

Sample Questions ISTQB Foundation Answers

Questions Prepared By



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Question	Answer	Explanation / Rationale	Learning Objective (LO)	Number of Points
1	C	C is correct. This is a defect that directly causes harm to the environment. A is not correct because the unhappy user is not actually harmed by the defect. B is not correct because the slow response time is not resulting in direct harm. D may be annoying but it's not causing harm. See also section 5.5.2.	FL-1.1.1	1
2	C	C is correct. Lessons learned from other projects, when used to improve processes, improves system quality of future projects. A is not correct because rotations may be useful for other issues but minimally effective in preventing defects. B is not correct because the environmental conditions would either have to be fixed or the code would have to be fixed to handle the environment issues in order to reduce reoccurrence of the same problems. D is not correct because a higher priority may get them fixed faster, but it won't help prevent their occurrence in the first place. See also section 1.1.4.	FL-1.1.2	1
3	D	D is correct. The goal of acceptance testing is to build confidence that the software meets the needs of the stakeholders. Finding defects during this level of testing is not a goal and should not happen if the previous levels of testing have been completed successfully. See also section 2.2.4.	FL-1.2.2	1
4	A	A is correct. Identifying failures during testing can be perceived as criticism so the approach must be presented in a constructive manner. B is not correct because cooperation and a more democratic approach is usually needed. The tester is rarely in a position to make the final decision without input. C and D are not correct because these traits are irrelevant.	FL-1.5.2	1
5	C	C is correct. System integration testing is done when systems of software need to work together. System testing should be completed on each of the systems prior to integrating them together and conducting system integration testing.	FL-2.1.2	1
6	C	C is correct. This occurs as the code is being developed. A is not correct because this is a technique that validates software working with particular hardware and is usually performed by testers. B is not correct as this is performed by users that represent the business. D is not correct because this tests data conversion from one system to another and is usually performed by testers.	FL-2.2.1	1
7	D	D is correct. Maintainability testing is conducted to determine if the software can be maintained by the	FL-2.3.3	2

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		developers for updates, changes and modifications. Analyzability is a sub-characteristic of maintainability. See also ISO 9126 for the software quality characteristics, including maintainability.		
8	D	D is correct. A good set of regression tests should require little or no maintenance and should be reusable across multiple releases. A is not correct because while the tests may test intricate aspects of the software that are difficult to test (particularly with automated regression tests) this is not the primary focus. B is not correct because the tests should not require much maintenance between releases so the re-usability is high. C is not correct because re-usability is key. See section 2.3.4.	FL-2.3.6	1
9	C	C is correct. When a component of software that is in production is changed (modified, migrated, retired), maintenance testing is required. In this case something has been removed (maybe retired or just modified) so testing is required to make sure the remaining software is unaffected.	FL-2.4.1	1
10	A	A is correct. Either manual reviews or automated analysis occur early in the lifecycle. B, C, & D all occur later, after development of code. See also section 3.3.	FL-3.1.2	1
11	C	C is correct. A walkthrough is when the author is leading the review and walking the participants through the document that is being reviewed. A and B would both be led by a moderator. D normally doesn't have a leader and is more an informal discussion.	FL-3.2.2	2
12	B	B is correct. The purpose and structure of the meeting should be communicated. A is not correct because it goes opposite to the objective of the review which is to find, ideally, all the defects in the document. C is incorrect as this can promote a demotivating behavior if people don't want to point out defects in their co-worker's documents. D is incorrect because the review should be limited to the right people, not everyone.	FL-3.2.3	2
13	A	A is correct. The expected results should be identified as the steps of the test case (test procedure) are defined. B is not correct because it will be too easy to accept the result as the expected result, even though it might not be correct. C and D are not correct because this is too early to know exactly what a particular test case will do.	FL-4.1.3	1
14	D	D is correct. The decision table contains the triggering conditions, often combinations of true and false for all input conditions, and the resulting actions for each combination of conditions. A is not correct because it focuses on the relationship between states and inputs, highlighting transitions that are invalid. B is not correct because inputs are divided into equivalence classes where the behavior of each member of a class is	FL-4.3.2	1

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		expected to be the same as any other member of that class. C is not correct because it covers both valid and invalid values at the boundaries of equivalence classes. See section 4.3.3.		
15	A	A is correct. Use cases describe process flows based on the expected use of the software by the users. See section 4.3.5.	FL-4.3.3	1
16	A	A is correct. This is an application of experience-based test design. B and D are not correct because these are not test design techniques. C is not correct because defect-based test design uses known and expected defects to focus the testing in specific areas.	FL-4.5.2	1
17	B	B is correct. Structure-based testing should be used and that will allow you to target amounts of statement or decision coverage to be attained by the testing. None of the others will target the code and allow you to work to a particular level of coverage.	FL-4.6.1	1
18	C	C is correct. This is a typical task for a tester in an organization. A, B, and D are not correct as they are tasks typically performed by test leaders.	FL-5.1.3	1
19	A	A is correct. Test execution should be scheduled during the test planning stage of the project. It may be refined during test analysis and design and even during test implementation. Once execution has started, priorities may be adjusted and the schedule may be lengthened or shortened but the general scheduling should occur during the planning stage.	FL-5.2.4	1
20	C	C is correct. Test planning includes a broad range of scheduling, including test analysis and design activities. See section 5.2.2.	FL-5.2.6	1
21	B	B is correct. The test estimate should factor in that the developers are highly skilled and experienced because it would be expected to have higher quality software coming from these developers. See section 5.2.4.	FL-5.2.7	1
22	D	D is correct. This approach can be based on metrics from previous projects or typical values. A and B are not correct because neither are an estimation approach. C is not correct because it uses estimates made by experts of the system. See section 5.2.5.	FL-5.2.8	1
23	D	D is correct. Since the defects must be accepted by the business, only system testing would be applicable. The business wouldn't care about defects open within the levels of testing, only at the point when testing is "complete" and the software will be moving to the acceptance levels. See section 5.2.4.	FL-5.2.9	1
24	B	B is correct. Configuration management ensures version control, change mapping, and traceability. A is not correct although version control is often a part of a good configuration management system. C is not	FL-5.4.1	1

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		correct because it focuses on corrective action taken in a testing project. D is not correct because it summarizes what happened during testing.		
25	C	C is a project risk and could threaten the overall project's ability to achieve its objectives. A, B and D are all product risks. A is a product risk (potential to cause harm) but a product risk such as this could cause a project to fail if the problem is not detected.	FL-5.5.1	1
26	B	B is correct. Employing the right test technique can reduce risk and some test techniques are more thorough than others. A and C are not correct because both are different aspects of testing, independent of risk. D is not correct because the cause and ultimate responsibility of failures does not deviate based on level of risk. See section 5.5.2.	FL-5.5.5	1
27	B	C is correct. Urgency is often used interchangeably with priority. A and D are not correct because those terms are also used interchangeably with each other. B is not correct because this may influence the priority, but it is not the same thing.	FL-5.6.1	1
28	D	D is correct. These tools store and manage defects and other anomalies. A is not correct because it is used for version management of testware. B is not correct because it stores requirements and associated detail. C is not correct as it is not a valid tool.	FL-6.1.3	1