Exploratory testing – Black or white?
Using Focus Groups to Enhance Collaboration

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The Reality of Testing Today

- Huge Legacy
- More and more complex product
- Less people working on it
- Increase quality focus
- Need a quicker way towards good quality (Exploratory…?)
What is ET?

Exploratory software testing (ET) is a style of software testing that emphasizes the personal freedom and responsibility of the individual tester to continually optimize the value of her work by treating test-related learning, test design, test execution, and test result interpretation as mutually supportive activities that run in parallel throughout the project.
Variations of Exploratory Testing

Freestyle

Pure scripted
Variations of Exploratory Testing

Freestyle

Test object only

Pure scripted

Test object, test steps, test data
Variations of Exploratory Testing

Freestyle
- Test object only

Pure scripted
- Test object, test steps, test data
- Test goals, constraints
Actionable Exploratory Testing

Workshop agenda

• Introduction (10 min): research context, team & participants
• The principles of exploratory testing (5 min)
• Alternative types of test charters (20 min)
• Exercise: Write test cases according to test charter templates (15 + 25 min)
• Reflect on improvements (10 min)
• Closing (5 min): Sum up; next steps
## Findings: Plus & Minuses

| + Trace of coverage                          | - Initial cost of tc creation               |
| + Rapid feedback                            | - Easy to miss specific requirements        |
| + Less admin/ barriers to testing           | - Requires knowledge                       |
| + Resilient to changes                      | + Changes managed informally               |
| + Changes managed informally                | - Changes managed informally               |
| + Supports learning                         |                                            |
Outcome – guidance for future

Test Priority
1. Most important use cases (customer/legal)
2. NFR’s (Stability, Performance, Power…)
3. ET to cover most other areas

Good to consider for ET
- mixed experienced testers
- mix different levels and degrees of exploration when designing/executing tests
Further contacts

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Further reading


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