ISTQB - Foundation Level Extension Exam Structure and Rules
Version 1.3

International Software Testing Qualifications Board

ISTQB™

Document Category: Internal Regulatory
Release Date: 31 October, 2015 (version 1.3)
Effective Date: 31 October, 2015 (version 1.3)

Model-Based Tester Foundation Level Extension Working Group: 2013-2015

Exam Working Group: 2014 - 2015

Revision History

Version	Date	Author	Remarks
Draft 0.1	21 June 2013	D. Friedenberg	Initial draft for internal WG review
Draft 0.2	22August 2013	D. Friedenberg	Includes comments from EWG and updated LO's from Agile WG.
Draft 0.3	27 August 2013	D. Friedenberg	Includes the draft exam structure based on updated LO's
Draft 0.4	29 August 201313	D. Friedenberg	Incorporated initial comments and corrections from the Exam and Agile WG's. Used alternate question timing to modify the overall exam length. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS DRAFT IS PRIMARILY FOR INTERNAL DISCUSSION ON EXAM LENGTHS
Draft 0.5	05 September 2013	D. Friedenberg	Changed the timing of the exam based on using the formula K1=1 minute, K2=1.5 minutes, K3=3 minutes.
Draft 0.6	11 September. 2013	C. Cornelius	Tidy up for alpha release, removing comments aimed at WGs
Draft 0.7	21September 2013	D. Friedenberg	Initial version to be released for GA motion. Alpha review comments and corrections incorporated.
Draft 1.0	24 October2013	D. Friedenberg	Minor changes for final GA agenda
Draft 1.0B	19December 2013	D. Friedenberg	Changes for email GA vote. Now a 60 minute structure.
Draft 1.1	31 December 2013	Carol Cornelius	Change to make style and wording consistent with other released EWG structure documents; remove information already contained in other documents
Draft 1.2	20 March 2014	Carol Cornelius	Prep for beta release
Version 1.2	29 March 2014	D. Friedenberg	Officially released version. All comments removed.
Draft 1.3	04 April 2015	Natasa Micuda	Added Appendix B for Model-Based Tester extension – first draft
Revision	12 April 2015	Lucjan Stapp	First revision after added Appendix B
Revision	17 April 2015	Bruno Legeard	Minor changes for final Copenhagen GA Agenda
Revision	21 April 2015	Lucjan Stapp	Minor changes
Revision	17 August 2015	Bruno Legeard	Minor changes after beta review
Revision	25 August 2015	Lucjan Stapp	Minor changes after final review

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements

The original document was produced and reviewed by a team from the International Software Testing Qualifications Board Agile Foundation Level Extension and Exam Working Groups.

Debra Friedenberg		
Carol Cornelius		

The team thanks the Exam Working Group, the Foundation Level Agile Extension Working Group, the Foundation Level Working Group and the National Boards for their suggestions and input.

This document was formally approved by the general Assembly of ISTQB™ on 23rd October 2015

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This document describes both the general structure and rules of all Foundation Level Extension examinations as well as the individual exam structures for each of individual extension syllabi.

1.2 Validity and applicability

All Foundation Level Extension examinations shall comply with the rules in this document regardless of language and media.

A Foundation Level Extension syllabus may not be officially released to the public unless the Foundation Level Extension Exam Structure and Rules (this document) incorporating the structure and rules for that Foundation Level Extension has been approved for release by the ISTQB General Assembly (GA). For additional rules regarding syllabus release see "ISTQB – Syllabus Release Process and Rules" document.

1.3 Document development and responsibility

This document was developed by a joint team consisting of members of the ISTQB Foundation Level Agile Extension, ISTQB Foundation Level Model-Based Tester Extension and ISTQB Examination Working Groups.

The ISTQB Examination Working Group is responsible for the production and maintenance (i.e. creation of new versions after initial release) of the document.

1.4 Definitions

- LEARNING OBJECTIVE (LO): Learning objectives describe the gain on cognitive competence to be achieved in relation to given content.
- MCQ: Multiple-Choice Question. Multiple-Choice is a form of assessment in which respondents are asked to select the best possible answer (or answers) from the options in a list.

2. The Foundation Level Extension Examinations General Structure and Rules

2.1 Introduction and background

The Foundation Level Extension Overview [ISTQB-FA-OVIEW] document provides a general overview of the Foundation Level Extensions.

For the rules and recommendations for writing multiple-choice questions see the Certified Tester [ISTQB-QWRR].

Rules:

ST1: Each Foundation Level Extension topic (e.g. Foundation Agile Testing or Model Based Testing) constitutes a separate syllabus and each will have an exam structure tailored for that specific syllabus. Individual examination structures may be found in the appendices at the end of this document.

ST2: Answers to questions may rely on concepts introduced in the ISTQB Foundation Level Syllabus.

2.2 General structure of the exams

For the definitions and rules for writing multiple-choice questions and information on Knowledge Levels (K-Levels), see the ISTQB Question Writing Rules and Recommendations Document [ISTQB-QWRR].

Rules:

ST3: The exams shall comprise 40 multiple-choice questions.

ST4: Each correct answer has a value of one point.

ST5: The maximum possible score for each examination is 40 points.

2.3 Duration

Rules:

ST6: Examination timing information may be found in the appendices at the end of this document.

2.4 Passing Score

Rules:

ST7: Candidates must score 65% or above (26 or more points) to pass the exam.

2.5 Question types and distribution

Rules:

ST8: The exam multiple-choice question distribution for individual Foundation Extension exams will be based on the K-levels of LOs and chapter timing for each specific syllabus.

ST9: All multiple-choice question types, as outlined in the ISTQB Question Writing Rules and Recommendations document [ISTQB-QWRR], are allowed.

3. References

3.1 ISTQB references

Identifier	Reference
[ISTQB-FA-OVIEW]	ISTQB Foundation Level Extension Overview, Version 1.0
[ISTQB-FA-SYL]	ISTQB Foundation Level Agile Extension Syllabus, Version 1.0
[ISTQB-CTFL-MBT]	ISTQB Certified Tester Foundation Level Extension Model-Based Tester Syllabus, Version 1.0
[ISTQB-FL-EXAM]	ISTQB - Foundation Level Exam Structure & Rules, Version 2010-1
[ISTQB-QWRR]	ISTQB – Question Writing Rules and Recommendations v1.0
[ISTQB –PROC]	ISTQB Syllabus Release Process and Rules Document
[ISTQB-CTFL]	ISTQB Foundation Level Syllabus, Version 2011
[ISTQB-GLOSSARY]	ISTQB Glossary, Version 3.0.1
[ISTQB – WEB]	Website of the International Software Testing Qualifications Board. Refer to this website for the latest ISTQB syllabi and glossary

3.2 Books

Identifier	Reference
[ANDERSON 01]	A Taxonomy for Learning, Teaching, and Assessing: A Revision of Bloom's Taxonomy of Educational Objectives, Anderson, L. W., & Krathwohl, D. R. (Eds.), 2001, Addison Wesley Longman

3.3 Trademarks

The following registered trademarks and service marks are used in this document:
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4. Appendix A: Foundation Level Agile Extension Exam Structure

4.1 General Structure

Overview

	Exam Duration	Additional Time for qualifying candidates
Foundation Agile Extension Exam	60 minutes	15 minutes

Agile Extension question distribution

Chapter 1 Question Distribution	K-Level	Number of Questions per LO	
FA-1.1.1 FA-1.2.1 FA-1.2.5 Agile Extension Terms	K1	Exactly FIVE K1 questions are required for Chapter 1. A minimum of ONE question is required for each of the THREE K1 LOs. The fourth question must be based on any of the K1 LOs. The fifth question may either be based on one of the K1 LOs or a term.	**There are a total of 13 questions required for Chapter 1.** **K1 = 5 questions** **K2 = 7 questions** **K3 = 1 question**
FA-1.1.2	K2	2	
FA-1.1.3	K2	2	
FA-1.2.2	K3	1	
FA- 1.2.3	K2	2	
FA- 1.2.4	K2	1	

Chapter 2 Question Distribution	K-Level	Number of Questions per LO	
Agile Extension Terms	K1	Exactly ONE question based on terms is required for Chapter 2.	**There are a total of 12 questions required for Chapter 2.** **K1 = 1 question** **K2 = 11 questions** **K3 = 0 questions**
FA-2.1.1	K2	1	
FA-2.1.2	K2	1	
FA-2.1.3	K2	2	
FA-2.2.1	K2	2	
FA-2.2.2	K2	2	
FA-2.3.1	K2	1	
FA-2.3.2	K2	2	

Chapter 3 Question Distribution	K-Level	Number of Questions per LO	
FA-3.1.1 FA 3.1.2 FA-3.4.1 Agile Extension Terms	K1	Exactly FOUR K1 questions are required for Chapter 3. A minimum of ONE question is required for each of the THREE K1 LOs. The fourth question may either be based on an LO or a term.	
FA-3.1.3	K2	2	
FA 3.1.4	K3	1	
FA-3.2.1	K3	1	**There are a total of 15 questions required for Chapter 3.** **K1 = 4 questions** **K2 = 4 questions** **K3 = 7 questions**
FA-3.2.2	K3	1	
FA-3.3.1	K3	1	
FA-3.3.2	K2	2	
FA-3.3.3	K3	1	
FA-3.3.4	K3	1	
FA-3.3.5	K3	1	
Foundation Agile Extension TOTALS		**60 minutes**	**40 questions total**

5. Appendix B: Certified Tester Foundation Level Model-Based Tester - Exam Structure

5.1 General Structure

Overview

	Exam Duration	Additional Time for qualifying candidates
Foundation Level Model-Based Tester Exam	60 minutes	15 minutes

Model-Based Tester question distribution

Chapter 1 Question Distribution	K-Level	Number of Questions per LO	
Model-Based Tester Foundation level Terms	K1	Exactly ONE question is required to be based on a term.	**There are a total of 7 questions required for Chapter 1.** **K1 = 2 questions** **K2 = 5 questions** **K3 = 0 question**
FM-1.1.1	K2	1	
FM-1.1.2	K2	1	
FM-1.2.1	K2	1	
FM- 1.2.2	K1	1	
FM- 1.3.1	K2	1	
FM- 1.3.2	K2	1	

Chapter 2 Question Distribution	K-Level	Number of Questions per LO	
Model-Based Tester Foundation level Terms	K1	For Chapter 2 there will be NO required questions based on terms.	**There are a total of 13 questions required for Chapter 2.** **K1 = 4 questions** **K2 = 7 questions** **K3 = 2 questions**
FM-2.1.1	K3	1	
FM-2.1.2	K3	1	
FM-2.1.3	K2	1	
FM-2.1.4	K2	1	
FM-2.2.1	K1	1	
FM-2.2.2	K1	1	
FM-2.3.1	K1	1	
FM-2.3.2	K2	1	
FM-2.3.3	K2	1	
FM-2.3.4	K2	1	
FM-2.3.5	K2	1	
FM-2.3.6	K1	1	
FM-2.3.7	K2	1	

Certified Tester
Foundation Level Extension Exam Structure and Rules

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Chapter 3 Question Distribution	K-Level	Number of Questions per LO	
Model-Based Tester Foundation level Terms	K1	Exactly TWO questions are required to be based on a term.	**There are a total of 9 questions required for Chapter 3.** **K1 = 3 questions** **K2 = 4 questions** **K3 = 2 questions**
FM-3.1.1	K2	1	
FM-3.1.2	K3	1	
FM-3.1.3	K2	1	
FM-3.1.4	K2	1	
FM-3.2.1	K1	1	
FM-3.2.2	K3	1	
FM-3.2.3	K2	1	

Chapter 4 Question Distribution	K-Level	Number of Questions per LO	
Model-Based Tester Foundation level Terms	K1	Exactly ONE question is required to be based on a term.	
FM-4.1.1	K2	1	**There are a total of 5 questions required for Chapter 4.** **K1 = 1 questions** **K2 = 3 questions** **K3 = 1 question**
FM-4.1.2	K2	1	
FM-4.1.3	K3	1	
FM-4.2.1	K2	1	

Chapter 5 Question Distribution	K-Level	Number of Questions per LO	
Model-Based Tester Foundation level Terms	K1	For Chapter 5 there will be NO required questions based on terms.	There are a total of 6 questions required for Chapter 5. **K1 = 3 questions** **K2 = 3 questions** **K3 = 0 question**
FM-5.1.1	K2	1	
FM-5.1.2	K2	1	
FM-5.1.3	K1	1	
FM-5.2.1	K1	1	
FM-5.2.2	K1	1	
FM-5.2.3	K2	1	
Model-Based Tester – Foundation Level - TOTALS		**60 minutes**	**40 questions total**