

## Test Design Lab

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The table on the next page lists 18 possible core strengths of test techniques.

Different techniques emphasize different strengths. For example, while it is desirable for *every* test to be credible and powerful:

- We would question the competence of a scenario-test designer whose tests were not credible (but we would not be surprised if some of the tests were not powerful).
- We would question the competence of a risk-based-test designer whose tests were not powerful (but we would not be surprised if some of the tests were not credible).

Thus credibility would be a core strength for scenario testing and power would be a core strength for risk-based testing.

The table shows a summary analysis for Scenario Testing:

- **Core** means that this is a core strength of this technique. All tests of this technique should be designed to have this strength.
- **Desired** means that a test of this type will not always have this strength, but it is an inherent part of the technique that the designer will carefully consider how to design this strength into the test.

### **Your task: Add 3 (or more) techniques to the table and explain your analysis.**

For each of the techniques you choose:

- Note in the table what its core strengths are. There should be at least two core strengths for each technique.
- Note any desired strengths. A technique might have no desired strengths. (We know that every test designer would like every test to be strong in all possible ways. List a strength as *desired* if you expect someone using this technique to be *particularly* interested in optimizing the test for this strength.)
- Write a paragraph explaining why you consider these strengths to be primary descriptors of this technique. Include references (to the lecture or to the readings or to other reference material) as appropriate. Include descriptions of other core strengths of this technique if you think they are not covered sufficiently by this list.

Think of this lab as your first crack at this task. This is a task that many experienced testers would have significant difficulty doing well.

