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**ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level CTFL
4.0 Exam**

BCS CTFL4

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QUESTION NO: 1

Which of the following statements about estimation of the test effort is WRONG?

- A. Once the test effort is estimated, resources can be identified and a schedule can be drawn up.
- B. Effort estimate can be inaccurate because the quality of the product under tests is not known.
- C. Effort estimate depends on the budget of the project.
- D. Experience based estimation is one of the estimation techniques.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

Effort estimate depends on the budget of the project. is the wrong statement. In the CTFL syllabus, test effort estimation concerns determining the amount of work needed to perform the testing activities. Estimates are derived from factors such as the characteristics and complexity of the test object, the scope of testing, the selected test approach, product and project risks, required quality characteristics, the test process, available skills, and historical data or expert knowledge. The estimate provides an evidence-based view of the work required; it is not determined by the budget that has been allocated.

The available budget is instead a project constraint that can influence planning decisions after the required effort has been estimated. For example, if funding is insufficient for the estimated work, stakeholders may need to adjust scope, priorities, schedules, resources, or risk acceptance. This distinction is important: setting an estimate equal to the budget would conceal the actual testing effort needed and reduce transparency about residual risk. CTFL identifies expert-based estimation, including estimation based on the experience of people who performed similar work, as an applicable test-estimation technique. See the [ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level certification page](#) and the [ISTQB Glossary entry for estimation](#).

QUESTION NO: 2

Which of the following statements best describes how configuration management supports testing?

- A. Configuration management helps reduce testing effort by identifying a manageable number of test environment configurations in which to test the software, out of all possible configurations of the environment in which the software will be released
- B. Configuration management is an administrative discipline that includes change control, which is the process of controlling the changes to identified items referred to as Configuration Items'
- C. Configuration management is an approach to interoperability testing where tests are executed in the cloud, as the cloud can provide cost-effective access to multiple configurations of the test environments
- D. Configuration management helps ensure that all relevant project documentation and software items are uniquely identified in all their versions and therefore can be unambiguously referenced in test documentation

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

Configuration management helps ensure that all relevant project documentation and software items are uniquely identified in all their versions and therefore can be unambiguously referenced in test documentation. This is the best description because testing depends on being able to identify precisely what is being tested and to connect testware to the applicable version of the software and its associated artefacts. Relevant configuration items can include requirements, test plans, test cases, test data, test environments, test scripts, defect reports, and builds of the system under test.

By maintaining unique identification and version information, configuration management enables reliable traceability between test conditions, test results, reported defects, and the specific baseline or build to which they apply. It also allows a test team to reproduce a result by establishing the same controlled set of artefacts and environment details. This control is essential when software changes during testing: the team can determine whether a test result was obtained before or after a particular change and can accurately select the correct items for retesting or regression testing. The CTFL syllabus identifies configuration management as a supporting process that provides this identification, versioning, status information, and

controlled access to testware and project work products. See the [ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level resources](#) and the [ISTQB Glossary definition of configuration management](#).

QUESTION NO: 3

A virtual service emulating a real third-party service and the automated test scripts (aimed at testing the system under test) that interact with that service, are test work products that are typically created during:

- A. Test monitoring and control
- B. Test implementation
- C. Test design
- D. Test analysis

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

Test implementation is correct because it is the test process activity in which the test team makes the designed tests executable and prepares the practical means for running them. In the CTFL syllabus, test implementation includes creating and verifying test procedures, potentially creating automated test scripts, and assembling the testware needed for execution. A virtual service that emulates an unavailable, costly, or otherwise unsuitable third-party dependency is testware used to support execution in a controlled test environment. The automated scripts that drive the system under test and interact with that virtual service are likewise executable testware. Creating these assets during implementation enables the team to execute the relevant test conditions reliably, repeatably, and without dependence on the real external service. This work also supports setting up the required test environment and ensuring that the testware is ready before test execution begins. The terminology and test-process activities are defined by the ISTQB CTFL syllabus and glossary; BCS CTFL examinations are based on this ISTQB foundation-level content. See the [ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level syllabus resources](#) and the [ISTQB Glossary](#).

QUESTION NO: 4

During component testing of a program if 100% decision coverage is achieved, which of the following coverage criteria is also guaranteed to be 100%?

- A. 100% State transition coverage
- B. 100% Equivalence class coverage
- C. 100% Boundary value coverage
- D. 100% Statement coverage

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

100% Statement coverage is guaranteed when 100% decision coverage is achieved. In the CTFL syllabus, decision coverage is defined as the percentage of decision outcomes exercised by tests. For a two-way decision, this requires tests to exercise both the true and false outcomes; more generally, all reachable decision outcomes must be exercised. Exercising those outcomes causes execution to pass through the relevant control-flow paths and execute the statements associated with them. Consequently, decision coverage subsumes statement coverage: full decision coverage necessarily results in full statement coverage for reachable executable statements.

This relationship is important when selecting a structural test coverage measure during component testing. Statement coverage demonstrates that individual executable statements have run at least once, whereas decision coverage additionally demonstrates that each decision outcome has been taken. Therefore, decision coverage is the stronger of these two criteria, and the Foundation Level syllabus explicitly states that achieving 100% decision coverage guarantees 100% statement

coverage. The coverage result concerns reachable code; code that cannot be reached cannot meaningfully be exercised by tests and should be investigated as potentially unnecessary or defective. See the [ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level certification resources](#) and the [CTFL syllabus](#).

QUESTION NO: 5

Which of the following statements about the test pyramid is TRUE?

- A. Each layer of the test pyramid groups tests related to a single non-functional quality characteristic.
- B. The higher the layer of the test pyramid, the more production code a single automated test within the layer tends to cover
- C. The higher the layer of the test pyramid, the more maintainable a single automated test within the layer tends to be
- D. The higher the layer of the test pyramid, the more isolated a single automated test within the layer tends to be.

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

The statement “The higher the layer of the test pyramid, the more production code a single automated test within the layer tends to cover” is correct. The test pyramid is a model for selecting an effective distribution of automated tests across different test levels. Tests near its base, such as unit tests, normally exercise small and isolated units of production code. Moving upward through component or service tests to end-to-end tests, each test generally traverses more integrated parts of the system: multiple units, interfaces, services, data handling, and potentially the user interface. Consequently, a single higher-level automated test tends to provide broader code coverage in the sense of the amount of production code executed along its workflow. This is why the pyramid has fewer tests at higher levels: these tests provide valuable confidence in integrated behavior, while each test typically covers a larger scope and requires more supporting infrastructure. The ISTQB Foundation Level syllabus describes the test pyramid as showing that low-level tests are numerous and faster, whereas higher-level tests are fewer and broader in scope. See the [ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level page](#) and the [CTFL certification resources](#).

QUESTION NO: 6

During which main group of test activity are the following tasks performed?

- Checking test results and logs against specified coverage criteria.
- Assessing the level of component or system quality based on test results and logs.
- Determining whether more tests are needed.

Select the correct answer:

- A. Test planning.
- B. Test analysis.
- C. Test design.
- D. Test monitoring and control.
- E. Test completion.

ANSWER: E

Explanation:

Test completion is correct because these tasks take place when the test team evaluates the status and outcomes of the testing performed for a test level, project, release, or iteration. Completion activities include checking accumulated test

results and logs against the coverage criteria defined in the test plan. This establishes the extent to which the intended test coverage has been achieved and provides objective evidence for assessing progress against completion criteria.

The same activity group also includes evaluating the quality of the component or system using the evidence obtained during testing, such as passed and failed test results, defect information, and coverage data. Based on that evaluation, the team determines whether the available evidence is sufficient to complete testing or whether additional tests are required. This supports an informed decision about whether testing can be concluded and what residual risks remain. The ISTQB CTFL syllabus explicitly lists checking test results and logs against specified coverage criteria, assessing quality, and determining the need for further testing as test-completion activities. See the [ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level syllabus resources](#) and the [ISTQB Glossary entry for test completion](#).

QUESTION NO: 7

During a formal review of a requirements specification, the reviewers identify several ambiguous acceptance criteria. At the review meeting, the findings are agreed and the author is assigned actions to correct them.

Which ONE of the following activities should be performed next as part of the formal review process?

- A. Repeat review planning to redefine the review scope
- B. Perform individual review to identify further findings
- C. Verify that the agreed rework has been completed and that exit criteria are satisfied
- D. Select the reviewers and assign their review roles

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

Follow-up is the appropriate next activity. It checks that the author has addressed the agreed findings and that the defined exit criteria for the review have been met. This provides evidence that the review outcome has been properly completed rather than merely discussed.

Identifying defects is primarily performed during individual review and discussed or evaluated during the review meeting. Redefining the review scope or selecting reviewers would normally be activities performed during review planning.

QUESTION NO: 8

Which review type, also known as a “buddy check”, is commonly used in Agile development?

- A. Inspection.
- B. Walkthrough.
- C. Technical review.
- D. Informal review.

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

Informal review is correct because a “buddy check” is an example of a lightweight, informal peer review in which a colleague examines a work product and provides prompt feedback. The CTFL syllabus describes informal reviews as having no formal process and producing no formal output. They can be performed by a work-product author with a colleague, which closely matches the practical meaning of a buddy check. This approach is especially well suited to Agile development, where team members collaborate closely and seek rapid feedback throughout development rather than waiting for a formal review event. An informal review can be applied to many test-related and development work products, including user stories, acceptance criteria, test cases, automated checks, and code. Its value lies in detecting defects, omissions, ambiguities, or misunderstandings early, while the cost and delay of correction are still low. The term “buddy check” therefore identifies the

collaborative peer-based nature of an informal review, not a prescribed role-based or documented review procedure. See the [ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level certification page](#) and the [ISTQB CTFL v4.0.1 syllabus](#), section 3.2.4 on review types.

QUESTION NO: 9

A financial institution is to implement a system that calculates the interest rates paid on investment accounts based on the sum invested.

You are responsible for testing the system and decide to use equivalence partitioning and boundary value analysis to design test cases. The requirements describe the following expectations:

Investment range | Interest rate

R500 to RIO 000 | 10%

RIO 001 to R50 000 | 11%

R50 001 to RIOOOOO | 12%

RIOOOOI to R500 000 | 13%

What is the minimum number of test cases required to cover all valid equivalence partitions for calculating the interest?

- A. 5
- B. 4
- C. 8
- D. 16

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

4 is correct because the requirements define four distinct valid ranges of investment amounts, each producing a different interest-rate outcome. In equivalence partitioning, values expected to be processed in the same way are grouped into one equivalence partition. Therefore, one representative investment amount is sufficient to test each of the four specified valid ranges: the range receiving 10%, the range receiving 11%, the range receiving 12%, and the range receiving 13%. Selecting one value from each range demonstrates that the system applies the intended calculation rule for every valid category of input.

The question specifically asks for coverage of *all valid equivalence partitions*, rather than boundary coverage. Consequently, the minimum is one test case per valid partition, giving four test cases. Boundary value analysis is a complementary technique that would be used to derive additional tests at the endpoints and immediately adjacent values of these ranges, but those extra tests are not required by the stated coverage target. The ISTQB Foundation Level syllabus describes equivalence partitioning as dividing data into partitions that are assumed to be handled in the same way, with tests selected from each partition. See the [ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level](#) certification page and the [ISTQB glossary definition of equivalence partitioning](#).

QUESTION NO: 10

The following 4 equivalence classes are given:

Which of the following alternatives includes correct test values for x. based on equivalence partitioning?

- A. -100; 100;1000; 1001
- B. -500; 0; 100; 1000
- C. -99; 99;101; 1001

D. -1000; -100; 100; 1000

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

-500; 0; 100; 1000 is the correct selection because equivalence partitioning requires at least one representative value from each identified equivalence class. For the intended four partitions, these values provide one representative in each range: a value below the lower threshold, a value in the next internal range, a value in the following internal range, and a value at or above the upper threshold. They are therefore a compact test set that exercises each partition once.

Equivalence partitioning is a black-box test technique in which the input domain is divided into partitions expected to be processed similarly by the system. The tester selects representative values from each partition rather than testing every possible value. This reduces the number of tests while preserving systematic coverage of the specified input classes. Where a partition boundary is included in a class, selecting the boundary itself, such as 100 or 1000, is valid provided it belongs to that class according to the stated range notation.

This use of representative values is consistent with the CTFL syllabus treatment of equivalence partitioning as a black-box test technique. See the [ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level](#) certification information and the [BCS Certified Tester Foundation Level](#) overview.

QUESTION NO: 11

The following decision table is used to assist a doctor in determining the drug therapy to prescribe for a patient (aged 6 to 65 years) diagnosed with acute sinusitis. The table consists of three Boolean conditions and six actions

Based only on the given information, which of the following statements is TRUE?

- A. Column 7 represents an impossible situation and thus can be deleted
- B. Columns 1 and 3 can be merged into a single column
- C. Columns 2, 4, 6 and 8 can be merged into a single column
- D. Columns 5 and 7 can be merged into a single column

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

Columns 1 and 3 can be merged into a single column is correct. In decision-table testing, each column is a rule that specifies a particular combination of condition outcomes and the resulting action or actions. Rules may be consolidated when they prescribe exactly the same actions and differ only in a condition whose value therefore does not affect the outcome. The merged rule represents that irrelevant condition with a “don’t care” value, commonly shown by a dash, while preserving the decision logic. Here, columns 1 and 3 have the same prescribed action set, so the differing Boolean-condition value can be generalized without changing the therapy selected for any represented patient. This reduces redundancy and makes the table easier to understand and maintain, while retaining equivalent behavior for the covered combinations. Decision tables are specifically intended to identify and model combinations of conditions and their associated actions; simplifying equivalent rules is consistent with their use in test analysis. The CTFL syllabus describes decision tables as a black-box test technique for combinations of conditions and resulting actions. See the [ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level](#) certification page and the [CTFL syllabus resources](#).

QUESTION NO: 12

Which ONE of the following options corresponds to an activity in the testing process in which testable features are identified?

- A. Test design
- B. Test analysis
- C. Test implementation

D. Test execution

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

Test analysis is correct because it is the testing activity in which the test basis is examined to identify what can and should be tested. The test basis may include requirements, user stories, acceptance criteria, specifications, architecture, models, interfaces, and information about risks. During this activity, the tester identifies testable features and derives test conditions: items, events, characteristics, or combinations that can be verified by one or more test cases. This creates the essential link between the information supplied about the product and the later creation of test cases.

The ISTQB CTFL syllabus describes test analysis as analyzing the test basis in order to identify testable features and define associated test conditions. This work supports suitable coverage because the identified conditions provide a structured, reviewable view of the aspects that testing needs to address. The output of test analysis is then used in subsequent test-design work to derive test cases and related test data. Therefore, identifying testable features is specifically an analysis activity, rather than merely a general testing task. See the [ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level certification page](#) and the official [ISTQB Glossary definition of test analysis](#).

QUESTION NO: 13

The planned exit criteria for a system test level have been met. However, a critical payment-recovery scenario could not be tested because the required external service was unavailable throughout the test period.

Which ONE of the following actions is MOST appropriate?

- A. Report the untested scenario and its residual product risk to the relevant stakeholders.
- B. Record the scenario as passed because the planned exit criteria have been met.
- C. Remove the scenario from the test scope without reporting it because the service is external.
- D. Prevent release automatically because any unexecuted test makes release impossible.

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

Meeting planned exit criteria does not remove the need to communicate important deviations, untested areas, and residual product risks. The unavailable external service means that a critical scenario remains untested. This information should be reported clearly to stakeholders so that they can make an informed decision about release, additional testing, or risk acceptance.

The test team should not claim that the scenario passed, silently remove it from scope, or make the release decision without the appropriate stakeholders.

QUESTION NO: 14

You are testing the latest version of an air-traffic control system prior to production deployment using exploratory testing. After following an unusual sequence of input steps, the system crashes. After the crash, you document a defect report with the following information:

- Title: System crashes unexpectedly during input.
- Brief summary: System crashes when an unusual sequence of inputs is used.
- Version: V1.001
- Test: Exploratory testing prior to production deployment
- Priority: Urgent

•Risk: High

•References: Screenshot of crashed application

What critical Information Is missing from this report?

A. Conclusions, recommendations, and approvals.

B. Change history.

C. Description of the defect to enable reproduction.

D. Status of defect

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

Description of the defect to enable reproduction. is the critical missing information. A defect report must contain enough precise, relevant information for the recipients to understand, investigate, and reproduce the observed failure. Here, the report states only that an “unusual sequence of inputs” caused a crash. That summary identifies the general symptom but does not tell a developer or tester which inputs were made, in what order, under which conditions, or what outcome was observed at each relevant point. A screenshot provides useful supporting evidence of the final crashed state, but it cannot normally reconstruct the interaction sequence that triggered it.

For exploratory testing, capturing reproducible evidence is especially important because the test path may not have been specified in advance. The tester should document the sequence of actions and test data used, along with expected and actual results where applicable, so that the problem can be reliably confirmed and diagnosed. The report already supplies useful administrative and contextual details, including version, test activity, priority, risk, and a reference attachment. The missing reproducibility description is therefore the key item needed to make the report actionable and support timely resolution of this safety-critical failure. See the [ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level syllabus resources](#) and the [ISTQB glossary definition of defect report](#).

QUESTION NO: 15

You are testing a system that is used in motor vehicles to warn the driver of an obstacle when re-versing. Output is provided by a series of LED lights (green, yellow, and red), each illuminated based on clearly defined conditions.

The following summary describes the functionality:

•Object within 10 metres, green LED lit.

•Object within 5 metres, yellow LED lit.

•Object within 1 metre, red LED lit.

•Setting sensitivity mode to "ON" will result in only the red LED being lit when the object is within 1 metre.

The following decision table describes the rules associated with the functioning of this proximity warning system:

Which intended functionality is tested by Rule 5 in the decision table?

A. Object is within 5 metres of the vehicle and the sensitivity mode is switched "off", resulting in the yellow LED being lit.

B. Object is within 5 metres of the vehicle and the sensitivity mode is switched "on", resulting in the yellow LED being lit.

C. Object is within 5 metres of the vehicle and the sensitivity mode is switched "off", resulting in no LED being lit.

D. Object is within 5 metres of the vehicle and the sensitivity mode is switched "on", resulting in no LED being lit.

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

Rule 5 tests the situation in which an object is within 5 metres and sensitivity mode is switched on, with no LED illuminated. The key requirement for sensitivity mode is that it restricts the warning output: when this mode is on, the red LED is the only permitted illuminated LED, and only when the object is within 1 metre. At the 5-metre condition represented by Rule 5, the object does not meet the red-warning threshold. Therefore, the specified outcome is that no warning LED is lit.

This is a typical decision-table test: it connects a particular combination of input conditions—distance band and sensitivity-mode setting—to one defined action. Decision table testing is a black-box technique particularly suited to systems whose behavior depends on combinations of conditions. A rule represents one such combination and its expected action, allowing the tester to derive a test that verifies the stated business behavior precisely. The CTFL syllabus identifies decision table testing as a technique for testing combinations of conditions and resulting actions. See the [ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level](#) certification page and the [ISTQB downloads page](#) for the current CTFL syllabus.

QUESTION NO: 16

A smart lock starts in the **Locked** state. A valid access code changes the state from Locked to Unlocked. An invalid access code leaves the lock in the Locked state, unless it is the third consecutive invalid code, in which case the lock changes to the **Alarm** state. A reset changes the state from Alarm to Locked.

Which ONE of the following test sequences provides 100% valid transition coverage, assuming that the lock starts in the Locked state?

- A. Valid code, invalid code, invalid code, invalid code, reset
- B. Invalid code, invalid code, invalid code, reset, valid code
- C. Invalid code, valid code, invalid code, valid code
- D. Invalid code, invalid code, reset, valid code

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

The sequence of two invalid codes, followed by a third invalid code, reset, and a valid code covers every valid transition. The first two invalid codes cover the Locked-to-Locked transition. The third invalid code covers Locked-to-Alarm, reset covers Alarm-to-Locked, and the valid code covers Locked-to-Unlocked.

The other sequences omit at least one valid transition, commonly the transition to Alarm or the self-transition from Locked to Locked. Valid transition coverage requires that each valid state transition is exercised at least once.

QUESTION NO: 17

A typical objective of testing is to

- A. Determine the most appropriate level of detail with which to design test cases.
- B. Verify the compliance of the test object with regulatory requirements.
- C. Plan test activities in accordance with the existing test policy and test strategy
- D. Verify the correct creation and configuration of the test environment

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

Verify the compliance of the test object with regulatory requirements is a typical objective of testing. The ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level syllabus describes testing as an activity that supports the evaluation of a work product's quality and its verification against specified requirements. Those requirements can include legal, contractual, industry, safety, security, and regulatory obligations. Testing therefore provides objective evidence that the test object behaves as required in areas

where compliance is mandatory, such as data protection, financial controls, medical-device software, or sector-specific standards.

Compliance testing is not merely a paperwork exercise: testers derive appropriate test conditions from applicable regulations and documented requirements, execute tests against the relevant implementation, record results, and communicate evidence that can support release and governance decisions. The extent and rigor of this work are determined by the product's context, applicable rules, and risks associated with non-compliance. This aligns with the CTFL view that testing provides information for decision-making while checking whether specified requirements have been fulfilled. The official CTFL certification and syllabus materials are available from [ISTQB's Certified Tester Foundation Level page](#). Further information on the certification scheme is provided by [BCS's ISTQB Foundation Level page](#).

QUESTION NO: 18

A test status report SHOULD:

- A. Specify the impediments to carrying out the planned test activities in the reporting period and the corresponding solutions put in place to remove them
- B. Be produced as part of test completion activities and report unmitigated product risks to support the decision whether or not to release the product
- C. Always be based on the same template within an organisation, as its structure and contents should not be affected by the audience to which the report is presented.
- D. Specify the lines of communication between testing, other lifecycle activities, and within the organisation that were chosen at the outset of the test project.

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

"Specify the impediments to carrying out the planned test activities in the reporting period and the corresponding solutions put in place to remove them" is correct because a test status report communicates the current condition and progress of testing to relevant stakeholders during an agreed reporting period. Its purpose is to provide timely, decision-useful visibility of work performed, progress against the test plan, significant deviations, and matters that could affect the achievement of test objectives. Impediments are particularly important because they may delay test execution, reduce test coverage, affect test environments or test data, or require support from teams outside testing. Reporting both the impediment and the action being taken, such as escalation, workaround, resource allocation, or environment remediation, enables stakeholders to understand the practical impact and monitor whether the issue is being addressed. This supports appropriate management attention and informed decisions throughout the test project. The CTFL syllabus identifies impediments and their resolutions as typical test-status-report information, alongside progress, metrics, risks, and changes to the test plan. Report contents should be selected to give the intended audience an accurate and actionable view of the current testing situation. See the [ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level certification page](#) and the [ISTQB standards and syllabus resources](#).

QUESTION NO: 19

Before a new payroll application is released, the organization's operations team checks whether it can be installed using the documented procedures, backed up successfully, restored after a simulated storage failure, and monitored in production.

Which ONE of the following types of acceptance testing is being performed?

- A. User acceptance testing
- B. Contractual acceptance testing
- C. Alpha testing
- D. Operational acceptance testing

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

Operational acceptance testing evaluates whether the system can be operated and maintained in its intended operational environment. Installation, backup, recovery, monitoring, and operational procedures are typical concerns for this form of acceptance testing.

User acceptance testing focuses on whether the system meets user needs and business processes. Contractual and regulatory acceptance testing focuses on compliance with contract terms or applicable regulations, while alpha testing is performed at the developer's site by potential users or an independent test team.

QUESTION NO: 20

The following chart represents metrics related to testing of a project that was completed. Indicate what is represented by the lines A, B and the axes X.Y

- A)
- B)
- C)
- D)
- A. Option A
- B. Option B
- C. Option C
- D. Option D
- E. X-axis: time; Y-axis: count; line A: number of open bugs; line B: total number of executed tests.

ANSWER: E**Explanation:**

The correct interpretation is: the X-axis represents time, the Y-axis represents a count, line A represents the number of open bugs, and line B represents the total number of executed tests. These are meaningful test-monitoring measures because they show how testing progresses over the project timeline. The cumulative total of executed tests normally increases as test cases are run, providing a direct view of test-execution progress. The number of open bugs reflects the current unresolved-defect workload: it changes as new defects are found and as reported defects are fixed and closed. Reading both measures against time helps stakeholders understand the relationship between testing activity and the outstanding quality risk at a particular point in the project.

CTFL v4.0 includes using test-progress and test-completion information to support test monitoring and control. Metrics should provide useful, understandable information for decision-making, rather than merely reporting raw data. A chart combining executed tests and open defects is therefore an appropriate way to communicate project testing status. See the [ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level certification page](#) and the [ISTQB official website](#).

QUESTION NO: 21

Which of the following statements is incorrect regarding the involvement of testers in the software development lifecycle (SDLC)?

- A. Testers should contribute to all activities in the SDLC and participate in design discussions.
- B. Testers should be involved from the beginning of the SDLC to increase understanding of design decisions and detect defects early.
- C. Testers should only be involved during the testing phase.

D. Testers' involvement is essential; developers find it difficult to be objective.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

Testers should only be involved during the testing phase. is the incorrect statement because the CTFL syllabus promotes early and continuous testing activities throughout the software development lifecycle, rather than limiting tester participation to test execution at the end. Testers can add value from the earliest stages by reviewing requirements, identifying ambiguities and testability issues, contributing a quality-focused perspective to planning and design, and helping prevent defects before implementation begins. This early involvement supports the shift-left approach: finding and addressing defects as close as possible to their origin, when they are generally less costly and less disruptive to resolve.

Testing is also a team activity, and the tester's perspective should be incorporated alongside business, development, and other delivery roles. Tester participation continues as the product evolves, including analysis, design, implementation-related collaboration, test design, execution, and assessment of completion criteria. Restricting involvement to a discrete testing phase would remove opportunities for early defect prevention and for building quality into the product and process. The ISTQB CTFL syllabus describes testing as activities that can be performed throughout the lifecycle and explains the value of early tester involvement. See the [ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level certification page](#) and the [CTFL syllabus](#).