Examples for the test–based reading scenario

Test–based Reading

For each requirement/functional specification, generate a test or set of tests that allow you to ensure that an implementation of the system satisfies the requirement/functional specification. Use your standard test approach and technique, and incorporate test criteria in the test suite. In doing so, ask yourself the following questions for each test:
Some examples of defects from the video system specifications that would be uncovered by the questions are written in italics.

1. Do you have all the information necessary to identify the item being tested and the test criteria? Can you generate a reasonable test case for each item based upon the criteria?
   Page 10: Functional requirement 10: What it means to 'update' the different files is never specified.

2. Can you be sure that the tests generated will yield the correct values in the correct units?
   Page 8: Functional requirement 3: "information" is not specified. There are several interpretations for this!

3. Are there other interpretations of this requirement that the implementer might make based upon the way the requirement/functional specification is defined?
   Page 8: Functional requirement 2: There are several potential ways to interpret 'current status' to classify tapes: in store/rented, damaged/good condition, on sale/full price, ...

4. Is there another requirement/functional specification for which you would generate a similar test case but would get a contradictory result?
   Page 9: Functional requirement 7: The general description specifies the maximum number of tapes that can be out on rental at one time. The functional requirement places a restriction on the maximum number of tapes per transaction. In each case, testing is done against the same maximum number, but really two very different things are being tested.

5. Does the requirement/functional specification make sense from what you know about the application or from what is specified in the general description?
   Page 11: Functional requirement 15: The general description specifies that a phone number is necessary for each customer, but the functional requirement for adding a new customer does not require a phone number to be entered.