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Foundation Level Sample Exam

SET C (v2.4.0) – GTB Edition – QUESTIONS

CTFL Syllabus Version v4.0.2

ISTQB® Certified Tester Foundation Level

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Revision History

Version	Date	Remarks
2.0	24.11.2024	Localized version and internal reviews
2.1	16.02.2025	Final after editing and changes for CTFL 4.0.2 errata compliance
2.2.1	06.03.2025	Q17 justification corrected
2.3.0	08.06.2025	Wording of the German-language questions improved
2.4.0	30.04.2026	Question 31 revised and wording improved in many German-language questions and justifications.

Introduction

This is a sample exam. It helps candidates to prepare for the actual certification exam. Questions are included whose structure, layout and format are like a regular ISTQB®/ GTB Certified Tester Foundation Level exam. It is strictly forbidden to use the exam questions as content of a certification exam.

1) Any individual or training provider may use this sample exam in a training course if ISTQB® is acknowledged as the source and copyright holder of the sample exam.
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4) Exactly one correct solution is expected for almost every question. The exceptions explicitly mention the possibility of multiple answers.

Exam notes

Number of questions: 40

Duration of the exam: 60 minutes

Total score: 40 (one point per question)

Score to pass the exam: 26 (or more)

Percentage of passing the exam: 65% (or more)

Question 1	FL-1.1.1	K1	Score 1.0

Which of the following is a typical test objective?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	Validating that documented requirements are met.	☐
b)	Causing failures and identifying defects.	☐
c)	Initiating errors and identifying root causes.	☐
d)	Verifying the test object meets user expectations.	☐

Question 2	FL-1.1.2	K2	Score 1.0

Which of the following statements BEST describes the difference between testing and debugging?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	Testing identifies the causes of defects, while debugging analyzes and fixes the defects.	☐
b)	Testing is a negative activity while debugging is a positive activity.	☐
c)	Testing can find defects, while debugging analyzes and fixes defects.	☐
d)	Testing finds the cause of defects while debugging fixes the cause of defects.	☐

Question 3	FL-1.3.1	K2	Score 1.0

One of the principles of testing states:

"The absence-of-defects fallacy must be avoided."

Which of the following examples shows how this principle is addressed in practice?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	Explaining that it is not possible for testing to show the absence of defects.	☐
b)	Supporting the end users to perform acceptance testing.	☐
c)	Ensuring that no implementation defects remain in the delivered system.	☐
d)	Modifying tests that cause no failures to ensure few defects remain.	☐

Question 4	FL-1.4.1	K2	Score 1.0

Which of the following test activities are MOST likely to involve the application of boundary value analysis and equivalence partitioning?

Please select TWO options! (2 out of 5)

a)	Test implementation	☐
b)	Test design	☐
c)	Test execution	☐
d)	Test monitoring	☐
e)	Test analysis	☐

Question 5	FL-1.4.3	K2	Score 1.0

Given the following test activities:

A. Test analysis

B. Test design

C. Test implementation

D. Test completion

And the following testware:

1. Coverage items

2. Change requests

3. Test execution schedule

4. Prioritized test conditions

Which of the following BEST shows the testware produced by the activities?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	1B, 2D, 3C, 4A	☐
b)	1B, 2D, 3A, 4C	☐
c)	1D, 2C, 3A, 4B	☐
d)	1D, 2C, 3B, 4A	☐

Question 6	FL-1.4.5	K2	Score 1.0

Which of the following statements about testing roles is MOST likely to be CORRECT?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	In Agile software development, the test management role is the primary responsibility of the team, while the testing role is primarily the responsibility of a single individual from outside the team.	☐
b)	The testing role is primarily responsible for test monitoring and control, while the test management role is primarily responsible for test planning and test execution.	☐
c)	In Agile software development, test management activities that span multiple teams are handled by a test manager outside the team, while some test management tasks are handled by the team itself.	☐
d)	The test management role is primarily responsible for test analysis and test design, while the testing role is primarily responsible for test implementation and execution.	☐

Question 7	FL-1.5.2	K1	Score 1.0

What is a typical advantage of the whole-team approach in Agile projects?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	The team works without dedicated testers.	☐
b)	Improved team dynamics.	☐
c)	Only business representatives are responsible for testing.	☐
d)	Teams are enlarged by adding additional roles.	☐

Question 8	FL-1.5.3	K2	Score 1.0

Which of the following statements about the independence of testing is correct?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	Independent testers are more likely to find defects due to their different perspective from developers, but their independence may lead to tensions in the team.	☐
b)	Developers' familiarity with their own code means they only find a few defects in it, however their shared software background with testers means these defects would also be found by the testers.	☐
c)	Independent testing requires testers who are outside the developer's team and ideally from outside the organization, however these testers find it difficult to understand the application domain.	☐
d)	Testers from outside the developer's team are more independent than testers from within the team, but the testers from within the team are more likely to be blamed for delays in product release.	☐

Question 9	FL-2.1.2	K1	Score 1.0

Which of the following is a good testing practice that applies to all software development lifecycles?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	For each test level, there is a corresponding development level.	☐
b)	For each test objective, there is a corresponding development objective.	☐
c)	For every software test activity, there is a corresponding user activity.	☐
d)	For every software development activity, there is a corresponding test activity.	☐

Question 10	FL-2.1.3	K1	Score 1.0

Which of the following is an example of a test-first approach to development?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	Feature-Driven Development	☐
b)	Integration Test-Driven Development	☐
c)	System Test-Driven Development	☐
d)	Acceptance Test-Driven Development	☐

Question 11	FL-2.1.5	K2	Score 1.0

Which of the following statements BEST describes shift-left in software testing?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	When agreed by the developers, manual tests are automated to save time and costs.	☐
b)	Where cost-effective, test activities are moved to be performed earlier in the software development lifecycle (SDLC) to reduce the total cost of quality by reducing the number of defects found later in the SDLC.	☐
c)	When they have spare time available, testers are required to automate tests for regression testing, starting with component tests and component integration tests.	☐
d)	When available, testers are trained to perform tasks early in the SDLC to allow more test activities to be automated later in the SDLC.	☐

Question 12	FL-2.1.6	K2	Score 1.0

Which of the following is LEAST likely to occur as a result of a retrospective?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	The quality of future test objects improves by identifying improvements in development practices.	☐
b)	Test efficiency improves by speeding up the configuration of test environments through automation.	☐
c)	End users' understanding of the development and test processes is improved.	☐
d)	Automated test scripts are enhanced through feedback from developers.	☐

Question 13	FL-2.2.1	K2	Score 1.0

At which test level are validation and demonstrating readiness for deployment the main focus, and the tests should ideally be performed by the intended users?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	Component testing	☐
b)	Component integration testing	☐
c)	System integration testing	☐
d)	Acceptance testing	☐

Question 14	FL-2.2.3	K2	Score 1.0

After a software update, the navigation system suggests routes such as driving the wrong way down one-way streets - a clear violation of traffic laws.

After the underlying defect has been fixed, which of the following actions is MOST appropriate in this case?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	Only confirmation testing.	☐
b)	Confirmation testing then regression testing.	☐
c)	Only regression testing.	☐
d)	Regression testing then confirmation testing.	☐

Question 15	FL-3.1.3	K2	Score 1.0

Which of the following example defects BEST identifies example defects that could be found by static testing (rather than dynamic testing)?

Please select TWO options! (2 out of 5)

a)	Two different parts of the design specification disagree due to the complexity of the design.	☐
b)	A response time is too long and so makes users lose patience.	☐
c)	An failure occurs when the system attempts to write a file while running out of disk space.	☐
d)	A variable is declared but never subsequently used in the program.	☐
e)	The amount of memory needed by the program to generate a report is too high.	☐

Question 16	FL-3.2.1	K1	Score 1.0

Which of the following is a benefit of early and frequent stakeholder feedback?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	Changes to requirements are understood and implemented earlier.	☐
b)	Business stakeholders receive training on user requirements.	☐
c)	It allows product owners to change their requirements as often as they want.	☐
d)	End users are told which requirements will not be implemented prior to release.	☐

Question 17	FL-3.2.4	K2	Score 1.0

Given the following review types:

1. **Technical review**
2. **Informal review**
3. **Inspection**
4. **Walkthrough**

And the following descriptions:

A) Led by the author, this review aims, among other things, at building confidence, generating ideas, and training reviewers.

B) Primarily aims at detecting potential defects and does not require formal documentation.

C) The main objective is detecting a maximum number of potential defects and collecting metrics to support process improvement.

D) Aims to reach consensus through technically qualified reviewers and to identify anomalies.

Which of the following assignments is correct?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	1A, 2B, 3C, 4D	☐
b)	1D, 2B, 3C, 4A	☐
c)	1B, 2C, 3D, 4A	☐
d)	1C, 2D, 3A, 4B	☐

Question 18	FL-3.2.5	K1	Score 1.0

Which of the following is a factor that contributes to a successful review?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	Ensure management participate as reviewers.	☐
b)	Split large work products into smaller parts.	☐
c)	Set reviewer evaluation as an objective.	☐
d)	Plan to cover one document per review.	☐

Question 19	FL-4.1.1	K2	Score 1.0

What is the MAIN difference between black-box test techniques and experience-based test techniques?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	The test object.	☐
b)	The test level at which the test technique is used.	☐
c)	The test basis.	☐
d)	The software development lifecycle (SDLC) in which the test technique can be used.	☐

Question 20	FL-4.2.1	K3	Score 1.0

A PIN validator accepts valid PINs and rejects invalid ones. Only inputs consisting of digits are considered.

A PIN is valid if it consists of exactly four digits and at least two of them are different.

Which of the following data sets covers all relevant equivalence partitions?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	112, 1111, 1234, 123456	☐
b)	1, 123, 1111, 1234	☐
c)	12, 112, 1112, 11112	☐
d)	1, 111, 1111, 11111	☐

Question 21	FL-4.2.2	K3	Score 1.0

Given the following business rule:

INPUT: value (integer number)

IF (value ≤ 100 OR value ≥ 200) THEN write "value incorrect"

ELSE write "value OK"

You want to design test cases using boundary value analysis with two values per boundary.

Which of the following sets of test values completely covers the relevant boundary values?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	100, 150, 200, 201	☐
b)	99, 100, 200, 201	☐
c)	98, 99, 100, 101	☐
d)	100, 101, 199, 200	☐

Question 22	FL-4.2.3	K3	Score 1.0

You are working on a project to develop a system to analyze driving test results. You have been asked to design test cases based on the following decision table.

	R1	R2	R3
C1: First attempt at the exam?	-	-	F
C2: Theoretical exam passed?	T	F	-
C3: Practical exam passed?	T	-	F
Issue a driving license?	X		
Request additional driving lessons?			X
Request to take the exam again?		X	

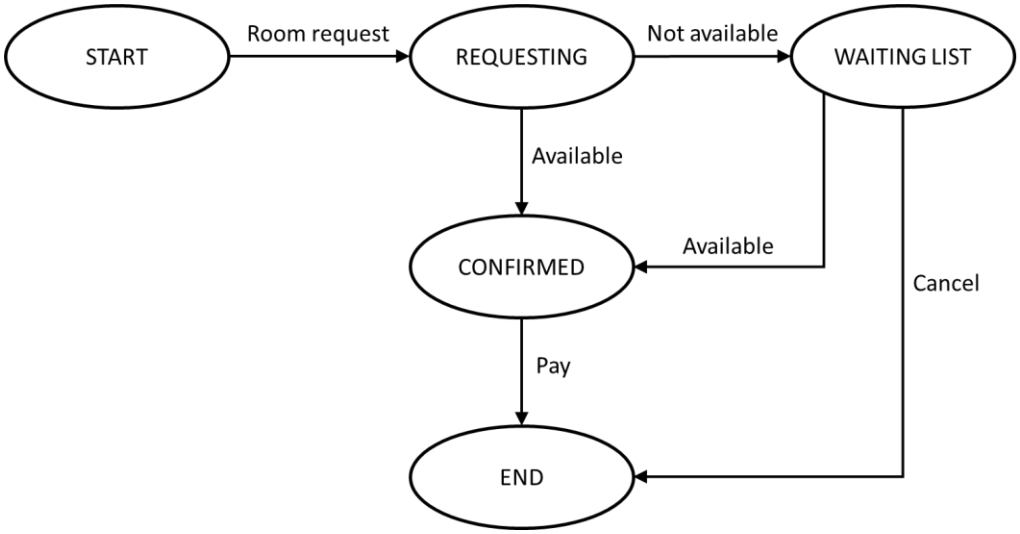
What test data will show that there are contradictory rules in the decision table?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	C1 = T, C2 = T, C3 = F	☐
b)	C1 = T, C2 = F, C3 = T	☐
c)	C1 = T, C2 = T, C3 = T and C1 = F, C2 = T, C3 = T	☐
d)	C1 = F, C2 = F, C3 = F	☐

Question 23	FL-4.2.4	K3	Score 1.0

You are designing test cases based on the following state transition diagram:



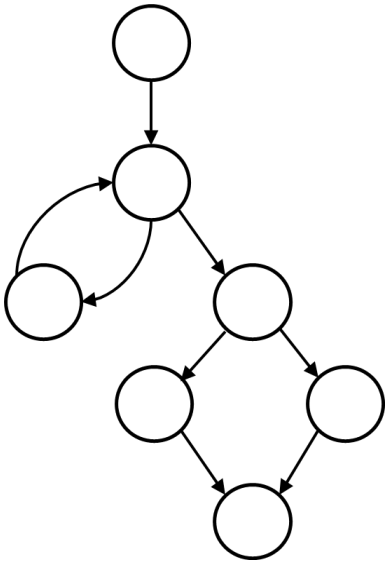
What is the MINIMUM number of test cases required to achieve 100% valid transitions coverage?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	3	☐
b)	2	☐
c)	5	☐
d)	6	☐

Question 24	FL-4.3.2	K2	Score 1.0

You want to apply branch testing to the code represented by the following control flow graph.



How many coverage items do you need to test?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	2	☐
b)	4	☐
c)	8	☐
d)	7	☐

Question 25	FL-4.3.3	K2	Score 1.0

How can white-box testing be useful in support of black-box testing?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	White-box coverage measures can help testers evaluate black-box tests in terms of the code coverage achieved by these black-box tests.	☐
b)	White-box coverage analysis can help testers identify unreachable fragments of the source code.	☐
c)	Branch testing subsumes black-box test techniques, so achieving full branch coverage guarantees achieving full coverage of any black-box technique.	☐
d)	White-box test techniques can provide coverage items for black-box techniques.	☐

Question 26	FL-4.4.1	K2	Score 1.0

Consider the following list:

- **Correct input not accepted**
- **Incorrect input accepted**
- **Wrong output format**
- **Division by zero**

What test technique is MOST PROBABLY used by the tester who uses this list when performing testing?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	Exploratory testing	☐
b)	Fault attack	☐
c)	Checklist-based testing	☐
d)	Boundary value analysis	☐

Question 27	FL-4.4.3	K2	Score 1.0

Which of the following BEST describes how using checklist-based testing can result in increased coverage?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	Checklist items can be defined at a sufficiently low level of detail, so the tester can implement and execute detailed test cases based on these items.	☐
b)	Checklists can be automated, so each time an automated test execution covers the checklist items, it results in additional coverage.	☐
c)	Each checklist item should be tested separately and independently, so the elements cover different areas of the software.	☐
d)	Two testers designing and executing tests based on the same high-level checklist items will typically perform the testing in slightly different ways.	☐

Question 28	FL-4.5.2	K2	Score 1.0

Which of the following acceptance criteria is a typical example of a scenario-oriented criterion?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	The application must allow users to delete their account and all associated data upon request.	☐
b)	When a customer adds an item to their cart and proceeds to checkout, they should be prompted to log in or create an account if they haven't already done so.	☐
c)	IF (contain(product(23).Name, cart.products())) THEN return FALSE.	☐
d)	The website must comply with the ICT Accessibility 508 Standards and ensure that all content is accessible to users with disabilities.	☐

Question 29	FL-4.5.3	K3	Score 1.0

You are using acceptance test-driven development and designing test cases based on the following user story:

As a Regular or Special user, I want to be able to use my electronic floor card, to access specific floors.

Acceptance Criteria:

AC1: Regular users have access to floors 1 to 3

AC2: Floor 4 is only accessible to Special users

AC3: Special users have all the access rights of Regular users

Which test case is the MOST reasonable one to test AC3?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	Check that a Regular user can access floors 1 and 3.	☐
b)	Check that a Regular user cannot access floor 4.	☐
c)	Check that a Special user can access floor 5.	☐
d)	Check that a Special user can access floors 1, 2 and 3.	☐

Question 30	FL-5.1.1	K2	Score 1.0

Which of the following is NOT a purpose or typical content of a test plan?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

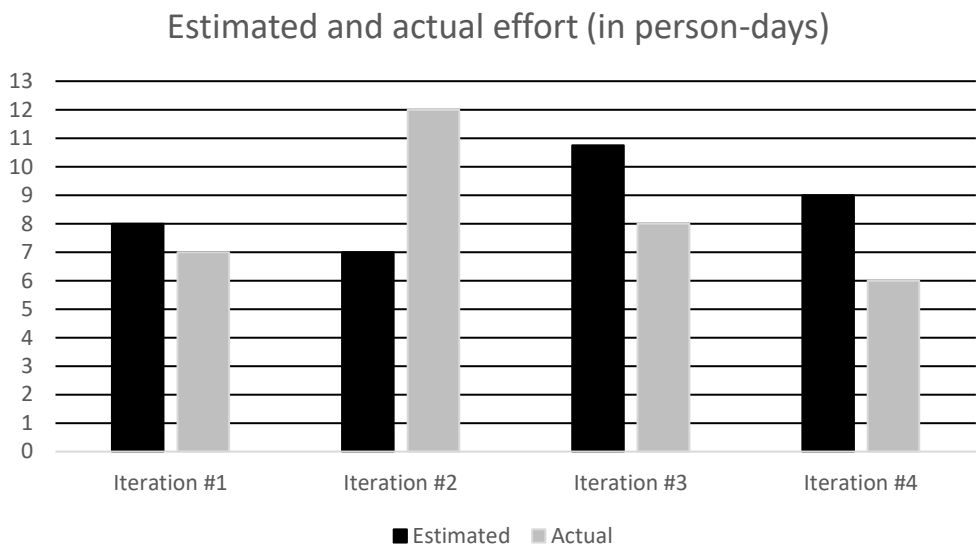
a)	To define detailed concrete test data and expected results for individual component and component integration test cases.	☐
b)	To define as exit criteria from the component test level that “100% statement coverage and 100% branch coverage must be achieved”.	☐
c)	To define the forms and frequency of communication, as well as documentation templates for test reports.	☐
d)	To explain why a test level required by the test strategy, such as system integration testing, will not be performed.	☐

Question 31	FL-5.1.4	K3	Score 1.0

At the beginning of each iteration, the team estimates the test effort (in person-days) it will perform during that iteration. E(n) denotes the estimated effort and A(n) the actual effort performed in iteration n. From the third iteration onward, the team uses the following extrapolation model for effort estimation:

$$E(n) = \frac{3 * A(n-1) + A(n-2)}{4}$$

A graph shows the estimated and actual values for the first four iterations.



What is the estimated test effort for iteration #5?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

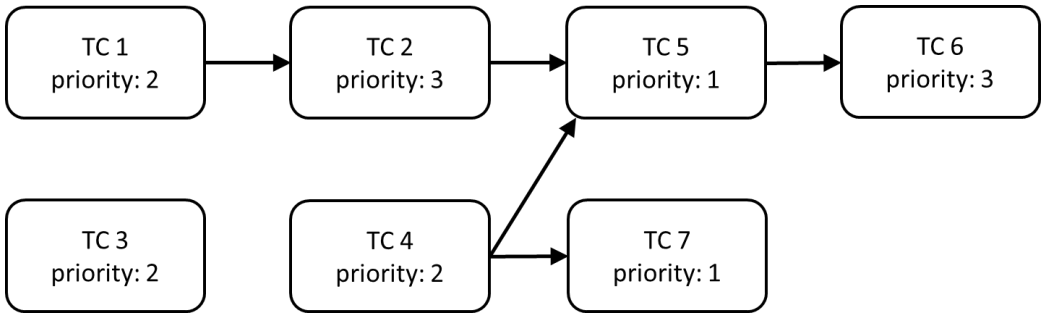
a)	10.5 person-days	☐
b)	8.25 person-days	☐
c)	6.5 person-days	☐
d)	9.4 person-days	☐

Question 32	FL-5.1.5	K3	Score 1.0

You are preparing a test execution schedule for seven test cases (TC 1 to TC 7).

The figure shows: - the priority of each test case (1 = highest, 3 = lowest) - dependencies between the test cases in the form of directed arrows.

A test case may only be executed if all predecessor test cases on which it depends have already been executed.



The test execution schedule is to be created so that priority 1 test cases are executed as early as possible. For this purpose, predecessor test cases with lower priority may be scheduled before other already executable test cases with higher priority, if this is required to execute priority 1 test cases earlier.

Which test case should be executed sixth according to these constraints?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	TC 3	☐
b)	TC 5	☐
c)	TC 6	☐
d)	TC 2	☐

Question 33	FL-5.1.6	K1	Score 1.0

What does the test pyramid model show?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	That tests may have different priorities.	☐
b)	That tests may have different granularity.	☐
c)	That tests may require different coverage criteria.	☐
d)	That tests may depend on other tests.	☐

Question 34	FL-5.1.7	K2	Score 1.0

What is the relationship between the testing quadrants, test levels and test types?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	Testing quadrants represent particular combinations of test levels and test types, defining their location in the software development lifecycle.	☐
b)	Testing quadrants describe the degree of granularity of individual test types performed at each test level.	☐
c)	Testing quadrants assign the test types that can be performed to the test levels.	☐
d)	Testing quadrants group test levels and test types by several criteria such as targeting specific stakeholders.	☐

Question 35	FL-5.2.3	K2	Score 1.0

Which of the following is an example of how product risk analysis may influence the thoroughness and scope of testing?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	Continuous risk monitoring allows us to identify emerging risk as soon as possible.	☐
b)	Risk identification allows us to implement risk mitigation activities and reduce the risk level.	☐
c)	The assessed risk level helps determine the required thoroughness and scope of testing.	☐
d)	Risk analysis provides the basis for selecting technical test objects.	☐

Question 36	FL-5.3.2	K2	Score 1.0

In which of the following activities are data from test progress reports typically used?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	Test design	☐
b)	Test completion	☐
c)	Test analysis	☐
d)	Test planning	☐

Question 37	FL-5.4.1	K2	Score 1.0

Which of the following is NOT an example of how configuration management supports testing?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	All configuration items in the repository are uniquely identified, version controlled, and changes are tracked.	☐
b)	All changes in the test environment elements are tracked.	☐
c)	All requirement specifications are referenced unambiguously in test plans.	☐
d)	All identified defects have an assigned status.	☐

Question 38	FL-5.5.1	K3	Score 1.0

Consider the following defect report for a web-based shopping application:

Application: WebShop v0.99

Defect: Login button not working

Steps to Reproduce:

Launch the website

Click on the login button

Expected result: The user should be redirected to the login page.

Actual result: The login button does not respond when clicked.

Severity: High

Priority: Urgent

What is the MOST important missing information for reproducing this defect?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	Name of the tester and date of the report.	☐
b)	Test environment elements and their version numbers.	☐
c)	Identification of the test object.	☐
d)	Impact on the interests of stakeholders.	☐

Question 39	FL-6.1.1	K2	Score 1.0

Which of the following tool categories supports the management of requirements, tests, defects, and configuration?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	Test execution and coverage tools	☐
b)	Test design and implementation tools	☐
c)	Defect management tools	☐
d)	Test management tools	☐

Question 40	FL-6.2.1	K1	Score 1.0

Which of the following is a typical benefit of test automation?

Please select ONE option! (1 out of 4)

a)	The capability of generating test cases without access to the test basis.	☐
b)	The achievement of increased coverage through more objective assessment.	☐
c)	The increase in test execution times available with higher processing power.	☐
d)	The prevention of simple human errors through consistent and repeatable test execution.	☐

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