

## ISTQB- Foundation Level 2018 Learning Objectives

Learning objectives are indicated for each section in the syllabus and classified as follows:

- K1: remember, recognize, recall
- K2: understand, explain, give reasons, compare, classify, categorize, give examples, summarize
- K3: apply, use
- K4: analyze

There are 62 Learning objectives in the 2018 Foundation syllabus:

- 15 K1
- 40 K2
- 7 K3

The 2018 Foundation Level Learning objectives are as follows:

### Chapter 1 Fundamentals of Testing

#### 1.1 What is Testing?

LO- Identify typical objectives of  
1.1.1 testing (K1)

LO- Differentiate testing from  
1.1.2 debugging (K2)

#### 1.2 Why is Testing Necessary?

LO- Give examples of why testing is  
.2.1 necessary (K2)

Describe the relationship between  
LO- testing and quality assurance and give  
1.2.2 examples of how testing contributes  
to higher quality (K2)

LO- Distinguish between error, defect, and  
1.2.3 failure (K2)

LO- Distinguish between the root cause of  
1.2.4 a defect and its effects (K2)

#### 1.3 Seven Testing Principles (K2)

LO- Explain the seven principles of  
1.3.1 testing (K2)

#### 1.4 Test Process

LO- Explain the impact of context on the  
1.4.1 test process (K2)

LO- Describe the test activities and  
1.4.2 respective tasks within the test  
process (K2)

LO- Differentiate the work products that  
1.4.3 support the test process (K2)

LO- Explain the value of maintaining  
1.4.4 traceability between the test basis and  
the test work products (K2)

#### 1.5 The Psychology of Testing (K2)

LO- Identify the psychological factors that  
1.5.1 influence the success of testing (K1)

Explain the difference between the  
LO- mindset required for test activities and  
1.5.2 the mindset required for development  
activities (K2)

### Chapter 2 Testing Throughout the Software Development Lifecycle

#### 2.1 Software Development Lifecycle Models

Explain the relationships between  
LO- software development activities and  
2.1.1 test activities in the software  
development lifecycle (K2)

Identify reasons why software  
LO- development lifecycle models must be  
2.1.2 adapted to the context of project and  
product characteristics (K1)

LO- Recall characteristics of good testing  
2.1.3 that are applicable to any life cycle  
model (K1)

#### 2.2 Test Levels (K2)

LO- Compare the different test levels from

2.2.1 the perspective of objectives, test basis, test objects, typical defects and failures, and approaches and responsibilities (K2)

## 2.3 Test Types (K2)

LO- Compare functional, non-functional and white-box testing (K2)

2.3.1 Recognize that functional and structural tests occur at any test level (K1)

LO- 2.3.2 Recognize that functional, non-functional and white-box tests occur at any test level (K1)

LO- 2.3.3 Compare the purposes of confirmation testing and regression testing (K2)

## 2.4 Maintenance Testing (K2)

LO- 2.4.1 Summarize triggers for maintenance testing (K2)

LO- 2.4.2 Describe the role of impact analysis in maintenance testing (K2)

LO- 2.4.3 Describe the role of impact analysis in maintenance testing (K2)

## Chapter 3 Static Testing

### 3.1 Static Testing Basics

LO- 3.1.1 Recognize types of software work product that can be examined by the different static testing techniques (K1)

LO- 3.1.2 Use examples to describe the value of static testing (K2)

LO- Explain the difference between static and dynamic techniques, considering objectives, types of defects to be identified, and the role of these techniques within the software lifecycle (K2)

### 3.2 Review Process

LO- 3.2.1 Summarize the activities of the work product review process (K2)

LO- Recognize the different roles and

3.2.2 responsibilities in a formal review (K1)

LO- Explain the differences between different review types: informal review, walkthrough, technical review and inspection (K2)

LO- 3.2.3 Apply a review technique to a work product to find defects (K3)

LO- 3.2.4 Explain the factors that contribute to a successful review (K2)

## Chapter 4 Test Techniques

### 4.1 Categories of Test Techniques

LO- Explain the characteristics, commonalities, and differences between black-box test techniques, white-box test techniques and experience-based test techniques (K2)

### 4.2 Black-box Test Techniques

LO- 4.2.1 Apply equivalence partitioning to derive test cases from given requirements (K3)

LO- 4.2.2 Apply boundary value analysis to derive test cases from given requirements (K3)

LO- 4.2.3 Apply decision table testing to derive test cases from given requirements (K3)

LO- 4.2.4 Apply state transition testing to derive test cases from given requirements (K3)

LO- 4.2.5 Explain how to derive test cases from a use case (K2)

### 4.3 White-box Test Techniques

LO- 4.3.1 Explain statement coverage (K2)

LO- 4.3.2 Explain decision coverage (K2)

LO- 4.3.3 Explain the value of statement and decision coverage (K2)

### 4.4 Experience-based Test Techniques

- LO- 4.4.1 Explain error guessing (K2)
- LO- 4.4.2 Explain exploratory testing (K2)
- LO- 4.4.3 Explain checklist-based testing (K2)

## Chapter 5 Test Management

### 5.1 Test Organization

- LO- 5.1.1 Explain the benefits and drawbacks of independent testing (K2)
- LO- 5.1.2 Identify the tasks of a test manager and tester (K1)

### 5.2 Test Planning and Estimation

- LO- 5.2.1 Summarize the purpose and content of a test plan (K2)
- LO- 5.2.2 Differentiate between various test approaches (K2)
- LO- 5.2.3 Give examples of potential entry and exit criteria (K2)  
Apply knowledge of prioritization, and technical and logical dependencies, to schedule test execution for a given set of test cases (K3)
- LO- 5.2.4 Identify factors that influence the effort related to testing (K1)  
Explain the difference between two estimation techniques: the metrics-based technique and the expert-based technique (K2)

### 5.3 Test Monitoring and Control

- LO- 5.3.1 Recall metrics used for testing (K1)
- LO- 5.3.2 Summarize the purposes, contents, and audiences for test reports (K2)

### 5.4 Configuration Management

- LO- 5.4.1 Summarize how configuration management supports testing (K2)

### 5.5 Risks and Testing

- LO- Define risk level by using likelihood

- 5.5.1 and impact (K1)
- LO- 5.5.2 Distinguish between project and product risks (K2)  
Describe, by using examples, how product risk analysis may influence thoroughness and scope of testing (K2)

### 5.6 Defect Management

- LO- 5.6.1 Write a defect report, covering defects found during testing (K3)

## Chapter 6. Tool Support for Testing

### 6.1 Test tool considerations

- LO- 6.1.1 Classify test tools according to their purpose and the test activities they support (K2)
- LO- 6.1.2 Identify benefits and risks of test automation (K1)
- LO- 6.1.3 Remember special considerations for test execution and test management tools (K1)

### 6.2 Test Planning and Estimation (K3)

- LO- 6.2.1 Identify the main principles for selecting a tool (K1)
- LO- 6.2.2 Recall the objectives for using pilot projects to introduce tools (K1)  
Identify the success factors for evaluation, implementation, deployment and on-going support of test tools in an organization (K1)