

Practice Quiz: Understanding the Problem

TOTAL POINTS 5

1. When a user reports that an "application doesn't work," what is an appropriate follow-up question to gather more information about the problem?

1 / 1 point

- ☐ Is the server plugged in?
- ☐ Why do you need the application?
- ☐ Do you have a support ticket number?
- ☒ What should happen when you open the app?



Correct

Awesome! Asking the user what an expected result should be will help you gather more information to understand and isolate the problem.

2. What is a heisenbug?

1 / 1 point

- ☒ The observer effect.
- ☐ A test environment.
- ☐ The root cause.
- ☐ An event viewer.

✓ **Correct**

Right on! The observer effect is when just observing a phenomenon alters the phenomenon.

3. The `compare_strings` function is supposed to compare just the alphanumeric content of two strings, ignoring upper vs lower case and punctuation. But something is not working. Fill in the code to try to find the problems, then fix the problems.

1 / 1 point

```
2 def compare_strings(string1, string2):
3     #Convert both strings to lowercase
4     #and remove leading and trailing blanks
5     string1 = string1.lower().strip()
6     string2 = string2.lower().strip()
7
8     #Ignore punctuation
9     # punctuation = r"[.?!,:;-']"      #original
10    punctuation = r"[.?!,:;0-9']"      #changed
11    string1 = re.sub(punctuation, r"", string1)
12    string2 = re.sub(punctuation, r"", string2)
13
14    #DEBUG CODE GOES HERE
15    print(string1)
16    print(string2)
17    return string1 == string2
18
19    print(compare_strings("Have a Great Day!", "Have a great day?")) # True
20    print(compare_strings("It's raining again.", "its raining, again")) # True
21    print(compare_strings("Learn to count: 1, 2, 3.", "Learn to count: one, two, three."))
22    print(compare_strings("They found some body.", "They found somebody.")) # False
```

have a great day

```
18
19 print(compare_strings("Have a Great Day!", "Have a great day?")) # True
20 print(compare_strings("It's raining again.", "its raining, again")) # True
21 print(compare_strings("Learn to count: 1, 2, 3.", "Learn to count: one, two, three.")) # True
22 print(compare_strings("They found some body.", "They found somebody.")) # False
```

```
have a great day
have a great day
True
its raining again
its raining again
True
learn to count
learn to count one two three
False
they found some body
they found somebody
False
```

✓ Correct

Great job! These bugs don't stand a chance with you around!

4. How do we verify if a problem is still persisting or not?

1 / 1 point

- ☐ Restart the device or server hardware
- ☒ Attempt to trigger the problem again by following the steps of our reproduction case
- ☐ Repeatedly ask the user
- ☐ Check again later

✓ **Correct**

Woohoo! If we can recreate the circumstances of the issue, we can verify whether the problem continues to occur.

5. The datetime module supplies classes for manipulating dates and times, and contains many types, objects, and methods. You've seen some of them used in the `dow` function, which returns the day of the week for a specific date. We'll use them again in the `next_date` function, which takes the `date_string` parameter in the format of "year-month-day", and uses the `add_year` function to calculate the next year that this date will occur (it's 4 years later for the 29th of February during Leap Year, and 1 year later for all other dates). Then it returns the value in the same format as it receives the date: "year-month-day".

1 / 1 point

Can you find the error in the code? Is it in the `next_date` function or the `add_year` function? How can you determine if the `add_year` function returns what it's supposed to? Add debug lines as necessary to find the problems, then fix the code to work as indicated above.

```
1 import datetime
2 from datetime import date
3
4 def add_year(date_obj):
5     try:
6         new_date_obj = date_obj.replace(year = date_obj.year + 1)
7     except ValueError:
8         # This gets executed when the above method fails,
9         # which means that we're making a Leap Year calculation
10        new_date_obj = date_obj.replace(year = date_obj.year + 4)
11    return new_date_obj
12
13 def next_date(date_string):
14     # Convert the argument from string to date object
15     date_obj = datetime.datetime.strptime(date_string, r"%Y-%m-%d")
16     next_date_obj = add_year(date_obj)
17
18     # Convert the datetime object to string,
19     # in the format of "yyyy-mm-dd"
20     # next_date_string = next_date_obj.strftime("yyyy-mm-dd") #original
21     next_date_string = next_date_obj.strftime("%Y-%m-%d")      #changed
22     return next_date_string
23
```

```
23
24 today = date.today() # Get today's date
25 print(next_date(str(today)))
26 # Should return a year from today, unless today is Leap Day
27
28 print(next_date("2021-01-01")) # Should return 2022-01-01
29 print(next_date("2020-02-29")) # Should return 2024-02-29
```

Run

Reset

2021-07-19
2022-01-01
2024-02-29

✓ **Correct**

Excellent! Debugging multiple functions is more challenging than working with just one function, and you've done it!