

**My partner's email is no longer sending. I'm most likely to...**

- A. Send a test mail
- B. Try turning (something) on and off again
- C. Look at the server logs

**I'd prefer to pair with:**

- A. A Coder
- B. A DBA
- C. A Systems Architect

**On a safety-critical project, I'd find it most difficult to be...**

- A. A rule-breaker
- B. A decision-maker
- C. A risk-taker

**I overcame my most significant software testing challenge with...**

- A. Software
- B. People
- C. Process

## **Regression Testing is mostly to...**

- A. Demonstrate testing process and working software to regulators
- B. Look for bugs that have been fixed, but that have returned
- C. Find unexpected problems in areas unrelated to the known changes

## **I'd prefer to pair with:**

- A. An astronaut
- B. A lion tamer
- C. A deep-sea diver

## **I tend to prioritise...**

- A. Work
- B. Play
- C. Testing

## **My worst moment in testing...**

- A. Was my own fault
- B. Was an accident
- C. Was because of someone else's mistake

## **The software's not arrived. To do useful work, I'd rather...**

- A. Read the docs
- B. Plan my testing
- C. Research the use cases

## **I'd prefer to pair with:**

- A. A customer
- B. A user
- C. An operator

## **Why am I still a tester?**

- A. For the LOLs
- B. I can make a positive contribution to society
- C. It suits my personality

## **My worst decision in testing**

- A. Didn't matter after all
- B. Turned out rather well, considering
- C. Haunts me, even now.

### **I prefer my tools to be...**

- A. Easy to pick up from scratch
- B. Easy to use with other tools
- C. Easy to explain

### **I'd prefer to pair with:**

- A. A writer
- B. A dancer
- C. An athlete

### **My testing spirit animal is...**

- A. A polar bear
- B. A walrus
- C. A penguin

### **After three hours unsuccessfully looking for bugs, I might...**

- A. Have a coffee and go look again
- B. Go celebrate
- C. Find someone who tests in a very different way from me

**If I'd tested its control system, I'd be most at ease...**

- A. Walking in front of a self-driving car
- B. As a passenger in a autopiloted plane
- C. Monitoring a radiation therapy machine

**I prefer my team mates to be:**

- A. Generous
- B. Enthusiastic
- C. Empathetic

**I'd rather use...**

- A. A conversation
- B. A document
- C. An idea

**My best moment in testing...**

- A. Was a surprise
- B. Was nothing to do with me
- C. Echoes in eternity

**I'd prefer to be able to see a week into the future of...**

- A. The bug list
- B. The code
- C. The configuration and data

**I prefer my team mates to be:**

- A. Inventive
- B. Scientific
- C. Good communicators

**I'd rather test:**

- A. A VR headset
- B. A personal assistant
- C. A domestic robot

**You'd be most likely to catch my attention with...**

- A. A bug that can't be reproduced
- B. A user report detailing iOS UI niggles
- C. A stack trace related to a known crash

**I tend to prioritise fixes that address...**

- A. Crashes and hangs
- B. Data loss
- C. Customer complaints

**I prefer my team mates to be:**

- A. Reliable
- B. Rational
- C. Cultured

**I'd rather test:**

- A. Music generation software
- B. Poetry generation software
- C. Painting software

**You'd be most likely to catch my attention with...**

- A. A tool to automate an interface for the first time
- B. A novel way to get data into the system
- C. A collection of pathological .pdfs

### **I tend to prioritise opportunities to...**

- A. Explore newly-delivered code
- B. Try odd configurations and environments
- C. Diagnose reported bugs

### **I prefer my team mates to be:**

- A. Surprising
- B. Interesting
- C. Open

### **I'd rather work on a project with...**

- A. No bugs
- B. No deadlines
- C. No users

### **When I get back to work after a conference...**

- A. I add all my new contacts on LinkedIn
- B. I tell my colleagues all about it
- C. I submit abstracts for the next conference



**My team is making a replacement for an existing system, including its known bugs.**

- A. I go look for new bugs in the old system
- B. I add all known bugs as features
- C. I ask the users which bugs they want

**I'd prefer to pair with:**

- A. Someone I've never met before
- B. An old, non-testing friend
- C. A skilled tester who I respect, but fundamentally disagree with

**My supplier has twice as many testers as coders. Is this...**

- A. Trouble
- B. Delightful
- C. A chance to network

**You'd be most likely to catch my attention with...**

- A. A zero-day exploit for a device I don't use
- B. A new document management standard
- C. Cool Regex

**I read other people's tests to help me to understand...**

- A. The product
- B. The coders
- C. The users

**I'd prefer to pair with:**

- A. A musician
- B. A farmer
- C. A banker

**What's closest to my reason for testing?**

- A. To find trouble
- B. To give confidence
- C. To pay the bills

**Don't talk to me when I'm ...**

- A. Eating
- B. Explaining something
- C. Concentrating

### **My testing backlog is typically...**

- A. Under my complete control
- B. Open to suggestions
- C. Filled up by everyone else

### **I'd prefer to spend time with:**

- A. A group of frustrated users
- B. A group of bored coders
- C. A group of overconfident consultants

### **I'd rather test with**

- A. Odin
- B. Loki
- C. Thor

### **When I'm testing their work, my coders are most likely to be...**

- A. Concentrating on something else
- B. Sat next to me and fixing stuff
- C. Trying to persuade me that it's fine

### **I'd rather use a ...**

- A. Load generator
- B. Graphing tool
- C. A Fuzzer

### **I'd like to improve my...**

- A. Attitude
- B. Altitude
- C. Amplitude

### **My favourite bias would be...**

- A. Confirmation bias
- B. Ludic fallacy
- C. The Dunning-Kruger effect

### **Shark vs Polar bear?**

- A. Bear
- B. Shark
- C. Huh?

### **I'd rather automate...**

- A. Data generation
- B. The UI
- C. Output comparison

### **I'd be happiest if I could...**

- A. Talk more easily to my stakeholders
- B. Talk more persuasively with my coders
- C. Talk more accurately with my team

### **I find that I don't like someone I'm working with. I...**

- A. Change my job
- B. Change the person
- C. Change my attitude

### **Testers?**

- A. Necessary
- B. Optional
- C. Luxuriant

### **I'd rather read...**

- A. The logs
- B. The comments
- C. The manual

### **I think testers are more often...**

- A. Under appreciated by their colleagues
- B. Underwhelmed by the excellence of their product
- C. Under the influence of alien intelligences

### **My team's product backlog is typically...**

- A. Ever-increasing until violently axed
- B. Never more than a handful of items
- C. A black hole – anything close gets sucked in, nothing gets out

### **I'd rather have the following named after me...**

- A. A test technique
- B. An award
- C. A common failure

### **I'd rather have access to...**

- A. Static code analysis
- B. Code coverage analysis
- C. Diff records of who changed what, and when

### **I can't imagine...**

- A. Why anyone wouldn't want to fix that bug
- B. How our users are going to accept this
- C. What the systems architect was thinking

### **Items on our product backlog are...**

- A. Often over a year old
- B. Culled regularly
- C. Lost forever

### **I'd rather name...**

- A. The product
- B. An idea
- C. The price

**If I could test anything, I'd rather test...**

- A. A winning Go robot
- B. An AI specialising in medical diagnosis
- C. The control system for a Mars rover

**Pedantry:**

- A. Necessary
- B. Evil
- C. A necessary evil

**Strategy is...**

- A. Constant in changing circumstances
- B. Dependent on context
- C. Generally obsolete and mostly irrelevant

**I'd rather be...**

- A. Confident
- B. Competent
- C. Content



## **I find the most interesting things when testing in...**

- A. My local machine
- B. A newly set up virtualised environment
- C. Production

## **I'd rather test with...**

- A. Shaggy
- B. Scooby
- C. Velma

## **I'd prefer to work...**

- A. At a shared desk with the coders
- B. In a temporary office with the testers
- C. In a busy cafe, over Skype and Slack

## **I prefer:**

- A. Starts
- B. Middles
- C. Ends

### **I'd rather test software written...**

- A. In JavaScript by coders who were drunk
- B. In Haskell by coders with very high IQs
- C. In machine code, in the 60s

### **I'd rather test with:**

- A. Batman
- B. Spider-Man
- C. Buffy

### **I prefer my team mates to be...**

- A. At desks around mine
- B. Available over Skype any time during the working day
- C. Mainly on Slack

### **I prefer...**

- A. Process
- B. Progress
- C. Problems

## **I'd be most interested to get involved in testing software to help people to...**

- A. Communicate without need for the internet
- B. Get medical assistance in remote areas
- C. Deliver humanitarian aid in emergencies

## **I'd rather test with...**

- A. Theresa May
- B. Angela Merkel
- C. Emmanuel Macron

## **I'd rather have a colleague who is great at...**

- A. Navigating organisational politics
- B. Finding just the right data in the live extract
- C. Making me laugh

## **You'd be most likely to catch my attention with...**

- A. A graph of spikes in response times
- B. A visualisation of the code
- C. A picture of user flow through the system

**I'd be least happy to test a system that...**

- A. Helped cars cheat emission tests
- B. Recognised and hid from the police
- C. Improved weapon efficiency

**I'd rather test with...**

- A. Grace Hopper
- B. Doug Engelbart
- C. Margaret Hamilton

**I think my organisation's greatest power is its ability to...**

- A. Beat the competition
- B. Serve its customers
- C. Build good teams

**You might not want to ask me about...**

- A. Testing vs Checking
- B. Best Practices
- C. TDD vs BDD

**To help me test, I'd love to get skilled in...**

- A. AI and Machine Learning
- B. Docker / Ansible
- C. Statistics and Big Data

**I'd rather test with:**

- A. Ada Lovelace
- B. Alan Turing
- C. Steve Jobs

**I'd do a better job with more...**

- A. Time
- B. Money and people
- C. Access

**For the company halloween party, I come dressed as...**

- A. A server crash
- B. A failed disk
- C. A missed requirement

### **I'd prefer to test...**

- A. A Wordpress template for artist portfolios
- B. A web app for an advertising company
- C. A hand-made HTML site for my village football team

### **I'd like to regularly...**

- A. Bake a cake for my team
- B. Summarise interesting testing blogs
- C. Celebrate this week's biggest bug

### **My org wants more features. I want...**

- A. More testers
- B. More time
- C. A quieter life

### **I'd prefer to chat about...**

- A. Testing
- B. People
- C. Tech

## **Manual Testing is...**

- A. A tautology
- B. An oxymoron
- C. Skilled, hard and useful

## **I'd rather be...**

- A. The only tester on a team using BDD to build a medical records system
- B. One of three testers on an team delivering in-house accounting software
- C. One of a warehouse of testers hammering a blockbuster online game

## **I'd like to swap places with a tester**

- A. On an oil rig
- B. In the secret service
- C. Of fine wines and first-class travel

## **If testing was a substance, it would be mostly**

- A. Swirling and foggy
- B. Sticky Jelly
- C. Expanding and foamy

### **On my current system, I'd rather use...**

- A. Data from production, re-imported monthly
- B. Data designed to exercise edge cases, unchanged for three years
- C. Minimal data, cleared down for each test

### **A group of testers is most often like...**

- A. A constellation
- B. A fog
- C. A line

### **My organisation has helped me to**

- A. Get to know the customers
- B. Increase my skills
- C. Interact with my industry

### **Sometimes, testers don't seem to notice...**

- A. The time
- B. The weather
- C. The state of their desks



### **My nightmare test target is...**

- A. Obsolete, but with an entrenched and dissatisfied user base
- B. Being continually developed in at least three cutting-edge technologies
- C. Already very satisfactory for most users

### **Bugs and testers are like...**

- A. Ants and aardvarks
- B. Bees and beekeepers
- C. Cars and Cops

### **I have the best connections with...**

- A. Testers and coders
- B. Management and administrators
- C. Customers, end users and support

### **My highlight in a Museum of Testing would be...**

- A. A build-your-own-code interactive exhibit
- B. A broken cog from Babbage's Difference Engine
- C. A toasted bug from ENIAC 1

### **On a legacy project, I'd be most likely to**

- A. Start each day with a smile
- B. Make sure any bugs were carefully and completely documented
- C. Automate anything

### **I find I can motivate my coders with...**

- A. Clear descriptions of new and relevant bugs
- B. New tests, with data ready to drop into their unit testing harnesses
- C. Biscuits and listening

### **A new starter on our test team**

- A. Finds a bug on day 1
- B. Gets a login on day 1
- C. Spends day 1 in induction with HR

### **My approach to testing most resembles the way I ...**

- A. Drive a car
- B. Make friends
- C. Cook a meal

# Questions For Testers

To trigger conversations and  
build connections.

Make a group. Distribute cards. Take turns. Each turn, one of you reads a question, and its options, out loud – then chooses one option, privately.

The reader may give points to anyone who predicts (or sways) their choice.

Points are pointless.

*Questions for Testers v1.1*

*[github.com/workroomprds/QuestionsForTesters](https://github.com/workroomprds/QuestionsForTesters)*

*This set made by @workroomprds*