



a global vision for software testing

Training Courses

ISEB SOFTWARE TESTING—INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

Objectives of the course

The overall objectives of this course are to deepen the knowledge gained at Foundation level and to provide a sound basis for candidates intending to progress to the ISTQB Certified Tester—Advanced Level in Test Management, Test Analysis or Test Specialist. The Intermediate Certificate is an optional but valuable step through its introduction of scenario-based questions.

After taking the course you will:

- be able to recall the main principles and themes from the Foundation syllabus
- describe and analyse Application Domains and Life Cycles and their risks and challenges
- analyse scenarios to identify specific technical challenges, such as test environments and test design techniques
- analyse scenarios to identify specific management challenges, such as risk, estimation and entry and exit criteria
- understand where to apply technical and management techniques appropriately
- be familiar with examination questions and how to address them.

Pre-requisites

Candidates must:

- already hold the ISEB/ISTQB Foundation Certificate in Software Testing
- ideally have at least 18 months experience in software testing, although this is not mandatory.

Course contents

The course covers five main topics:

- fundamentals of testing
- reviews
- risk
- test management
- test analysis.

The course is intensive and includes end of section tests and a mock examination. You can find further information on the course contents overleaf.

Course duration

The course is held over 3 days (9 am to 5 pm approx.), with the 1-hour examination usually taken on the afternoon of the last day of the course.

Course style

The course is delivered in a classroom environment using presentation, discussion and exercises.

Pre and post course work

There is no mandatory pre or post course work required for this course however it is recommended that candidates thoroughly revise their Foundation knowledge before attending as it is required knowledge.

Examination and Certification

The examination is usually paper-based and taken in the classroom. From time-to-time it may be computer-based and taken at an approved examination centre. Certification is awarded by ISEB.

Contact

For further information on TCL Training please call 0845 869 6072, email training@tcl.eu.com or visit www.tcl-global.com.



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The Foundation examination tested candidates at K1 (Knowledge), K2 (Comprehension) and K3 (Application) levels with a small amount at the K4 (Analysis) level (using Blooms Taxonomy of Learning Domains).

The Intermediate is firmly aimed at the K4 level with the focus on your analytical skills, although you will be called upon to use the other 3 lower levels too.

Exam questions set out scenarios against which several questions are asked. For example, you may be asked about the appropriateness of reviews, to determine the best estimating and test design techniques and how you would set about assessing risk, all against a single scenario.

Fundamentals of testing

This section is intended as a brief refresher on the Foundation syllabus and covers the main principles, testing in the life cycle (including test levels, maintenance testing and test types) and the fundamental test process. It also introduces the concept of application domains—the different operating environments in which software is executed.

Reviews

This section expands on the material at Foundation level and introduces an additional review type—the management review. Exercises provide practical experience in holding a review.

Risk

Project and Product Risk are revisited and different categories of risk are introduced—Safety, Economic, Security, Political and Technical. The process and approaches to risk identification, risk analysis and risk mitigation are examined.

Test management

Estimating, test documentation, entry and exit criteria, test monitoring and incident management are all revisited and extended to provide a deeper understanding of the often complex considerations in test planning, monitoring, reporting and control.

Test tools are only briefly reviewed as there is no additional material at the Intermediate level.

Test analysis

The fundamentals of test analysis, design and implementation are revisited and a greater consideration is given to the selection of test design techniques. The Intermediate differs from Foundation in that there is no need to practice white and black box techniques as the focus is on selecting the techniques that are appropriate to the scenario described not using them. Test environment requirements are discussed in more detail, particularly in relation to the different levels of testing. Finally, we look at coverage measures that can be used in test reporting and in entry and exit criteria.

Other training to help you improve your testing knowledge and skills

TCL provides training in: risk-based testing, benefits-based testing, static testing, exploratory testing, performance testing basics, aligning test strategies to corporate goals and our SMaRT testing methodology (covering test strategy, test planning, test scripting, test execution and test closure). These can be provided as half or full-day courses delivered at your work location for a fixed cost (for a maximum of 12 people per course). We can also deliver an introduction to each of these subjects as an hour-long brown-bag (lunchtime) session.