**JUnit (Java Unit Testing) interview questions and answers**

**What is unit testing?**

A complete application can be build up by integrating small-2 functional parts, such parts are called as units.

It is always better to test such individual units before testing the entire application. The process of testing the functionality and working of these individual unit is known as unit testing.

Unit testing can be done manually and the process can also be automated.

**What is a Unit Test Case?**

Unit test case is nothing but a combination of input data and expected output, which is defined to test the proper functionality of a individual test unit. It’s is just to test the behavior of the unit for a particular input data.

**Why does JUnit only report the first failure in a single test?**

The main reason it does it like this to make the testing process simple and easy.

Even though the failures are more than one it only reports the first failure, resolving which may implicitly resolve other unreported failures too.

**What is @Test and where it’s used?**

@Test annotation is used to mark a method as test method, result of which is then compared with expected output to check whether the test is successful or not.

**What is @Before and @BeforeClass and it’s usage?**

@Before annotation:

**syntax:** @Before public void myMethod()

This method should execute before each test. Such methods are generally used for initialization before performing a actual test in test environment.

@BeforeClass annotation:

**syntax:** @BeforeClass public static void myMethod()

This method should execute before all the tests. It executes only once. Method should be declared static. Mostly used for database connectivity tasks before execution of any of the test.

**What is @After and @AfterClass and it’s usage?**

@After annotation:

**syntax:** @After public void myMethod()

This method should execute after each test and used for cleaning up the test and temporary data to avoid memory issues.

@AfterClass annotation:

**syntax:** @AfterClass public static void myMethod()

This method should execute at the end, once all the tests are finished. Method should be declared static and executes only a single time. Mostly used for closing the database connection.

**What is @Ignore and when it’s used?**

@Ignore is used to ignore a test method. It’s really useful when we have all the tests in advance, but the code is yet to be tested for the particular test, in such scenarios such test methods should be marked with @Ignore annotation.

**How will you run JUnit from command window?**

1) First set the ClassPath as follows:

set CLASSPATH=%CLASSPATH%;%JUNIT\_HOME%junit.jar

2) Invoke JunitCore

java org.junit.runner.JUnitCore

**What is JUnitCore class?**

**Answer:** This class is mainly responsible for executing tests. The org.junit.runner.JUnitCore class has a runClasses() method, which allows us to run one or more test classes.

As a output we get a Result (org.junit.runner.Result) object, which we use to filter out the test information.

**What is Parameterized test in JUnit and what all annotations used for this?**

Parameterized tests are possible in JUnit and they provide us the liberty of passing parameters into the test classes.

@RunWith(Parameterized.class) – For making a class parametrized.

@Parameters – Parameterized class must have a static method for generating and returning a collection of array, this method should be marked with @Parameters annotation.

**What’s the use of @Rule annotation?**

@Rule annotation is used for creating objects, which later can be used in test methods.

**When you should run JUnit test, Is there any particular time interval between each run?**

No there is no time constraint. A JUnit test needs to run whenever there is a change in the source code. This ensures that the new change passes through all the tests.

**Can we change return type of JUnit test method from void to some other type?**

Ideally you should not do this. All the JUnit test methods should have a void return type. If you change the return type then the test method would not be considered as a test method and would be ignored during execution of tests.

**Is it possible to pass command-line arguments to a test execution?**

Yes, It’s possible to pass command line arguments to a test execution –

You should use this command:

-D JVM command-line options

**How @Test annotation is used for testing exceptions?**

@Test (expected = Exception.class)

**Limitation:** It is used for testing only a single exception.

**Who should use Junit, developers or testers?**

Used by developers to implement unit tests in Java. Junit is designed for unit testing, which is really a coding process, not a testing process. But many testers or QA engineers are also required to use Junit for unit testing.

**Why do you use Junit to test your code?**

Junit provides a framework to achieve all the following-:

1. Test early and often automated testing.

2. Junit tests can be integrated with the build so regression testing can be done at unit level.

3. Test Code reusage.

4. Also when there is a transfer Junit tests act as a document for the unit tests.

**How do you install Junit?**

Let’s see the installation of Junit on windows platform:

1. Download the latest version of Junit from http://download.sourceforge.net/junit/

2. Uncompress the zip to a directory of your choice.

3. Add JUnit to the classpath:

set CLASSPATH=%CLASSPATH%;%JUNIT\_HOME%junit.jar

4. Test the installation by running the sample tests that come along with Junit located in the installation directory. Therefore, make sure that the JUnit installation directory is on your CLASSPATH. Then simply type:

java org.junit.runner.JUnitCore org.junit.tests.AllTests

All the tests should pass with an “OK” message. If the tests don’t pass, verify that junit.jar is in the CLASSPATH.

**What are unit tests?**

A unit test is nothing more than the code wrapper around the application code that can be executed to view pass – fail results.

**When are Unit Tests written in Development Cycle?**

Tests are written before the code during development in order to help coders write the best code. Test-driven development is the ideal way to create a bug free code. When all tests pass, you know you are done! Whenever a test fails or a bug is reported, we must first write the necessary unit test(s) to expose the bug(s), and then fix them. This makes it almost impossible for that particular bug to resurface later.

**How to write a simple Junit test class?**

To write a test case, follow these steps:

1. Define a subclass of TestCase.

2. Override the setUp() method to initialize object(s) under test.

3. Optionally override the tearDown() method to release object(s) under test.

Define one or more public testXYZ() methods that exercise the object(s) under test and assert expected results.

**What Is Junit TestCase?**

JUnit TestCase is the base class, junit.framework.TestCase, that allows you to create a test case. (Although, TestCase class is no longer supported in JUnit 4.4.)

A test case defines the fixture to run multiple tests. To define a test case

-Implement a subclass of TestCase

-Define instance variables that store the state of the fixture

-Initialize the fixture state by overriding setUp

-Clean-up after a test by overriding tearDown

Each test runs in its own fixture so there can be no side effects among test runs.

**What Is Junit TestSuite?**

JUnit TestSuite is a container class under package junit.framework.TestSuite. It allows us to group multiple test cases into a collection and run them together. (JUnit 4.4 does not support TestSuite class now).

**What is Junit Test Fixture?**

A test fixture is a fixed state of a set of objects used as a baseline for running tests. Their purpose is to ensure that there is a well known and fixed environment in which tests are run so that results are repeatable. Examples of fixtures:

• Loading a database with a specific, known set of data

• Copying a specific known set of files

• Preparation of input data and setup/creation of fake or mock objects

If a group of tests shares the same fixtures, you should write a separate setup code to create the common test fixture. If a group of tests requires different test fixtures, you can write code inside the test method to create its own test fixture.

**What happens if a Junit test method is declared as “private”?**

If a Junit test method is declared as “private”, the compilation will pass ok. But the execution will fail. This is because Junit requires that all test methods must be declared as “public”.

**What happens If a Junit test method Is declared to return “String”?**

If a Junit test method is declared to return “String”, the compilation will pass ok. But the execution will fail. This is because Junit requires that all test methods must be declared to return “void”.

**Why not just use system.out.println () for Unit Testing?**

Debugging the code using system.out.println() will lead to manual scanning of the whole output every time the program is run to ensure the code is doing the expected operations. Moreover, in the long run, it takes lesser time to code Junit methods and test them on our files.

**The methods Get () and Set () should be tested for which conditions?**

Unit tests performed on java code should be designed to target areas that might break. Since the set() and get() methods on simple data types are unlikely to break, there is no need to test them explicitly. On the other hand, set() and get() methods on complex data types are vulnerable to break. So they should be tested.

**For which conditions, the methods Get () and Set () can be left out for testing?**

You should do this test to check if a property has already been set (in the constructor) at the point you wish to call getX(). In this case you must test the constructor, and not the getX() method. This kind of test is especially useful if you have multiple constructors.

**Do you need to write a test class for every class that needs to be tested?**

No. We need not write an independent test class for every class that needs to be tested. If there is a small group of tests sharing a common test

fixture, you may move those tests to a new test class. If you have two groups of tests that you think you’d like to execute separately from one another, it is wise to place them in separate test classes.

**How do you test a “protected” method?**

A protected method can only be accessed within the same package where the class is defined. So, testing a protected method of a target class means we need to define your test class in the same package as the target class.

**How do you test a “private” method?**

A private method only be accessed within the same class. So there is no way to test a “private” method of a target class from any test class. A way out is that you can perform unit testing manually or can change your method from “private” to “protected”.

**Do you need to write a main () method compulsorily in a Junit test case class?**

No. But still developers write the main() method in a JUnit test case class to call a JUnit test runner to run all tests defined in this class like:

public static void main(String[] args) {

junit.textui.TestRunner.run(Calculator.class); }

Since you can call a JUnit runner to run a test case class as a system command, explicit main() for a Junit test case is not recommended. junit.textui.TestRunner.run() method takes the test class name as its argument. This method automatically finds all class methods whose name starts with test. Thus it will result in below mentioned findings:

1. testCreateLogFile()

2. testExists()

3. testGetChildList()

It will execute each of the 3 methods in unpredictable sequence (hence test case methods should be independent of each other) and give the result in console.

**What happens if a test method throws an exception?**

If you write a test method that throws an exception by itself or by the method being tested, the JUnit runner will declare that test as fail.

**When objects are garbage collected after a test is executed?**

By design, the tree of Test instances is built in one pass. Then the tests are executed in a second pass. The test runner holds strong references to all Test instances for the duration of the test execution. This means that for a very long test run with many Test instances, none of the tests may be garbage collected until the end of the entire test run. Therefore, if you allocate external or limited resources in a test, you are responsible for freeing those resources. Explicitly setting an object to null in the tearDown() method, for example, allows it to be garbage collected before the end of the entire test run.

**What is Java “assert” statement?**

Java assertions allow the developer to put “assert” statements in Java source code to help unit testing and debugging.

An “assert” statement has the following format:

assert boolean\_expression : string\_expression;

When this statement is executed:

• If boolean\_expression evaluates to true, the statement will pass normally.

• If boolean\_expression evaluates to false, the statement will fail with an “AssertionError” exception.

Helper methods which help to determine if the methods being tested are performing correctly or not

• **assertEquals([String message], expected, actual)** –any kind of object can be used for testing equality –native types and objects, also specify tolerance when checking for equality in case of floating point numbers.

• **assertNull([String message], java.lang.Objectobject)** –asserts that a given object is null

• **assertNotNull([String message], java.lang.Objectobject)** –asserts that a given object isnotnull

• **assertTrue([String message], Boolean condition)** –Asserts that the given Boolean condition is true

• **assertFalse([String message], Boolean condition)** –Asserts that the given Boolean condition is false

• **fail([String message])** –Fails the test immediately with the optional message