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| **Verification** | **Validation** |
| *Definition*  The process of evaluating work-products (not the actual final product) of a development phase to determine whether they meet the specified requirements for that phase. | *Definition*  The process of evaluating software during or at the end of the development process to determine whether it satisfies specified business requirements. |
| *Objective*  To ensure that the product is being built according to the requirements and design specifications. In other words, to ensure that work products meet their specified requirements. | *Objective*  To ensure that the product actually meets the user’s needs, and that the specifications were correct in the first place. In other words, to demonstrate that the product fulfills its intended use when placed in its intended environment. |
| *Question*  Are we building the product *right*? | *Question*  Are we building the *right* product? |
| *Evaluation Items*  Plans, Requirement Specs, Design Specs, Code, Test Cases | *Evaluation Items*  The actual product/software. |
| *Activities*  Reviews, Walkthroughs, Inspections | *Activities*  Testing |