, singing into a black microphone. She has her eyes closed and is looking upwards. The background is a soft-focus purple.

TOTAL PRIZE MONEY

\$0

Thank You!

Open Season

www.ilari.com
myself@ilari.com
[@ilarihenrik](https://twitter.com/ilarihenrik)



TEXT