Context

- Higher vocational studies, 1 – 2 years full time

- Based on market needs, including supervised internship

- We (Rikard and Henrik) have taught test-savvy parts at several schools

- Teaching Philosophy
  - Motivation is key
  - Not for the money
  - It's not about us
  - Encourage new ideas
  - Don't be afraid

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Tacit Skills and Judgment

- Asking good questions

- Critical thinking

- Understanding what is important

- Rapid learning

- Seeing many perspective and test ideas

- Selecting effective test strategies

- Capturing serendipity

- Realizing when testing is good enough

[Courses are not centered around these, but they are embedded within "classic" testing areas.]

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Think Like a Tester - excerpt

- You will now experience a fake lecture, using real examples from "Think Like a Tester".

- We usually start with a story…

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Think Like a Tester - definition

- Testers think differently than other professions; we want to see problems.

- A good tester needs critical thinking, questioning assumptions that really aren't givens.

- You get many perspectives with creativity, often by combining old things in new ways.

- You also need logical thinking, to understand how things are connected.

- And we need to learn rapidly, since there are loads to know in order to test well.

- On top of this a healthy dose of pragmatic thinking, to adjust to reality so you can test your best within time limits.

- This needs to be balanced with a very good understanding about what is important in the unique situation.

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Critical Thinking

- Question everything, especially this statement

- What If…

- You can't avoid bias, but you can manage it (Lessons Learned #39)

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Critical Thinking - Examples

- Evaluating concepts

- Questioning the product

- Testers can make mistakes

- *The critical thinking is embedded in who we are as testers.*

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Think Like a Tester - Exercise

- Guess the Number v1.0 by Rikard Edgren and Henrik Emilsson.

- This is an exercise for software testers.
- It promotes logical thinking and pattern recognition.
- Understand the behavior so you can solve the puzzle within 7 guesses.
- I am thinking about an integer between 1 and 100 (decimals are ignored)
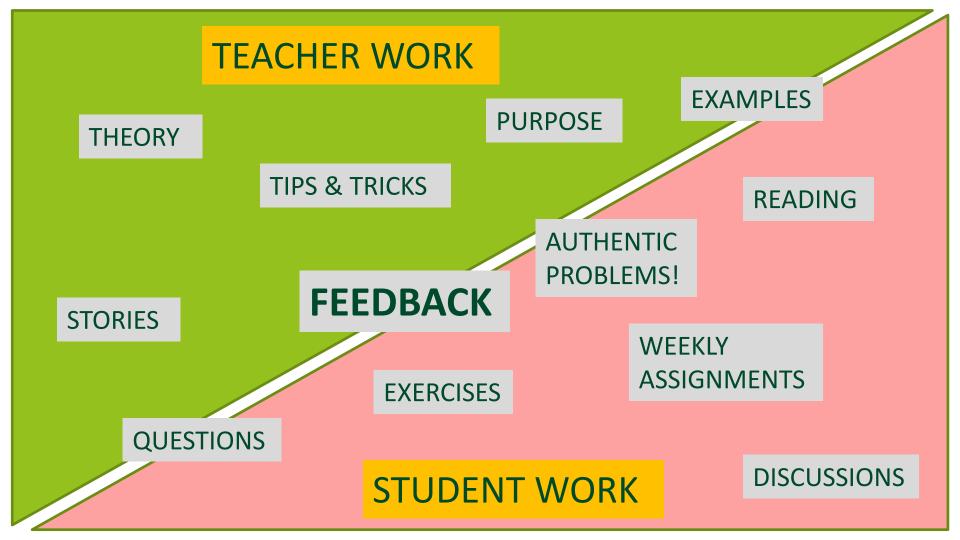
- What is your guess:

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Think Like a Tester – Exercise Debrief

- Critical thinking

- Many experiments

- Logical thinking

- Observation

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Finale

- A challenging opportunity to learn (for students and teachers!)

- *"If a student wants a crystal clear education with easy assignments, you will probably not like it"* (Magnus)

- I can't really teach these tacit skills and judgment, but I know how to help students acquire it.

- You can do it too, a good start is reading the paper with details.

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