**Selenium**

Selenium is a free (open source) automated testing suite for web applications across different browsers and platforms.

Testing done using Selenium tool is usually referred as Selenium Testing.

Selenium is not just a single tool but a suite of software's, each catering to different testing needs of an organization. **It has four components.**

* Selenium Integrated Development Environment (IDE)
* Selenium Remote Control (RC)
* WebDriver
* Selenium Grid

**WebDriver**

The WebDriver proves itself to be **better than both Selenium IDE and Selenium RC** in many aspects. It implements a more modern and stable approach in automating the browser's actions. WebDriver, unlike Selenium RC, does not rely on JavaScript for Automation. **It controls the browser by directly communicating with it.**

The supported languages are the same as those in Selenium RC.

* Java
* C#
* PHP
* Python
* Perl
* Ruby

**Selenium Grid**

Selenium Grid is a tool **used together with Selenium RC to run parallel tests** across different machines and different browsers all at the same time. Parallel execution means running multiple tests at once.

**Features:**

* Enables **simultaneous running of tests** in **multiple browsers and environments.**
* **Saves time**enormously.
* Utilizes the **hub-and-nodes** concept. The hub acts as a central source of Selenium commands to each node connected to it.