

BCS Intermediate Certificate in Software Testing



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BCS INTERMEDIATE CERTIFICATE IN SOFTWARE TESTING

Introduction

This information pack describes e-testing's Intermediate Certificate in Software Testing course based on the BCS syllabus. The purpose of this pack is to set correct expectations for the course and to provide delegates with as much information as possible prior to the actual training, to prepare them to make the most out of the course. For more information, please contact us at training@etesting.com.

BCS Intermediate Certificate

This course is accredited by the British Computer Society (BCS). This is a 4 day course, the aim of which is to provide delegates with sufficient knowledge to pass the examination on the final day of the course. Applicants must already possess the ISTQB-BCS Certified Tester: Foundation Level qualification. Successful completion of the Intermediate examination leads to the award of the BCS Intermediate Certificate in Software Testing.

e-testing[®] Training Services

e-testing offers training in software testing, including the Foundation and Advanced Level certified courses. Non certified courses include User Acceptance Testing, Usability Testing and Introduction to Testing. Courses can be run from our own premises, at public venues throughout the UK and on client sites anywhere in the world.



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Company Profile

e-testing is an independent specialist IT firm with a total focus in software testing — both consultancy and training.

Established in 1999, we deliver high quality managed strategies and systematic solutions to locate weaknesses within the complexity of any IT system. Our training material is all developed in-house by testing professionals with many years industry experience behind them and is also licensed to other course providers.

e-testing is certified to ISO9001 standard and provides its services to a range of high profile clients.

Who Should Attend?

The Syllabus is intended for anyone involved in the *practice* of software testing.

This particularly includes:

- Testers
- Test Analysts
- Test Engineers
- Test Consultants
- Test Managers
- User Acceptance Testers
- Software Developers

Course Outline

The course is presented as five modules:

1. Testing Fundamentals
2. Reviews
3. Testing and Risk
4. Test Management
5. Test Analysis



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Module 1: Testing Fundamentals

Review of the Foundation Certificate Syllabus

Recalls the main principles and themes from the Foundation syllabus, all of which are considered part of the required knowledge for this level of certification.

Application Domains

Introduces the concept of “application domains” as platforms for the testing and use of software applications, and describes similarities and differences between typical examples.

Identifies and explains testing challenges associated with these application domains, so that candidates can analyse situations to determine the testing challenges present.

Testing in the Life Cycle

Elaborates on the coverage of software life cycles in the Foundation syllabus to provide a more detailed coverage, including identification of other processes with which testing interfaces during development. Describes the testing challenges associated with various sequential and iterative life cycle models, and explains how these challenges can be met.

Fundamental Test Process

Recalls the fundamental test process and explains how it may be deployed in different situations and within different life cycle models.

Module 2: Reviews

This Module has general applicability that will be assumed as background knowledge for both the Test Management and Test Analysis syllabuses, and provides practical examples of the use of reviews. The Test Management syllabus will cover further management issues relating to reviews.

The Principles of Reviews

Recalls the basic review process defined in the Foundation syllabus, relating it to that defined by IEEE Std 1028, recalling that reviews may come in a variety of forms and have different objectives, and emphasizing the value of using source documents in reviews. Recalls different roles that may be defined for a particular review, and describes possible outcomes from a review.



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Types of Review

Provides further detail on informal reviews, walkthroughs, technical reviews, and inspections, and augments them with *management reviews* from IEEE Std 1028.

Using Different Review Types

Describes how more than one type of review could be used, and the relationship of reviews to dynamic testing, so that candidates can analyse organisations and situations to identify the most appropriate choice of review type(s).

Performing a Formal Review

Provides practical experience in conducting a formal review. Candidates analyse the effectiveness of the review performed and assess the potential effectiveness of other forms of review in a similar situation.

Module 3: Testing and Risk

This section provides a general background about risk for the Test Analyst, and will be further developed in the Test Management Syllabus.

Introduction to Risk

Recalls the nature of product risk and project risk and their effects. Explains how risks can interact with other risks, and describes typical risks associated with given application domains.

Risk Management

Describes the core activities of risk management: risk identification, risk analysis, and risk mitigation. Explains the importance of achieving maximum stakeholder involvement in these activities, and the relationship between risk and testing.

Product Risk Identification and Analysis

Identifies typical product risks as the basis of testing, so that candidates can analyse a situation and recognise risks within that scenario.



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Module 4: Test Management

Drawing on the Foundation syllabus, this module provides a basic introduction to test management that will be developed in greater detail in the Test Management syllabus and will provide essential background for the Test Analysis syllabus.

Test Policy, Test Strategy, Test Plans

Explains the hierarchy of test management levels and their associated documentation, describing the role and purpose of each document in the test management hierarchy, so that candidates can analyse a suite of documentation to determine its effectiveness in defining policy, strategy and plans.

Test Entry and Exit Criteria

Explain the significance of objective entry and exit criteria for test levels, giving examples of suitable test entry and exit criteria and explaining possible alternative courses of action when test entry and exit criteria are not met. Candidates will analyse testing situations to select appropriate test entry and exit criteria.

Estimating Techniques

Explains the nature and importance of estimation applied to testing, different methods for estimating time and effort required to design, document, schedule and execute tests, and the value of using more than one method. Explains the difference between an estimate and a target, and why more than one cycle or iteration of test execution should be estimated. Candidates will analyse a situation to determine the best estimating approach and make estimates of test effort and duration.

Test Monitoring

Describes how testing may be monitored, giving examples of typical measures of test progress and test quality. Identifies the content of test summary reports appropriate to a range of stakeholders and at different stages of the test process and at different points in the life cycle.

Incident Management Process

Describes alternative processes for reporting, tracking, and analysing incidents to ensure that remedial action is effective. Candidates will analyse a simple incident management process to identify possible improvements.



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Module 5: Test Analysis

This Module provides a basic introduction to test analysis that will be developed in greater detail in the Test Analysis syllabus and will provide essential background for the Test Management syllabus.

Fundamentals of Test Analysis

Defines the test analysis function, recalling the basic relationships between test basis, test condition, test design, test case and test procedure (manual test script).

Test Environment Requirements

Identifies and explains the principles behind determination of test environment needs for executing tests. Candidates will analyse a situation to identify test environment requirements.

Selection of Techniques

Explores alternative approaches to testing, including fundamental differences between static and dynamic testing and between scripted and unscripted testing, and describes strengths, weaknesses and appropriate uses of each. Describes categories of test techniques available to testers, and possible criteria for selecting test design techniques. Explains pitfalls as well as benefits of deploying test design techniques. Candidates will analyse a practical testing situation and select appropriate test design techniques.

Coverage Measures

Reviews the concept of coverage and identifies and defines various coverage measures. Explains the importance of defining what coverage measures mean in a practical situation. Candidates will analyse a practical testing situation and select appropriate coverage measures.

Examination – 25 scenario-based multiple choice questions

Candidates are allowed 1 hour for the examination (with extra time allowed for those for whom English is not their first language). The pass mark is 60%.



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Course Schedule

Day 1

09:00 – 12:30
13:00 – 17:30

Day 2

09:00 – 12:30
13:00 – 17:30

Day 3

09:00 – 12:30
13:00 – 17:30

Day 4

09:00 – 12:30
13:00 – 14:30
15:00 – 16:00 Examination

The Examination

- Carried out by an external examiner provided by the British Computer Society (BCS).
- There is no scheduled homework, but nightly revision at home is recommended in order to be successful.
- The examination is 1 hour in duration, with 25 multiple choice questions
- Sample papers and questions to check progress are given throughout the course.

Further Information

- A list of recommended books and websites is available from our website:
<http://www.etesting.com/testing-info/>



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Confirmed bookings

Delegates must return a completed booking form to constitute a confirmed booking.

2. Fees

Full payment must be made at the time of booking unless you are an e-testing account holder. If you are an account holder, payment must be received at least 14 days before the course commences. The fees cover tuition, all course documentation and materials, lunch and refreshments.

3. Payment Terms

Payment terms are immediate for non-account clients or 14 days prior to the course start date for account holders. Any account holders with different payment terms must contact e-testing to discuss their requirements upon booking. Please note, credit card payments are subject to a 2% surcharge.

Only clients who have paid the full amount in advance will be entitled to attend the training course. Cancellation terms apply to delegates who do not comply with the payment terms.

4. Substitutions

Direct substitution of a delegate(s) on a particular course may be made without penalty, provided that a minimum of one week's notice is given. Substitutions can only be made on a like for like basis, i.e. one delegate can be substituted for another on the same course (not on a course to take place in the future).

5. Transfers

Transfers will only be processed once full payment for the original booking has been received by e-testing. Only one transfer per delegate is permitted. In exceptional circumstances, and at the sole discretion of e-testing, transfers to another presentation of the same course may be allowed, within the cancellation period as set out above.

6. Cancellations

All cancellations must be confirmed in writing and are subject to the following charges:

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| More than 4 weeks in advance | = no charge |
| 2 – 4 weeks in advance | = 50% of the course fee |
| Less than 2 weeks in advance | = 100% of the course fee |

7. Cancellation by e-testing

Should accident or illness, or any event outside the control of e-testing, prevent us from running the course at the scheduled time, we would do our utmost to reschedule; however, by booking a course, the client indemnifies and holds harmless e-testing from and against any and all costs, damages, expenses and losses, howsoever caused, which are incurred by the client.