Career Choices For The Modern Day Tester

Or any tester for that matter!

"I've been a manual tester for 5 years, and I'm wondering what I can do next?"

This talk is my answer!

- It's my subjective opinion 💭
- It's based on what I've seen since I started testing in 2002 👨🏾
- I'm going to talk about...
- Three Perspectives folks can take when thinking about their career3️⃣
- What roles this may lead folks to 🗺️
- What's *really* important 💡

The Three Perspectives

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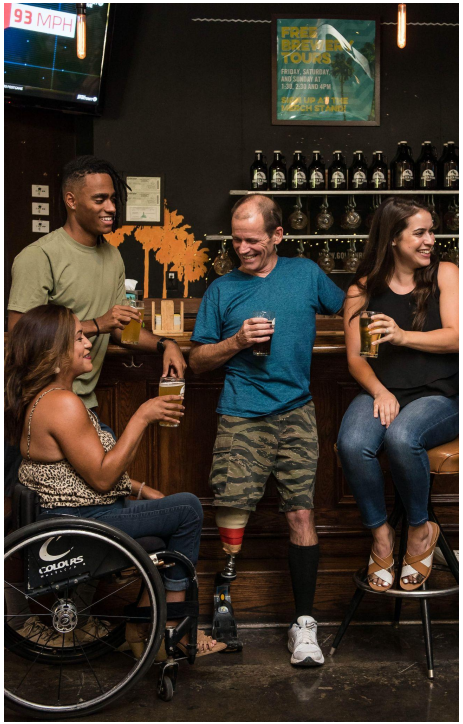
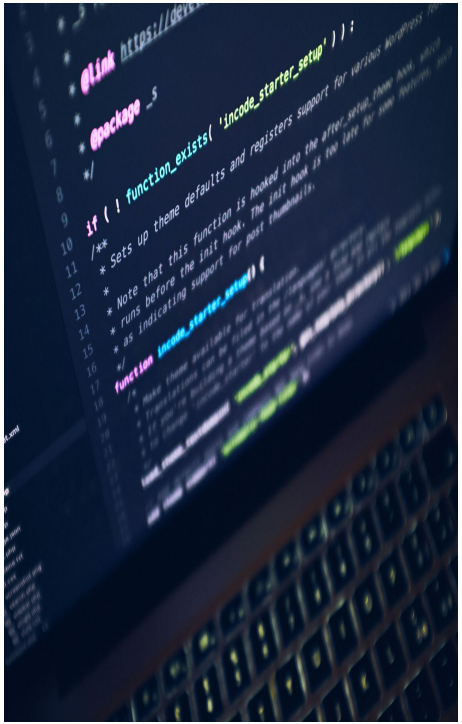


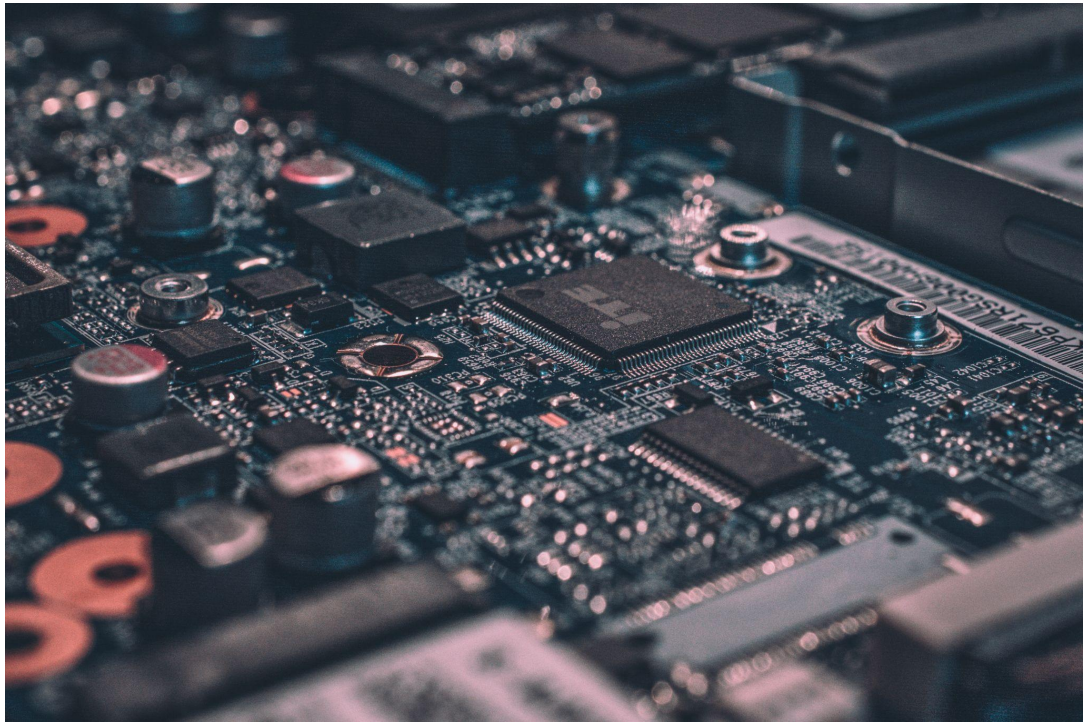


The Three Perspectives - People

The Three Perspectives - People

- Test Lead
- Head of Quality
- Engineering Manager
- Quality Coach
- Accessibility tester
- UX Designer
- Product Designer
- Business Analyst

The Three Perspectives - Technology



The Three Perspectives - Technology

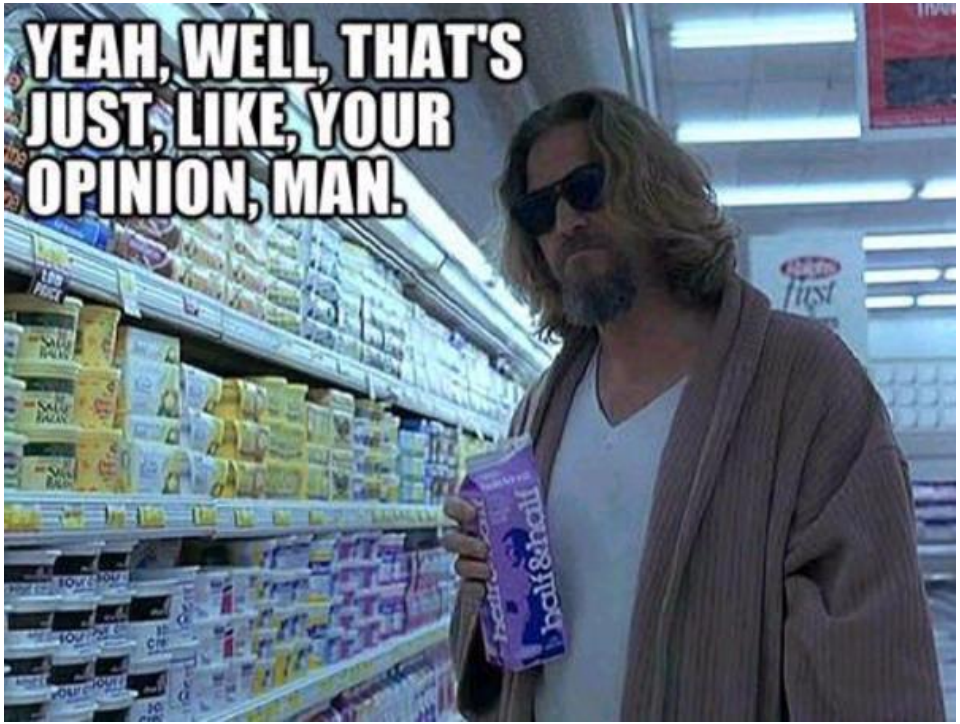
- SDET
- Senior Tester
- Test Architect
- Performance Tester
- Security Tester
- Developer
- Architect

The Three Perspectives - Business

The Three Perspectives - Business

- Quality Engineer
- Tester
- Agile Coach
- Testing Consultant
- VP of x
- CxO

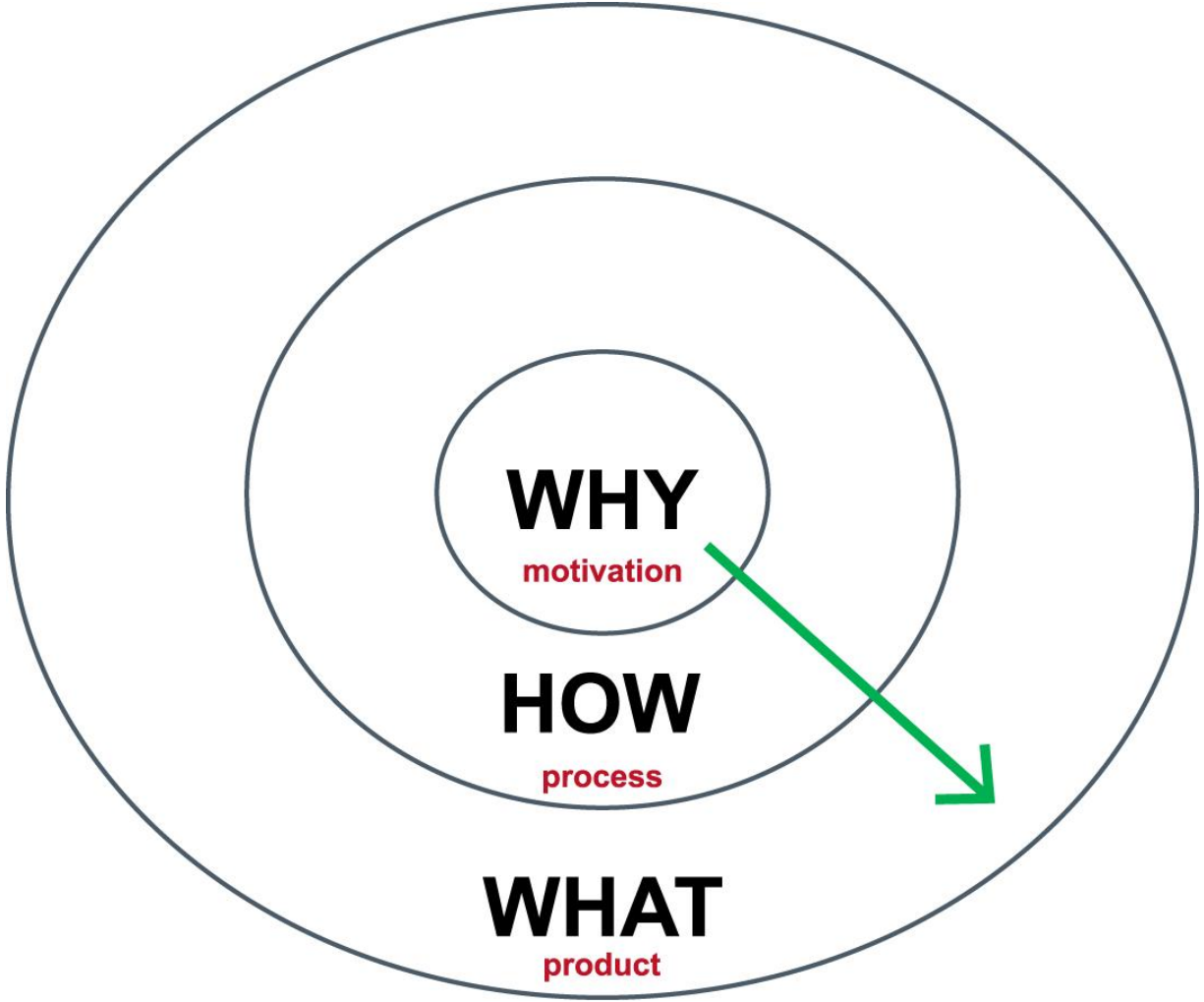
Please remember..



"I've been a manual tester for 5 years, and I'm wondering what I can do next?"

What’s really important?

How Do I Get The Job, Role or Promotion?


WHY
motivation
HOW
process
WHAT
product

Things To Bear In Mind...

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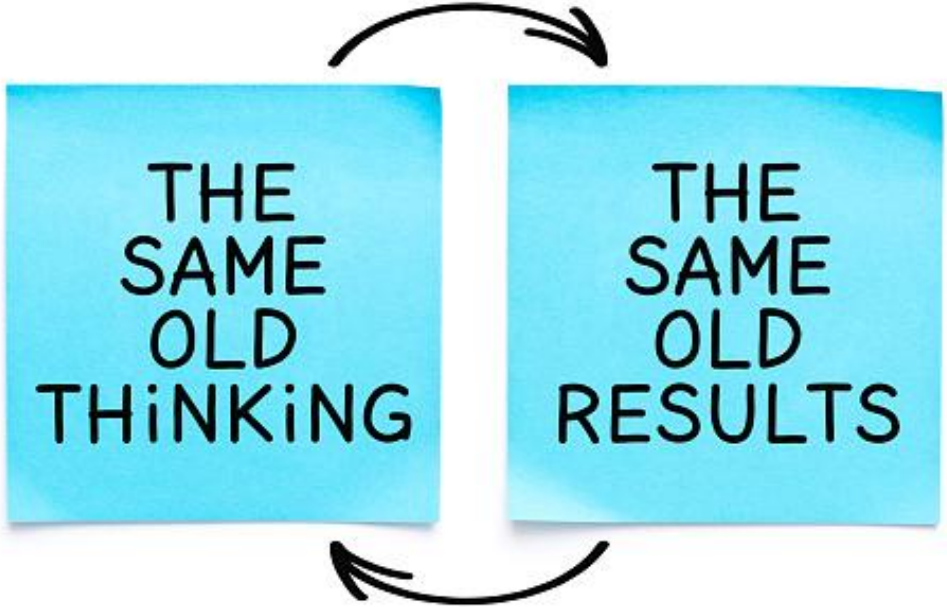

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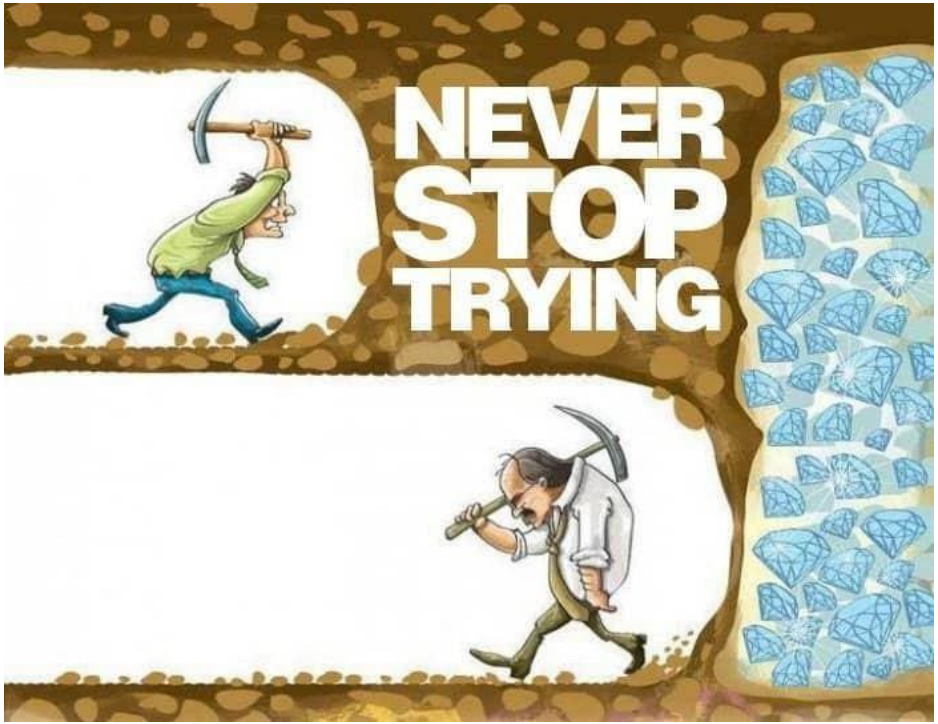

Things To Bear In Mind...

Actions

COTOPAXI
5897m
19347ft
CORAZÓN
4786m
15700ft
ANTIZANA
5755m
18710ft
PASOCHOA
QUILINDAÑA
4877m
16000ft
ATACAZO
4410m
SINCHOLAGUA
4900m

Actions

Actions

Actions

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Actions

Six Sources of Influence Model

	Motivation	Ability
Personal	1 Make the undesirable, desirable	2 Surpass your limits
Social	3 Harness peer pressure	4 Find strength in numbers
Structural	5 Design rewards and demand accountability	6 Change the environment

Actions

From Atomic Habits	How to Create a Good Habit
The 1st law (Cue)	Make it obvious.
The 2nd law (Craving)	Make it attractive.
The 3rd law (Response)	Make it easy.
The 4th law (Reward)	Make it satisfying.

Recap!

- You could go down three different tracks:
  - People
  - Technology
  - Business
- There are so many roles and opportunities available to us!
  - But these are all “What” focused!
- Get clear on your “Why”!
- It’s going to be hard and will take you out of your comfort zone!
- Understand who you want to serve.
- Imagine who you’re trying to become.
- Progress > Perfection

The End