

unittest in Python

1. What Is unittest?

`unittest` is Python's built-in testing framework.

It allows you to write automated tests for your Python code without installing an external package.

Unlike `pytest`, which must be installed separately, `unittest` comes with Python.

```
import unittest
```

You can use it to:

- organize tests
- run multiple test cases
- make assertions
- test exceptions
- set up test data
- clean up after tests
- group related tests
- run tests automatically

2. Why Does unittest Exist?

Imagine you create this function:

```
def add(a, b):  
    return a + b
```

You could manually check it:

```
print(add(2, 3))  
print(add(10, 5))  
print(add(-1, 1))
```

But manual checking becomes difficult as a project grows.

With `unittest`, you can create repeatable automated checks:

```
class TestAdd(unittest.TestCase):  
  
    def test_add_two_numbers(self):  
        self.assertEqual(add(2, 3), 5)
```

Then Python can run the test for you.

3. `unittest` vs `pytest`

Both are used for Python testing.

Feature	<code>unittest</code>	<code>pytest</code>
Included with Python	Yes	No
Installation required	No	Yes
Main style	Class based	Function based
Assertions	<code>self.assertEqual()</code>	<code>assert</code>
Fixtures	<code>setUp()</code> / <code>tearDown()</code>	Fixtures
Parameterization	More verbose	Convenient
Learning curve	Structured	Generally simpler
Third party	No	Yes

Neither framework changes the fundamental purpose of testing.

The important concepts remain:

Arrange

↓

Act

↓

Assert

4. Importing `unittest`

Because it is part of Python's standard library:

```
import unittest
```

No:

```
pip install unittest
```

is required.

This is an important distinction between standard-library modules and third-party packages.

5. Your First `unittest` Test

Suppose you have:

```
def add(a, b):  
    return a + b
```

Create:

```
test_calculator.py
```

Then:

```
import unittest  
  
def add(a, b):  
    return a + b  
  
class TestCalculator(unittest.TestCase):  
  
    def test_add(self):  
        self.assertEqual(add(2, 3), 5)  
  
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    unittest.main()
```

Run:

```
python test_calculator.py
```

If the test passes, `unittest` reports that the test succeeded.

6. The `TestCase` Class

The central building block of `unittest` is:

```
unittest.TestCase
```

You normally create a class that inherits from it:

```
class TestCalculator(unittest.TestCase):  
    ...
```

This gives your test class access to methods such as:

```
self.assertEqual()  
self.assertTrue()  
self.assertFalse()  
self.assertIsNone()  
self.assertIn()
```

and many others.

7. Test Methods

Test methods normally begin with:

```
test_
```

Example:

```
class TestCalculator(unittest.TestCase):  
  
    def test_add(self):  
        ...  
  
    def test_subtract(self):  
        ...  
  
    def test_multiply(self):  
        ...
```

The naming convention allows `unittest` to discover these methods automatically.

A method named:

```
check_add()
```

will not normally be treated as a test.

A method named:

```
test_add()
```

will.

8. `assertEqual()`

The most common assertion is:

```
self.assertEqual(actual, expected)
```

Example:

```
self.assertEqual(add(2, 3), 5)
```

This checks:

```
actual == expected
```

Another example:

```
self.assertEqual("Python".upper(), "PYTHON")
```

9. `assertNotEqual()`

Use:

```
self.assertNotEqual(actual, unexpected)
```

Example:

```
self.assertNotEqual(add(2, 3), 10)
```

The test passes because:

```
5 != 10
```

10. Boolean Assertions

`assertTrue()`

```
self.assertTrue(is_even(4))
```

assertFalse()

```
self.assertFalse(is_even(5))
```

Example:

```
def is_even(number):  
    return number % 2 == 0
```

Tests:

```
class TestNumbers(unittest.TestCase):  
  
    def test_even_number(self):  
        self.assertTrue(is_even(4))  
  
    def test_odd_number(self):  
        self.assertFalse(is_even(5))
```

11. Testing None

Use:

```
self.assertIsNone(value)
```

Example:

```
def find_user(users, user_id):  
    for user in users:  
        if user["id"] == user_id:  
            return user  
  
    return None
```

Test:

```
class TestUsers(unittest.TestCase):  
  
    def test_missing_user(self):  
        users = [  
            {"id": 1, "name": "Hafsa"}  
        ]  
  
        result = find_user(users, 99)
```

```
self.assertIsNone(result)
```

12. Testing That Something Is Not None

Use:

```
self.assertIsNotNone(value)
```

Example:

```
result = find_user(users, 1)

self.assertIsNotNone(result)
```

This checks that a value exists.

13. Testing Membership

Use:

```
self.assertIn(member, container)
```

Example:

```
languages = ["Python", "JavaScript", "Dart"]

self.assertIn("Python", languages)
```

For absence:

```
self.assertNotIn("Java", languages)
```

14. Testing Object Identity

Sometimes you need to check whether two variables refer to the exact same object.

Use:

```
self.assertIs(first, second)
```

Example:

```
value = None

self.assertIs(value, None)
```

For different objects:

```
self.assertIsNot(first, second)
```

This is different from:

```
assert first == second
```

because equality and identity are different concepts.

15. Testing Types

You can check an object's type with:

```
self.assertIsInstance(value, expected_type)
```

Example:

```
result = add(2, 3)

self.assertIsInstance(result, int)
```

You can also check subclasses through normal Python type relationships.

16. Testing Exceptions

Testing errors is an important part of testing.

Suppose:

```
def divide(a, b):
    if b == 0:
        raise ValueError("Cannot divide by zero")

    return a / b
```

With `unittest`:

```
class TestDivide(unittest.TestCase):

    def test_divide_by_zero(self):
        with self.assertRaises(ValueError):
            divide(10, 0)
```

The test passes when the expected exception is raised.

17. Checking the Exception Message

You can capture the exception:

```
class TestDivide(unittest.TestCase):

    def test_divide_by_zero(self):
        with self.assertRaises(ValueError) as context:
            divide(10, 0)

        self.assertEqual(
            str(context.exception),
            "Cannot divide by zero"
        )
```

This checks both:

```
Exception type
+
Exception message
```

Use message assertions when the message itself is part of the behavior you need to guarantee.

18. Testing Strings

Example:

```
def get_username():
    return "Hafsa"
```

Test:

```
class TestUser(unittest.TestCase):

    def test_username(self):
        self.assertEqual(get_username(), "Hafsa")
```

You can also use:

```
self.assertIn("Haf", get_username())
```

19. Testing Lists

Example:

```
def get_languages():
    return ["Python", "JavaScript", "Dart"]
```

Test exact contents:

```
self.assertEqual(
    get_languages(),
    ["Python", "JavaScript", "Dart"]
)
```

Test membership:

```
self.assertIn("Python", get_languages())
```

Test length:

```
self.assertEqual(len(get_languages()), 3)
```

20. Testing Dictionaries

Example:

```
def get_user():
    return {
        "name": "Hafsa",
        "role": "developer"
    }
```

Test:

```
class TestUser(unittest.TestCase):

    def test_user(self):
        user = get_user()

        self.assertEqual(user["name"], "Hafsa")
        self.assertEqual(user["role"], "developer")
```

You can also test:

```
self.assertIn("name", user)
```

21. Multiple Tests in One Class

A test class can contain many related tests.

```
class TestCalculator(unittest.TestCase):

    def test_add(self):
        self.assertEqual(add(2, 3), 5)
```

```
def test_subtract(self):
    self.assertEqual(subtract(5, 2), 3)

def test_multiply(self):
    self.assertEqual(multiply(4, 3), 12)

def test_divide(self):
    self.assertEqual(divide(10, 2), 5)
```

Grouping related behavior makes the test suite easier to navigate.

22. The `setUp()` Method

Sometimes multiple tests need the same initial data.

Instead of repeating that setup:

```
class TestUsers(unittest.TestCase):

    def setUp(self):
        self.users = [
            {"id": 1, "name": "Hafsa"},
            {"id": 2, "name": "Asim"},
        ]
```

Then each test can access:

```
self.users
```

Example:

```
class TestUsers(unittest.TestCase):

    def setUp(self):
        self.users = [
            {"id": 1, "name": "Hafsa"},
            {"id": 2, "name": "Asim"},
        ]

    def test_first_user(self):
        self.assertEqual(self.users[0]["name"], "Hafsa")

    def test_user_count(self):
        self.assertEqual(len(self.users), 2)
```

23. How `setUp()` Works

`setUp()` runs before every test method.

For:

```
def test_one(self):  
    ...  
  
def test_two(self):  
    ...
```

the sequence is approximately:

```
setUp()  
  ↓  
test_one()  
  ↓  
setUp()  
  ↓  
test_two()
```

This gives each test fresh setup.

That helps keep tests independent.

24. The `tearDown()` Method

`tearDown()` runs after each test.

It is useful for cleanup.

```
class TestFiles(unittest.TestCase):  
  
    def setUp(self):  
        ...  
  
    def tearDown(self):  
        ...
```

The general sequence is:

```
setUp()  
  ↓  
test
```

```
↓  
tearDown()
```

For example, if a test creates a temporary resource, `tearDown()` can clean it up.

25. `setUp()` and `tearDown()` Mental Model

Think:

```
Prepare  
↓  
Run test  
↓  
Clean up
```

This structure is especially useful when tests involve:

- temporary files
 - database connections
 - test objects
 - temporary directories
 - external resources
-

26. `setUpClass()` and `tearDownClass()`

Sometimes setup should happen once for the entire test class.

Use:

```
@classmethod  
def setUpClass(cls):  
    ...
```

and:

```
@classmethod  
def tearDownClass(cls):  
    ...
```

Example:

```
class TestDatabase(unittest.TestCase):  
  
    @classmethod  
    def setUpClass(cls):
```

```

        cls.connection = create_connection()

    @classmethod
    def tearDownClass(cls):
        cls.connection.close()

```

The approximate lifecycle is:

```

setUpClass()
↓
test 1
↓
test 2
↓
test 3
↓
tearDownClass()

```

Use this carefully because shared state can make tests less isolated.

27. `setUp()` vs `setUpClass()`

Method	Runs
<code>setUp()</code>	Before every test
<code>tearDown()</code>	After every test
<code>setUpClass()</code>	Once before all tests in a class
<code>tearDownClass()</code>	Once after all tests in a class

For most simple tests, `setUp()` is easier and safer.

28. Organizing Tests in Files

A project can look like:

```
project/
|
├─ app/
|   ├─ calculator.py
|   └─ resources.py
|
├─ tests/
|   ├─ test_calculator.py
|   └─ test_resources.py
|
└─ README.md
```

Example:

```
app/calculator.py
```

```
def add(a, b):
    return a + b
```

Then:

```
tests/test_calculator.py
```

```
import unittest

from app.calculator import add

class TestCalculator(unittest.TestCase):

    def test_add(self):
        self.assertEqual(add(2, 3), 5)
```

29. Running `unittest`

You can run an individual test file:

```
python -m unittest tests/test_calculator.py
```

You can also run test discovery:

```
python -m unittest discover
```

This searches for tests according to `unittest`'s discovery rules.

30. Test Discovery

A common convention is:

```
test_*.py
```

For example:

```
test_calculator.py
test_users.py
test_resources.py
```

Inside those files, methods beginning with:

```
test
```

can be discovered as tests.

Run:

```
python -m unittest discover
```

to discover and execute the test suite.

31. Verbose Test Output

For more detailed output:

```
python -m unittest -v
```

The `-v` option means verbose.

This is useful when you want to see individual test names rather than only a compact summary.

32. Running a Specific Test

You can target a particular module or test.

For example:

```
python -m unittest tests.test_calculator
```

Or a specific test method:

```
python -m unittest tests.test_calculator.TestCalculator.test_add
```

This is useful when debugging a failing test without running the entire suite.

33. `subTest()`

Sometimes you want to test multiple inputs while keeping them within one test method.

`subTest()` lets you identify each case separately.

```
class TestNumbers(unittest.TestCase):

    def test_is_even(self):
        cases = [
            (2, True),
            (4, True),
            (5, False),
            (7, False),
        ]

        for number, expected in cases:
            with self.subTest(number=number):
                self.assertEqual(is_even(number), expected)
```

If one case fails, the output identifies the relevant subtest.

34. Testing Boundaries

Suppose:

```
def is_adult(age):
    return age >= 18
```

A useful test checks the boundary:

```
class TestAge(unittest.TestCase):

    def test_is_adult(self):
        self.assertFalse(is_adult(17))
        self.assertTrue(is_adult(18))
        self.assertTrue(is_adult(19))
```

The important value is:

```
18
```

because behavior changes at that point.

35. Testing Invalid Inputs

Suppose:

```
def validate_username(username):  
    if len(username) < 3:  
        raise ValueError("Username is too short")  
  
    return True
```

Tests:

```
class TestUsername(unittest.TestCase):  
  
    def test_valid_username(self):  
        self.assertTrue(validate_username("Hafsa"))  
  
    def test_short_username(self):  
        with self.assertRaises(ValueError):  
            validate_username("Hi")
```

Good test suites protect both successful and unsuccessful behavior.

36. Testing Behavior Instead of Implementation

Suppose your function is:

```
def add(a, b):  
    return a + b
```

A useful test is:

```
self.assertEqual(add(2, 3), 5)
```

The test does not care whether the implementation uses an intermediate variable:

```
def add(a, b):  
    result = a + b  
    return result
```

The behavior remains the same.

Good tests allow implementation details to change without unnecessarily breaking the test suite.

37. Test Independence

Avoid:

```
test_create_user
    ↓
test_update_user
    ↓
test_delete_user
```

where each test assumes another test has already run.

Instead, each test should prepare its own state.

```
def test_update_user(self):
    user = create_test_user()

    update_user(user)

    self.assertEqual(user["name"], "New Name")
```

This makes tests easier to run independently.

38. Testing a haas.dev Resource Service

Imagine a simplified haas.dev resource service:

```
def filter_resources(resources, category):
    return [
        resource
        for resource in resources
        if resource["category"] == category
    ]
```

A `unittest` test could be:

```
import unittest

class TestResourceService(unittest.TestCase):

    def setUp(self):
        self.resources = [
            {
                "title": "Python Basics",
                "category": "Python"
            },
```

```

        {
            "title": "React Basics",
            "category": "React"
        },
        {
            "title": "Python Testing",
            "category": "Python"
        },
    ]

    def test_filter_python_resources(self):
        result = filter_resources(self.resources, "Python")

        self.assertEqual(len(result), 2)
        self.assertEqual(result[0]["title"], "Python Basics")
        self.assertEqual(result[1]["title"], "Python Testing")

```

This test protects the resource filtering behavior.

39. Testing Empty Results

The same service should also handle categories with no matches.

```

def test_filter_missing_category(self):
    result = filter_resources(
        self.resources,
        "Flutter"
    )

    self.assertEqual(result, [])

```

This protects an important edge case.

40. Testing Empty Input

Another useful test:

```

def test_empty_resource_list(self):
    result = filter_resources([], "Python")

    self.assertEqual(result, [])

```

This makes the expected behavior explicit.

41. Testing Multiple Cases With `subTest()`

For the same resource service:

```
def test_filter_categories(self):
    cases = [
        ("Python", 2),
        ("React", 1),
        ("Flutter", 0),
    ]

    for category, expected_count in cases:
        with self.subTest(category=category):
            result = filter_resources(
                self.resources,
                category
            )

            self.assertEqual(len(result), expected_count)
```

This keeps related cases together while preserving useful failure information.

42. Common `unittest` Assertions

Assertion	Purpose
<code>assertEqual(a, b)</code>	<code>a == b</code>
<code>assertNotEqual(a, b)</code>	<code>a != b</code>
<code>assertTrue(x)</code>	<code>x</code> is truthy
<code>assertFalse(x)</code>	<code>x</code> is falsy
<code>assertIs(a, b)</code>	Same object

<code>assertIsNot(a, b)</code>	Different objects
<code>assertIsNone(x)</code>	<code>x is None</code>
<code>assertIsNotNone(x)</code>	<code>x is not None</code>
<code>assertIn(a, b)</code>	<code>a in b</code>
<code>assertNotIn(a, b)</code>	<code>a not in b</code>
<code>assertIsInstance(a, b)</code>	<code>isinstance(a, b)</code>
<code>assertRaises(E)</code>	Expected exception

These cover many everyday testing situations.

43. Common Mistakes

Mistake 1: Forgetting `TestCase`

Incorrect:

```
class TestCalculator:
    ...
```

Correct:

```
class TestCalculator(unittest.TestCase):
    ...
```

Mistake 2: Forgetting the `test_` Prefix

Incorrect:

```
def add_test(self):  
    ...
```

Better:

```
def test_add(self):  
    ...
```

Mistake 3: Using the Wrong Assertion

Instead of:

```
self.assertTrue(result == 5)
```

prefer:

```
self.assertEqual(result, 5)
```

The second version communicates the intent more clearly.

Mistake 4: Making Tests Dependent

Tests should generally be independent.

Mistake 5: Sharing Mutable State

Be careful when using class-level or global mutable data.

Fresh setup per test is often safer.

Mistake 6: Testing Only Successful Cases

Also test:

```
invalid input  
empty input  
boundary values  
expected exceptions
```

where relevant.

Mistake 7: Ignoring Failed Tests

A failing test is useful evidence.

Investigate whether:

```
the implementation is wrong
```

or:

```
the test expectation is wrong
```

before changing anything.

44. `unittest` and Mocking

`unittest` also includes a mocking system:

```
from unittest.mock import Mock
```

Mocks are useful when your code depends on external systems.

For example:

```
Application
  ↓
Email Service
```

A test does not necessarily need to send a real email.

Instead, a mock can represent the email service.

A simple example:

```
from unittest.mock import Mock

email_service = Mock()

email_service.send("Hafsa")

email_service.send.assert_called_once_with("Hafsa")
```

This verifies that the interaction occurred without calling a real service.

Mocking is an important topic on its own and should be studied separately from basic

`unittest` fundamentals.

45. `unittest.mock` Mental Model

Without a mock:

```
Your code
  ↓
Real API
  ↓
Network
```

↓
External service

With a mock:

Your code
↓
Mock
↓
Controlled test behavior

This makes certain tests:

- faster
- isolated
- predictable

But excessive mocking can make tests fragile, so mocks should be used where they provide a clear testing benefit.

46. Test Fixtures in `unittest`

A fixture is the setup required for a test.

In `unittest`, common fixture mechanisms include:

```
setUp()  
tearDown()  
setUpClass()  
tearDownClass()
```

Think of them as lifecycle hooks.

```
Test class starts  
↓  
setUpClass()  
↓  
setUp()  
↓  
test  
↓  
tearDown()  
↓  
setUp()  
↓
```

```
test
  ↓
tearDown()
  ↓
tearDownClass()
```

Understanding this lifecycle is important when tests use resources.

47. A Complete `unittest` Example

Application:

```
def calculate_total(price, quantity):
    if price < 0:
        raise ValueError("Price cannot be negative")

    if quantity < 0:
        raise ValueError("Quantity cannot be negative")

    return price * quantity
```

Tests:

```
import unittest

from shop import calculate_total

class TestCalculateTotal(unittest.TestCase):

    def test_calculate_total(self):
        self.assertEqual(
            calculate_total(10, 3),
            30
        )

    def test_zero_quantity(self):
        self.assertEqual(
            calculate_total(10, 0),
            0
        )

    def test_negative_price(self):
        with self.assertRaises(ValueError):
```

```
        calculate_total(-10, 2)

    def test_negative_quantity(self):
        with self.assertRaises(ValueError):
            calculate_total(10, -2)

if __name__ == "__main__":
    unittest.main()
```

This small suite covers:

```
normal input
zero boundary
invalid price
invalid quantity
```

48. A Practical `unittest` Workflow

When adding a feature:

Step 1

Define the expected behavior.

Step 2

Identify:

```
normal cases
edge cases
invalid cases
exceptions
boundaries
```

Step 3

Create or update a `TestCase`.

Step 4

Write focused test methods.

Step 5

Run:

```
python -m unittest discover
```

Step 6

Read failures carefully.

Step 7

Fix the underlying problem.

Step 8

Run the complete suite again.

Step 9

Refactor the implementation while keeping tests green.

49. Mini Project

Build a small resource manager.

Create:

```
class ResourceManager:

    def __init__(self):
        self.resources = []

    def add(self, resource):
        self.resources.append(resource)

    def remove(self, resource_id):
        self.resources = [
            resource
            for resource in self.resources
            if resource["id"] != resource_id
        ]

    def find(self, resource_id):
        for resource in self.resources:
            if resource["id"] == resource_id:
                return resource

        return None
```

Create a test class:

```
import unittest

class TestResourceManager(unittest.TestCase):
```

```

def setUp(self):
    self.manager = ResourceManager()

    self.manager.add({
        "id": 1,
        "title": "Python"
    })

    self.manager.add({
        "id": 2,
        "title": "Testing"
    })

```

Then write tests for:

1. Adding a resource
2. Finding an existing resource
3. Finding a missing resource
4. Removing a resource
5. Removing a missing resource
6. Resource count
7. Empty manager behavior

50. 5 Minute Challenge

Create:

```

def is_valid_email(email):
    ...

```

For this exercise, define a simple rule:

The string must contain @

Write a `unittest.TestCase` containing tests for:

```

"user@example.com" → True
"hello" → False
"@example.com" → True or False based on your chosen rule
"" → False

```

The important part is not the complexity of email validation.

The goal is to practice:

```
TestCase
test methods
assertTrue
assertFalse
```

51. Exercises

Exercise 1

Create:

```
def is_positive(number):
    ...
```

Write tests for:

```
10
1
0
-1
-10
```

Exercise 2

Create:

```
def get_longest_word(words):
    ...
```

Test:

```
["Python", "JavaScript", "Go"]
["Python"]
[]
```

Decide how an empty list should behave.

Exercise 3

Create:

```
def validate_password(password):
    ...
```

Require at least 8 characters.

Test:

```
valid password
7 characters
8 characters
empty password
```

Exercise 4

Create:

```
def calculate_shipping(total):
    ...
```

Use:

```
total < 50 → shipping fee
total >= 50 → free shipping
```

Test:

```
49
50
51
```

Exercise 5

Create a `ResourceManager` and test:

```
add()
find()
remove()
```

Use `setUp()` to create fresh test data before every test.

52. Mini Quiz

1. Is `unittest` included with Python?

- A. No
- B. Yes
- C. Only on Linux
- D. Only with Anaconda

Answer: B

2. What should a test method normally begin with?

- A. `check_`
- B. `run_`
- C. `test_`
- D. `verify_`

Answer: C

3. Which class should test classes usually inherit from?

- A. `Test`
- B. `unittest.TestCase`
- C. `unittest.Test`
- D. `PythonTest`

Answer: B

4. Which assertion checks equality?

- A. `assertSame()`
- B. `assertEqual()`
- C. `assertEqualsTo()`
- D. `assertMatch()`

Answer: B

5. Which method runs before every test?

- A. `before()`
- B. `prepare()`
- C. `setUp()`
- D. `initialize()`

Answer: C

6. Which method is commonly used to test an expected exception?

- A. `assertError()`
- B. `assertRaises()`
- C. `assertException()`
- D. `assertFail()`

Answer: B

53. Interview Questions

Beginner

1. What is `unittest` ?
2. Why use `unittest` ?
3. Is `unittest` included in Python?
4. What is `unittest.TestCase` ?
5. How does `unittest` discover test methods?
6. What is `assertEqual()` ?
7. What is `setUp()` ?
8. What is `tearDown()` ?
9. How do you run `unittest` tests?
10. What does `python -m unittest discover` do?

Intermediate

11. What is the difference between `setUp()` and `setUpClass()` ?
12. What is `subTest()` ?
13. How do you test exceptions with `unittest` ?
14. How do you test whether two objects are identical?
15. How do you test collection membership?
16. Why should tests be independent?
17. What is the purpose of `unittest.mock` ?
18. What is the difference between `assertEqual()` and `assertIs()` ?
19. Why should tests focus on behavior rather than implementation details?
20. What are the advantages of using a test fixture?

Practical

21. How would you test a function with invalid input?
22. How would you test a database-dependent function?
23. How would you test a function that sends an email?
24. How would you organize tests in a large Python project?
25. How would you investigate a failing `unittest` test?

54. `unittest` Cheat Sheet

Import

```
import unittest
```

Test class

```
class TestSomething(unittest.TestCase):  
    ...
```

Test method

```
def test_something(self):  
    ...
```

Equality

```
self.assertEqual(actual, expected)
```

Inequality

```
self.assertNotEqual(actual, expected)
```

True

```
self.assertTrue(value)
```

False

```
self.assertFalse(value)
```

None

```
self.assertIsNone(value)
```

Not None

```
self.assertIsNotNone(value)
```

Membership

```
self.assertIn(value, collection)
```

Not in

```
self.assertNotIn(value, collection)
```

Type

```
self.assertIsInstance(value, SomeClass)
```

Exception

```
with self.assertRaises(ValueError):  
    function()
```

Setup

```
def setUp(self):  
    ...
```

Cleanup

```
def tearDown(self):  
    ...
```

Run a file

```
python -m unittest tests/test_file.py
```

Discover tests

```
python -m unittest discover
```

Verbose mode

```
python -m unittest -v
```

Run a specific test

```
python -m unittest tests.test_file.TestClass.test_method
```

55. Key Takeaways

- `unittest` is Python's built-in testing framework.
- It requires no separate installation.
- Tests are usually organized inside `unittest.TestCase` classes.
- Test methods normally start with `test_`.
- Assertions verify expected behavior.
- `assertEqual()` checks equality.
- `assertTrue()` and `assertFalse()` check Boolean behavior.
- `assertRaises()` verifies expected exceptions.
- `setUp()` prepares fresh state before every test.
- `tearDown()` performs cleanup after every test.
- `setUpClass()` and `tearDownClass()` operate at the class level.

- `subTest()` is useful for testing multiple related cases.
- `unittest.mock` helps isolate code from external dependencies.
- Tests should remain focused, readable, independent, and deterministic.
- Testing edge cases is as important as testing the happy path.
- Test coverage measures exercised code, not necessarily test quality.
- Tests should protect behavior rather than unnecessary implementation details.
- `unittest` can scale from simple function tests to larger application test suites.

The core pattern is:

```
Arrange
  ↓
Act
  ↓
Assert
```

And the core goal is:

```
Write code
  ↓
Define expected behavior
  ↓
Automate the check
  ↓
Run tests
  ↓
Fix failures
  ↓
Refactor safely
```

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