



c Testing React apps

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There are many different ways of testing React applications. Let's take a look at them next.

Tests will be implemented with the same [Jest](#) testing library developed by Facebook that was used in the previous part.

In addition to Jest, we also need another testing library that will help us render components for testing purposes. The current best option for this is [react-testing-library](#) which has seen rapid growth in popularity in recent times.

Let's install libraries with the command:

```
npm install --save-dev @testing-library/react @testing-library/jest-dom jest copy
jest-environment-jasmine @babel/preset-env @babel/preset-react
```

The file `package.json` should be extended as follows:

```
{
  "scripts": {
    // ...
    "test": "jest"
  }
  // ...
  "jest": {
    "testEnvironment": "jsdom"
  }
}
```

We also need the file `.babelrc` with following content:

```
{
  "presets": [
    "@babel/preset-env",
    "@babel/preset-react", { "runtime": "automatic" }
  ]
}
```

Let's first write tests for the component that is responsible for rendering a note:

```
const Note = ({ note, toggleImportance }) => {
  const label = note.important
  ? 'make not important'
  : 'make important'

  return (
    <li className='note'>
      {note.content}
      <button onClick={toggleImportance}>{label}</button>
    </li>
  )
}
```

Notice that the `li` element has the [CSS](#) classname `note`, that could be used to access the component in our tests.

Rendering the component for tests

We will write our test in the `src/components/Note.test.js` file, which is in the same directory as the component itself.

The first test verifies that the component renders the contents of the note:

```
import React from 'react'
import '@testing-library/jest-dom'
import { render, screen } from '@testing-library/react'
import Note from './Note'

test('renders content', () => {
  const note = {
    content: 'Component testing is done with react-testing-library',
    important: true
  }

  render(<Note note={note} />)

  const element = screen.getByText('Component testing is done with react-testing-library')
  expect(element).toBeInTheDocument()
})
```

After the initial configuration, the test renders the component with the `render` function provided by the react-testing-library:

```
render(<Note note={note} />)
```

Normally React components are rendered to the `DOM`. The `render` method we used renders the components in a format that is suitable for tests without rendering them to the `DOM`.

We can use the object `screen` to access the rendered component. We use `screen`'s method `getByText` to search for an element that has the note content and ensure that it exists:

```
const element = screen.getByText('Component testing is done with react-testing-library')
expect(element).toBeInTheDocument()
```

Run the test with command `npm test`:

```
$ npm test
> notes-frontend@0.0.0 test
> jest

PASS  src/components/Note.test.js
  ✓ renders content (15 ms)

Test Suites: 1 passed, 1 total
Tests:       1 passed, 1 total
Snapshots:  0 total
Time:        1.152 s
```

As expected, the test passes.

NB: the console may issue a warning if you have not installed Watchman. Watchman is an application developed by Facebook that watches for changes that are made to files. The program speeds up the execution of tests and at least starting from macOS Sierra, running tests in watch mode issues some warnings to the console, that can be removed by installing Watchman.

Instructions for installing Watchman on different operating systems can be found on the official Watchman website: <https://facebook.github.io/watchman/>

Test file location

In React there are (at least) two different conventions for the test file's location. We created our test files according to the current standard by placing them in the same directory as the component being tested.

The other convention is to store the test files "normally" in a separate `test` directory. Whichever convention we choose, it is almost guaranteed to be wrong according to someone's opinion.

I do not like this way of storing tests and application code in the same directory. The reason we choose to follow this convention is that it is configured by default in applications created by `create-react-app`.

Searching for content in a component

The react-testing-library package offers many different ways of investigating the content of the component being tested. In reality, the `expect` in our test is not needed at all

```
import React from 'react'
import '@testing-library/jest-dom'
import { render, screen } from '@testing-library/react'
import Note from './Note'

test('renders content', () => {
  const note = {
    content: 'Component testing is done with react-testing-library',
    important: true
  }

  render(<Note note={note} />)

  const element = screen.getByText('Component testing is done with react-testing-library')
  expect(element).toBeInTheDocument()
})
```

Test fails if `getByText` does not find the element it is looking for.

We could also use CSS-selectors to find rendered elements by using the method `querySelector` of the object `container` that is one of the fields returned by the render:

```
import React from 'react'
import '@testing-library/jest-dom'
import { render, screen } from '@testing-library/react'
import Note from './Note'

test('renders content', () => {
  const note = {
    content: 'Component testing is done with react-testing-library',
    important: true
  }

  const { container } = render(<Note note={note} />)

  const div = container.querySelector('.note')
  expect(div).toHaveTextContent(
    'Component testing is done with react-testing-library'
  )
})
```

NB: A more consistent way of selecting elements is using a data attribute that is specifically defined for testing purposes. Using `react-testing-library`, we can leverage the `getByTestId` method to select elements with a specified `data-testid` attribute.

Debugging tests

We typically run into many different kinds of problems when writing our tests.

Object `screen` has method `debug` that can be used to print the HTML of a component to the terminal. If we change the test as follows:

```
import React from 'react'
import '@testing-library/jest-dom'
import { render, screen } from '@testing-library/react'
import Note from './Note'

test('renders content', () => {
  const note = {
    content: 'Component testing is done with react-testing-library',
    important: true
  }

  render(<Note note={note} />)
  screen.debug()
  // ...
})
```

the HTML gets printed to the console:

```
console.log
<body>
  <div>
    <li>
      <li class="note">
        > Component testing is done with react-testing-library
    </li>
  </div>
</body>
```

```

<button>
  make not important
</button>
</li>
</div>
</body>

```

It is also possible to use the same method to print a wanted element to console:

```

import React from 'react'
import '@testing-library/jest-dom'
import { render, screen } from '@testing-library/react'
import Note from './Note'

test('renders content', () => {
  const note = {
    content: 'Component testing is done with react-testing-library',
    important: true
  }

  render(<Note note={note} />)

  const element = screen.getByText('Component testing is done with react-testing-library')
  screen.debug(element)
  expect(element).toBeDefined()
})

```

Now the HTML of the wanted element gets printed:

```

<i
  class="note"
>
  Component testing is done with react-testing-library
<button>
  make not important
</button>
</i>

```

Clicking buttons in tests

In addition to displaying content, the `Note` component also makes sure that when the button associated with the note is pressed, the `toggleImportance` event handler function gets called.

Let us install a library `user-event` that makes simulating user input a bit easier:

```
npm install --save-dev @testing-library/user-event
```

Testing this functionality can be accomplished like this:

```

import React from 'react'
import '@testing-library/jest-dom'
import { render, screen } from '@testing-library/react'
import userEvent from '@testing-library/user-event'
import Note from './Note'

// ...

test('clicking the button calls event handler once', async () => {
  const note = {
    content: 'Component testing is done with react-testing-library',
    important: true
  }

  const mockHandler = jest.fn()

  render(
    <Note note={note} toggleImportance={mockHandler} />
  )

  const user = userEvent.setup()
  const button = screen.getByText('make not important')
  await user.click(button)

  expect(mockHandler.mock.calls).toHaveLength(1)
})

```

There are a few interesting things related to this test. The event handler is a `mock function` defined with Jest:

```
const mockHandler = jest.fn()
```

A session is started to interact with the rendered component:

```
const user = userEvent.setup()
```

The test finds the button *based on the text* from the rendered component and clicks the element:

```
const button = screen.getByText('make not important')
await user.click(button)
```

Clicking happens with the method `click` of the `userEvent`-library.

The expectation of the test verifies that the `mock function` has been called exactly once.

```
expect(mockHandler.mock.calls).toHaveLength(1)
```

Mock objects and functions are commonly used stub components in testing that are used for replacing dependencies of the components being tested. Mocks make it possible to return hardcoded responses, and to verify the number of times the mock functions are called and with what parameters.

In our example, the mock function is a perfect choice since it can be easily used for verifying that the method gets called exactly once.

Tests for the `Toggable` component

Let's write a few tests for the `Toggable` component. Let's add the `toggableContent` CSS classname to the div that returns the child components.

```

const Toggable = forwardRef((props, ref) => {
  // ...
  return (

```

```

    <div>
      <div style={hideWhenVisible}>
        <button onClick={toggleVisibility}>
          {props.buttonLabel}
        </button>
      </div>
      <div style={showWhenVisible} className="toggableContent">
        {props.children}
        <button onClick={toggleVisibility}>cancel</button>
      </div>
    </div>
  )
}

```

The tests are shown below:

```

import React from 'react'
import '@testing-library/jest-dom'
import { render, screen } from '@testing-library/react'
import userEvent from '@testing-library/user-event'
import Toggable from './Toggable'

describe('<Toggable />', () => {
  let container

  beforeEach(() => {
    container = render(
      <Toggable buttonLabel="show...">
        <div className="testDiv" >
          toggable content
        </div>
      </Toggable>
    ).container
  })

  test('renders its children', async () => {
    await screen.findAllByText('toggable content')
  })

  test('at start the children are not displayed', () => {
    const div = container.querySelector('.toggableContent')
    expect(div).toHaveStyle('display: none')
  })

  test('after clicking the button, children are displayed', async () => {
    const user = userEvent.setup()
    const button = screen.getByText('show...')
    await user.click(button)

    const div = container.querySelector('.toggableContent')
    expect(div).not.toHaveStyle('display: none')
  })
})

```

The `beforeEach` function gets called before each test, which then renders the `Toggable` component and saves the field `container` of the return value.

The first test verifies that the `Toggable` component renders its child component

```

<div className="testDiv">
  toggable content
</div>

```

The remaining tests use the `toHaveStyle` method to verify that the child component of the `Toggable` component is not visible initially, by checking that the style of the `div` element contains `{ display: 'none' }`. Another test verifies that when the button is pressed the component is visible, meaning that the style for hiding the component is no longer assigned to the component.

Let's also add a test that can be used to verify that the visible content can be hidden by clicking the second button of the component:

```

describe('<Toggable />', () => {
  // ...

  test('toggled content can be closed', async () => {
    const user = userEvent.setup()
    const button = screen.getByText('show...')
    await user.click(button)

    const closeButton = screen.getByText('cancel')
    await user.click(closeButton)

    const div = container.querySelector('.toggableContent')
    expect(div).toHaveStyle('display: none')
  })
})

```

Testing the forms

We already used the `click` function of the `userEvent` in our previous tests to click buttons.

```

const user = userEvent.setup()
const button = screen.getByText('show...')
await user.click(button)

```

We can also simulate text input with `userEvent`.

Let's make a test for the `NoteForm` component. The code of the component is as follows.

```

import { useState } from 'react'
const NoteForm = ({ createNote }) => {
  const [newNote, setNewNote] = useState('')
  const handleChange = (event) => {
    setNewNote(event.target.value)
  }

  const addNote = (event) => {
    event.preventDefault()
    createNote({
      content: newNote,
      important: Math.random() > 0.5,
    })
    setNewNote('')
  }

  return (
    <div className="formDiv">
      <h2>Create a new note</h2>
      <form onSubmit={addNote}>
        <input
          value={newNote}
          onChange={handleChange}
        />
        <button type="submit">Save</button>
      </form>
    </div>
  )
}

```

```

        </div>
    }
}

export default NoteForm

```

The form works by calling the `createNote` function it received as props with the details of the new note.

The test is as follows:

```

import React from 'react'
import { render, screen } from '@testing-library/react'
import '@testing-library/jest-dom'
import NoteForm from './NoteForm'
import userEvent from '@testing-library/user-event'

test(`<NoteForm /> updates parent state and calls onSubmit`, async () => {
  const createNote = jest.fn()
  const user = userEvent.setup()

  render(<NoteForm createNote={createNote} />)

  const input = screen.getByRole('textbox')
  const sendButton = screen.getByText('save')

  await user.type(input, 'testing a form...')
  await user.click(sendButton)

  expect(createNote.mock.calls).toHaveLength(1)
  expect(createNote.mock.calls[0][0].content).toBe('testing a form...')
})

```

Tests get access to the input field using the function `getByRole`.

The method `type` of the `userEvent` is used to write text to the input field.

The first test expectation ensures that submitting the form calls the `createNote` method. The second expectation checks that the event handler is called with the right parameters - that a note with the correct content is created when the form is filled.

About finding the elements

Let us assume that the form has two input fields

```

const NoteForm = ({ createNote }) => {
// ...

return (
  <div>
    <h2>Create a new note</h2>
    <form onSubmit={addNote}>
      <input
        value={newNote}
        onChange={handleChange}
      />
      <input
        value={...}
        onChange={...}
      />
      <button type="submit">save</button>
    </form>
  </div>
)
}

```

Now the approach that our test uses to find the input field

```
const input = screen.getByRole('textbox')
```

would cause an error:

```

FAIL src/components/NoteForm.test.js
● <NoteForm /> updates parent state and calls onSubmit

TestingLibraryElementError: Found multiple elements with the role "textbox"

  Here are the matching elements:

  Ignored nodes: comments, <script />, <style />
  <input
    value=""
  />

  Ignored nodes: comments, <script />, <style />
  <input />

  (If this is intentional, then use the `*AllBy*` variant of the query (like
queryAllByText`, `getAllByText`, or `findAllByText`)).

```

The error message suggests using `getAllByRole`. The test could be fixed as follows:

```

const inputs = screen.getAllByRole('textbox')
await user.type(inputs[0], 'testing a form...')

```

Method `getAllByRole` now returns an array and the right input field is the first element of the array. However, this approach is a bit suspicious since it relies on the order of the input fields.

Quite often input fields have a `placeholder` text that hints user what kind of input is expected. Let us add a placeholder to our form:

```

const NoteForm = ({ createNote }) => {
// ...

return (
  <div>
    <h2>Create a new note</h2>
    <form onSubmit={addNote}>
      <input
        value={newNote}
        onChange={handleChange}
        placeholder='write note content here'
      />
      <input
        value={...}
        onChange={...}
      />
      <button type="submit">save</button>
    </form>
  </div>
)
}

```

Now finding the right input field is easy with the method `getByPlaceholderText`:

```
test('<NoteForm /> updates parent state and calls onSubmit', () => {
  const createNote = jest.fn()
  render(<NoteForm createNote={createNote} />)
  const input = screen.getByPlaceholderText('write note content here')
  const sendButton = screen.getByText('save')
  userEvent.type(input, 'testing a form...')
  userEvent.click(sendButton)
  expect(createNote.mock.calls).toHaveLength(1)
  expect(createNote.mock.calls[0][0].content).toBe('testing a form...')
})
```

The most flexible way of finding elements in tests is the method `querySelector` of the `container` object, which is returned by `render`, as was mentioned earlier in this part. Any CSS selector can be used with this method for searching elements in tests.

Consider eg. that we would define a unique `id` to the input field:

```
const NoteForm = ({ createNote }) => {
  // ...
  return (
    <div>
      <h2>Create a new note</h2>
      <form onSubmit={addNote}>
        <input
          value={newNote}
          onChange={handleChange}
          id="note-input"
        />
        <input
          value={...}
          onChange={...}
        />
        <button type="submit">save</button>
      </form>
    </div>
  )
}
```

The input element could now be found in the test as follows:

```
const { container } = render(<NoteForm createNote={createNote} />)
const input = container.querySelector('#note-input')
```

However, we shall stick to the approach of using `getByPlaceholderText` in the test.

Let us look at a couple of details before moving on. Let us assume that a component would render text to an HTML element as follows:

```
const Note = ({ note, toggleImportance }) => {
  const label = note.important
    ? 'make not important'
    : 'make important'

  return (
    <li className="note">
      Your awesome note: {note.content}
      <button onClick={toggleImportance}>{label}</button>
    </li>
  )
}

export default Note
```

the `getByText` command that the test uses does *not* find the element

```
test('renders content', () => {
  const note = {
    content: 'Does not work anymore :(',
    important: true
  }

  render(<Note note={note} />)
  const element = screen.getByText('Does not work anymore :(')
  expect(element).toBeDefined()
})
```

Command `getByText` looks for an element that has the **same text** that it has as a parameter, and nothing more. If we want to look for an element that *contains* the text, we could use an extra option:

```
const element = screen.getByText(
  'Does not work anymore :(', { exact: false }
)
```

or we could use the command `findByText`:

```
const element = await screen.findByText('Does not work anymore :(')
```

It is important to notice that, unlike the other `ByText` commands, `findByText` returns a promise!

There are situations where yet another form of the command `queryByText` is useful. The command returns the element but *it does not cause an exception* if the element is not found.

We could eg. use the command to ensure that something *is not rendered* to the component:

```
test('does not render this', () => {
  const note = {
    content: 'This is a reminder',
    important: true
  }

  render(<Note note={note} />)
  const element = screen.queryByText('do not want this thing to be rendered')
  expect(element).toBeNull()
})
```

Test coverage

We can easily find out the `coverage` of our tests by running them with the command.

```
npm test -- --coverage --collectCoverageFrom='src/**/*.{js,jsx}'
```

copy

```
> notes-Frontend@0.0.0 test
> jest --coverage

PASS  src/components/Note.test.js
PASS  src/components/Toggleable.test.js
PASS  src/components/NoteForm.test.js
-----
File      |  % Stats | % Branch | % Funcs | % Lines | Uncovered Line #
-----
All files |  95.45 |  83.33 |  85.71 |  95.45 |
Note.jsx  |   100 |    50 |   100 |   100 |  2
NoteForm.jsx |   100 |    100 |   100 |   100 |  0
Toggleable.jsx |  90.9 |   100 |  66.66 |  90.9 |  15
-----
Test Suites: 3 passed, 3 total
Tests:       7 passed, 7 total
Snapshots:   0 total
Time:        1.56 s, estimated 2 s
Run all test suites.
```

A quite primitive HTML report will be generated to the `coverage/lcov-report` directory. The report will tell us the lines of untested code in each component:

All files Toggleable.jsx

90.9% Statements (8/8) 100% Branches (2/2) 66.66% Functions (3/4) 90.9% Lines (16/18)

Press n or j to go to the next uncovered block, b, p or k for the previous block.

```
1 import PropTypes from 'prop-types'
2 import { useState, useImperativeHandle, forwardRef } from 'react'
3
4 const Toggleable = forwardRef(props, ref) => {
5   const [visible, setVisible] = useState(false)
6
7   const toggleVisibility = () => setVisible(!visible);
8   const showWhenVisible = { display: visible ? '' : 'none' }
9
10  const toggleVisibility = () => {
11    setVisible(visible)
12  }
13
14  useImperativeHandle(ref, () => {
15    return {
16      toggleVisibility
17    }
18  })
19}
```

You can find the code for our current application in its entirety in the `part5-8` branch of this [GitHub repository](#).

Exercises 5.13.-5.16.

5.13: Blog list tests, step1

Make a test, which checks that the component displaying a blog renders the blog's title and author, but does not render its URL or number of likes by default.

Add CSS classes to the component to help the testing as necessary.

5.14: Blog list tests, step2

Make a test, which checks that the blog's URL and number of likes are shown when the button controlling the shown details has been clicked.

5.15: Blog list tests, step3

Make a test, which ensures that if the `like` button is clicked twice, the event handler the component received as props is called twice.

5.16: Blog list tests, step4

Make a test for the new blog form. The test should check, that the form calls the event handler it received as props with the right details when a new blog is created.

Frontend integration tests

In the previous part of the course material, we wrote integration tests for the backend that tested its logic and connected the database through the API provided by the backend. When writing these tests, we made the conscious decision not to write unit tests, as the code for that backend is fairly simple, and it is likely that bugs in our application occur in more complicated scenarios than unit tests are well suited for.

So far all of our tests for the frontend have been unit tests that have validated the correct functioning of individual components. Unit testing is useful at times, but even a comprehensive suite of unit tests is not enough to validate that the application works as a whole.

We could also make integration tests for the frontend. Integration testing tests the collaboration of multiple components. It is considerably more difficult than unit testing, as we would have to for example mock data from the server. We chose to concentrate on making end-to-end tests to test the whole application. We will work on the end-to-end tests in the last chapter of this part.

Snapshot testing

Jest offers a completely different alternative to "traditional" testing called `snapshot testing`. The interesting feature of snapshot testing is that developers do not need to define any tests themselves, it is simple enough to adopt snapshot testing.

The fundamental principle is to compare the HTML code defined by the component after it has changed to the HTML code that existed before it was changed.

If the snapshot notices some change in the HTML defined by the component, then either it is new functionality or a "bug" caused by accident. Snapshot tests notify the developer if the HTML code of the component changes. The developer has to tell Jest if the change was desired or undesired. If the change to the HTML code is unexpected, it strongly implies a bug, and the developer can become aware of these potential issues easily thanks to snapshot testing.

[Propose changes to material](#)



[HOUSTON]

