The data may be in any form like:

* System test data
* SQL test data
* Performance test data
* XML test data

If you are writing test cases then you need input data for any kind of test. The tester may provide this input data at the time of executing the test cases or application may pick the required input data from the predefined data locations.

One of the areas in test data generation, the testers consider is data sourcing requirement for sub-set. For instance, you have over one million customers, and you need one thousand of them for testing. And this sample data should be consistent and statistically represent the appropriate distribution of the targeted group. In other words, we are supposed to find the right person to test, which is one of the most useful methods of testing the use cases.