1. Basics of API Testing

**Understanding What API Testing Is and Why It's Important**

* **Definition**: API testing verifies the functionality, performance, reliability, and security of application programming interfaces (APIs).
* **Importance**:
  + **Early Detection of Issues**: Identifying problems before they affect the user interface reduces the cost and time of fixing bugs.
  + **Validation of Business Logic**: Ensures that the logic implemented in the API is correct and returns the expected results.
  + **Interoperability**: Confirms that APIs interact correctly with different systems and services.
  + **Performance**: Assesses response times and load capabilities to ensure the API can handle expected traffic.