





# INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

**QA Tester (Technical)** 





# COGNIZANT TECHNICAL QUESTION FOR QA TESTER

(With Sample answer, Tips and Code Snippet)

01

What is your approach to creating a test plan?

#### **Sample Answer**

I start by analyzing the project requirements, defining the scope of testing, and identifying key functionalities to test. I outline the test objectives, deliverables, test environment setup, and resource allocation. I also determine test criteria, such as entry and exit points, and ensure the plan covers both functional and non-functional testing.

#### Interview Tip

Highlight your ability to design comprehensive test plans that align with project goals, a critical skill at Cognizant, where thorough testing is essential for complex projects.

02

How do you differentiate between severity and priority when reporting bugs?

#### Sample Answer

Severity refers to the impact of the defect on the system's functionality, while priority relates to the urgency of fixing the defect. For example, a spelling mistake in a user-facing screen might have low severity but high priority because it affects the user experience

#### Interview Tip

Show that you understand how to assess both severity and priority correctly, which is important for managing testing cycles efficiently at Cognizant.





#### What types of testing have you worked with?

#### **Sample Answer**

I have experience with functional testing, regression testing, system testing, integration testing, and performance testing. I've also done API testing using Postman and security testing to ensure data protection and compliance.

#### Interview Tip

At Cognizant, projects often require diverse testing approaches. Mention your experience with various types of testing and how you decide which is most applicable to a given scenario.

04

### Can you describe how you perform regression testing?

#### **Sample Answer**

I maintain an automated regression test suite that runs whenever new features or fixes are introduced. I ensure that previously working functionalities are retested to confirm they remain unaffected by the new changes. Tools like Selenium and Jenkins help in automating these tests for faster feedback.

#### Interview Tip

Regression testing is crucial in large projects. Highlight your experience with automation tools that speed up regression testing, especially in continuous integration environments.





#### What testing tools are you proficient in?

#### **Sample** Answer

I am proficient in tools like Selenium for automation, JIRA for bug tracking and project management, Postman for API testing, and JMeter for performance testing. I also have experience with TestNG for organizing test suites and Git for version control.

#### Interview Tip

Cognizant uses a variety of testing tools across different projects, so emphasize your familiarity with popular tools and their application in real-world scenarios.

# 06

#### How do you ensure the quality of your test cases?

#### Sample Answer

I ensure test case quality by thoroughly reviewing the requirements, covering both positive and negative scenarios, and ensuring the test cases are clear, concise, and easy to follow. I also perform peer reviews to get feedback from the team and improve the test coverage.

#### Interview Tip

Discuss the importance of collaboration in QA, as peer reviews are essential in ensuring that no critical test case is missed.





### How do you handle incomplete or ambiguous requirements?

#### **■** Sample Answer

If the requirements are incomplete or unclear, I proactively communicate with the product owner or business analyst to seek clarification. I also document assumptions and create exploratory test cases to cover potential scenarios that may have been overlooked.

#### Interview Tip

Demonstrate that you can work effectively even when requirements are not fully defined, a common scenario in fast-paced Agile environments like Cognizant.

# 08

#### How do you test an API?

#### **Sample Answer**

I use Postman to test APIs by sending requests with different methods (GET, POST, PUT, DELETE) and verifying the response status codes, headers, and payload. I also test for error handling and validation, ensuring the API behaves as expected under different conditions.

#### Interview Tip

API testing is critical for backend and integration layers in Cognizant's projects. Emphasize your ability to thoroughly test APIs, including performance and security aspects.





How do you ensure cross-browser compatibility in your tests?

#### **■** Sample Answer

I use tools like BrowserStack or Selenium Grid to test the application on different browsers and operating systems. I create automated tests to run across multiple browser configurations, ensuring that the application works as expected regardless of the user's environment.

#### Interview Tip

Emphasize your ability to handle cross-browser testing, which is essential in ensuring consistent user experience in web applications.

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Can you explain the importance of performance testing?

#### Sample Answer

Performance testing is critical for ensuring that an application can handle expected user loads and performs efficiently under various conditions. I use tools like JMeter to measure response times, throughput, and resource utilization, identifying bottlenecks before the application goes live.

#### Interview Tip

Highlight real examples where performance testing helped improve an application's reliability and user experience, especially in large-scale projects that Cognizant handles.





How do you deal with flaky or unstable automated tests?

#### **■** Sample Answer

I investigate flaky tests by analyzing logs and checking for environmental issues like network delays or inconsistent test data. I add explicit waits, optimize test execution times, or refactor the test code to make it more stable. I also re-run tests to confirm if the failure is consistent or sporadic.

#### Interview Tip

Cognizant values efficient test automation. Explain how you handle flaky tests to maintain reliability and reduce false negatives.

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How do you handle deadlines when managing multiple testing priorities?

#### Sample Answer

I prioritize tasks based on their impact on the project and criticality of the functionality being tested. I ensure that high-risk areas are covered first, using automated tests to handle regression and focusing manual effort on new features. Close coordination with the development team helps me stay on track.

#### Interview Tip

Discuss how you balance test automation, manual testing, and resource allocation to meet deadlines, which is crucial in client-driven environments like Cognizant.





### What is your experience with Agile methodologies in testing?

#### **■** Sample Answer

I have experience working in Agile teams, where I participate in daily standups, sprint planning, and retrospectives. I perform continuous testing throughout the sprint, ensuring that features are tested as they are developed. I also automate regression tests to support rapid iterations.

#### Interview Tip

Agile is commonly used in Cognizant projects. Emphasize your adaptability to fast-paced development cycles and how you ensure quality through Agile testing practices.

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#### How do you handle defect triage meetings?

#### Sample Answer

In defect triage meetings, I present bugs clearly, explaining their impact on the system and providing data from logs or screenshots as evidence. I collaborate with developers and project managers to prioritize fixes based on severity, business impact, and release deadlines.

#### Interview Tip

Cognizant places a high value on collaboration. Demonstrate your ability to communicate effectively during defect triage to ensure critical bugs are resolved quickly.





#### How do you perform security testing?

#### **■** Sample Answer

I use tools like OWASP ZAP to test for common vulnerabilities such as SQL injection, cross-site scripting (XSS), and improper authentication. I ensure that sensitive data is properly encrypted and access control mechanisms are in place to protect the system from unauthorized access.

#### Interview Tip

Security is a major concern in enterprise projects at Cognizant. Highlight your awareness of security threats and experience with penetration testing tools.

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How do you handle deadlines when managing multiple testing priorities?

#### Sample Answer

I use tools like Appium to automate tests across different mobile devices and operating systems. I test for functionality, UI consistency, performance under different network conditions, and battery consumption. I also test across screen resolutions to ensure the app is responsive.

#### Interview Tip

Mobile application testing is an important part of Cognizant's offerings. Show your experience in dealing with the unique challenges of mobile testing, such as device fragmentation.





## Can you explain boundary value analysis and its significance in testing?

#### **Sample Answer**

Boundary value analysis tests the limits of input ranges to identify edge cases where the system may fail. For example, if a field accepts values from 1 to 100, I would test values like 0, 1, 100, and 101 to ensure the system behaves as expected at the boundaries.

#### Interview Tip

Provide examples of how boundary value analysis has helped catch bugs that would have been missed with standard test cases.

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How do you ensure your test environment replicates the production environment?

#### **Sample Answer**

I work closely with DevOps and system admins to ensure that the test environment mimics production as closely as possible, including hardware, software configurations, and data. I also use containerization tools like Docker to ensure consistency across environments.

#### Interview Tip

Highlight your attention to detail in ensuring that the testing environment reflects production to reduce risks of environment-specific issues.





What is the role of a QA tester in ensuring a smooth user experience?

#### **■** Sample Answer

As a QA tester, I ensure a smooth user experience by testing not just the functionality but also usability, performance, and compatibility across different devices and browsers. I report issues related to navigation, responsiveness, and overall ease of use that could affect the end-user experience.

#### Interview Tip

User experience is key for client satisfaction. Show how you prioritize usability and UI testing in addition to functional testing.

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How do you handle a situation where you have conflicting feedback from developers and business stakeholders?

#### **■** Sample Answer

I mediate by presenting objective data from test results, logs, and metrics to explain the issue. I work with both sides to clarify requirements and the impact of defects. If necessary, I involve project managers or product owners to help resolve the conflict based on business priorities.

#### Interview Tip

Show that you can handle conflicts diplomatically, especially when balancing technical and business concerns, which is essential in client-focused roles like those at Cognizant.





#### How do you test for accessibility compliance?

#### **Sample Answer**

I test for accessibility using both manual methods and tools like AXE or WAVE to ensure compliance with WCAG (Web Content Accessibility Guidelines). I check for screen reader compatibility, keyboard navigation, color contrast, and proper labeling of forms to make sure the application is usable by people with disabilities.

#### Interview Tip

Cognizant serves a wide range of clients, including those who require accessibility compliance. Demonstrate your awareness of accessibility standards and testing practices.

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#### How do you ensure proper test data management?

#### Sample Answer

I create realistic test data that closely mimics production data while ensuring privacy by masking sensitive information. I also automate the generation of test data using scripts, ensuring that it's updated regularly and applicable across multiple test scenarios.

#### Interview Tip

Proper test data management is essential for accurate test results. Show your ability to maintain and refresh test data in a way that supports thorough testing.





Can you explain what test-driven development (TDD) is and how it improves the testing process?

#### **■** Sample Answer

TDD involves writing tests before the code is developed. This ensures that the system is built with testing in mind, making it easier to catch defects early. TDD improves the quality of code by encouraging developers to think through requirements before writing code and ensures that each new feature has test coverage from the start.

#### Interview Tip

TDD is widely adopted in Agile environments. Highlight your experience working with teams that follow TDD principles and how it contributes to delivering high-quality software.

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What is smoke testing, and when do you use it?

#### Sample Answer

Smoke testing is a type of preliminary testing performed to verify that the major functionalities of an application are working as expected after a build. It is done before proceeding to more detailed testing to ensure that the basic functions are stable.

#### Interview Tip

Smoke testing is key in fast-paced environments. Show how you use it to catch major issues early in the testing process.





## How do you ensure continuous learning and improvement in your QA skills?

#### **■** Sample Answer

I stay updated by attending webinars, taking online courses, and participating in QA communities. I also stay informed about new tools, frameworks, and testing methodologies by reading industry blogs and experimenting with them in side projects.

#### Interview Tip

Cognizant values continuous improvement. Highlight your passion for learning and evolving your testing skills to stay relevant in a rapidly changing industry.









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