



F6.3 Testing and test data

Robust programs · GCSE · OCR J277 2.3.2, AQA 8525 3.2.11, Edexcel 1CP2

6.1.6 · about 15 min

What this lesson is about

Iterative and final testing; normal, boundary, invalid and erroneous data; test plans in code.

- When to test
- Choosing test data
- A test plan
- Tests the program runs itself
- Testing a robot

Questions

5 marks in all

1. A speed must be from 0 to 100. Which is boundary test data?

[1 mark]

- ☐ A 100
- ☐ B 55
- ☐ C fast
- ☐ D 250

Answer: A. Boundary data sits at the edges of what is allowed, such as 0 and 100 (and just outside them).

2. A speed must be from 0 to 100. Which is erroneous test data?

[1 mark]

- ☐ A fast
- ☐ B 100
- ☐ C 55
- ☐ D 0

Answer: A. Erroneous data is the wrong type altogether.

3. What is iterative testing?

[1 mark]

- ☐ A Testing each part as it is built, and fixing it before moving on
- ☐ B Testing once the whole program is finished
- ☐ C Testing with random data
- ☐ D Testing by a different person

Answer: A. Final (terminal) testing is the check at the end.

4. When should the expected result in a test plan be worked out?

[1 mark]

- ☐ A Before running the test, from the requirements
- ☐ B After seeing what the program does
- ☐ C Only if the test fails
- ☐ D It is not needed

Answer: A. Otherwise it is too easy to decide that whatever happened was right.

5. What does this program print?

[1 mark]

```
def valid(s):  
    return 0 < s < 100  
  
print(valid(0), valid(50), valid(100))
```

Answer:

False True False

< excludes both ends, so 0 and 100 are rejected: a boundary bug.

The task: fix it with tests

The test program below has a boundary bug. Fix `valid_speed` so every test prints `pass`, without changing the tests. Then add two more tests of your own: one normal, one erroneous. All tests must pass.

```
# the two lines every program starts with: the commands, then the robot
from bugbot import *
connect()

def valid_speed(text):
    """True if text is a whole number from 0 to 100."""
    return text.isdigit() and 0 < int(text) < 100

tests = [("50", True), ("0", True), ("100", True), ("101", False), ("-5", False), ("fast", False)]

for number, (data, expected) in enumerate(tests, start=1):
    actual = valid_speed(data)
    result = "pass" if actual == expected else "FAIL"
    print(f"test {number}: {data!r} expected {expected}, got {actual}: {result}")
```

The hint students can ask for: The boundary is wrong: the lowest and highest allowed values should pass. Then add tests of your own, each a pair of an input and the answer you expect, including one that should be refused.

A solution

```
from bugbot import *
connect()
def valid_speed(text):
    """True if text is a whole number from 0 to 100."""
    return text.isdigit() and 0 <= int(text) <= 100

tests = [("50", True), ("0", True), ("100", True), ("101", False), ("-5", False), ("fast", False)]
tests.append(("75", True))
tests.append(("12.5", False))

for number, (data, expected) in enumerate(tests, start=1):
    actual = valid_speed(data)
    result = "pass" if actual == expected else "FAIL"
    print(f"test {number}: {data!r} expected {expected}, got {actual}: {result}")
```

Any program that meets the task's checks is marked correct in the simulator; this is one way, not the only way.