

# General advice when building Moodle quizzes in OpenLearn Create

It is usually a good idea to construct a quiz using more than one question type, to provide more variety and challenge for the learner.

The criteria of the quiz can be set to complete all the questions (regardless of whether a pass grade has been achieved) or to achieve a pass grade. If the completion of a quiz leads to a digital badge, you can use formative and summative quizzes in different ways for the badge. For example you might have a series of 3 quizzes which the learner needs to complete without a passing grade, followed by an end of course quiz which does require a pass grade. You can choose to make all four quizzes count for the digital badge or only have the digital badge based on the end of course quiz, if you don't want their learning journey to be included in the badge criteria.

## Selection questions

### Multiple choice questions

There is a skill involved in writing good multiple choice questions to provide questions which expose learner misunderstanding of the materials. Use plausible distractors in questions, especially for multiple choice / multiple responses questions as learner response to the distractors can be used to provide remedial feedback which will help learners overcome their misunderstanding.

You need to offer more than 3 options of responses because if the quiz is set to 'Interactive with multiple tries' learners will have 3 tries at a question and will eventually get the right answer without being fully tested on their understanding of the material.

You need to provide hints or feedback for every try as well as for the completion of the question.

You can choose to have a penalty for each incorrect try if you wish (for example a deduction of 33.33% of the mark for each incorrect try). However you also need to think about what the pass grade is for the whole quiz in relation to penalties, as the quiz could quickly become hard to pass if the pass grade is set very high (such as 80%).

You can build random variants of a quiz question so that if the learner attempts the quiz a second time after an unsuccessful first attempt they will get a different version of the same question. Therefore it is a good idea to have a pool of correct answers and a pool of incorrect answers which the person building the quiz can choose from to use when creating random variant multiple choice questions.

Use OU multiple response question option rather than multiple choice for multiple response questions. The OU multiple response questions option is an improvement on multiple choice in the way it marks the question.

### True / False questions

This type of question is usually only used for one try as the answer will be obvious after the first try. Filling up your quiz with true / false questions will make a very boring quiz and easy to pass at a second attempt 24 hours later. One True / False question per 5 questions is probably a better mix.

### Select missing words questions

This type of question is used when a long piece of text has missing words which the learner needs to complete. It is used when there isn't enough screen space for drag and drop words below the piece of text. The missing words option uses dropdown lists instead. This type of question is keyboard accessible using the tab key and up and down keys.

### Drag and drop questions

Drag and drop into text is used for dropping missing words into spaces in a piece of text (in pre-defined gaps).

Drag and drop into an image can be used to label an image.

Providing additional words in the list of words to drag and drop increases the difficulty for the learner.

### Matching questions

The quiz author provides several questions and correct answers. The computer lays out the questions then shuffles the answers in a dropdown list. It is worthwhile adding extra answers as distractors to make the question more challenging.

### Text questions

In a quiz which is not going to be marked by a human, there is a limit on the type of question available, for example essay questions cannot be used.

### Pattern match questions

Pattern match questions can be used if short free-text learner responses match a response pattern. It can cope with misspellings, specification of synonyms and alternative phrases, flexible word order and can check on the proximity of words. The learner response needs to match against any number of response matching patterns – each pattern is compared with the learner response until a match is found so that feedback and marks can be assigned. So the key to using it is asking questions which can be marked accurately and it is strongly recommended to limit the response to 20 words maximum.

### Graded quizzes

When setting up the grading of quizzes (if a pass grade is required), you are advised to read the guidance on setting up activity and course completion tracking, badges and statement of participation.