teaching lexis and cohesion in written work using tools in Moodle

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overview

A review and walk through of the design of quizzes in Moodle

A list of three resource sites that can be used to create web pages and classroom materials

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context and aim

- Aim- develop blended learning (BL) approach which integrates classroom learning with online support combined with language development
- Context 12 week pre-tertiary foundation course in Economics.

rationale

BL approach came about because:

- Students struggling with:
 - exam typology
 - lexis
 - discourse of short answer questions and answers
- Students requested practice in these areas
- Desire to build in short term revision goals
- Desire to have record of out-of-class work
- no desire to increase teachers' workloads

approach

Realisation phase 1

economics coordinator wrote questions and answers for students as .pdfs (available for download).

Made available on a weekly basis

limitations of phase 1

- limited feedback for students (model answers)
- no competitiveness (with self)
- no detailed feedback for teacher
- limited take up in the more challenging areas of learning

phase 2

developed a set of materials using Hot Potatoes and Moodle's own question/tools

- based on the original questions written by the economics coordinator
- support and some feedback delivered through freely available on-line materials
- students given feedback based on scores and allowed to revisit questions after feedback to increase scores.

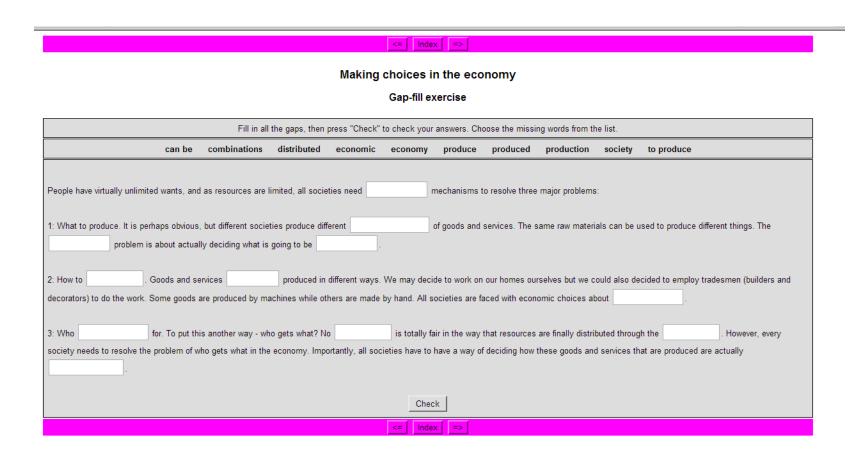
Walk through

 The following slides give screen shots of how the Moodle quizzes were set up

Mix of Moodle quizzes and Hot potatoes

- Week 1 Language Work
 - Week 1 key concepts in economics
- Week 2 Language Work
 - week 2 concepts: Demand and Supply
- Week 3 Language work
 - week 3 concepts Elasticity
- Week 4 Language Work
 - week 4 concepts
- Week 6 Language Work
 - week 6 concepts market failure and government policy
- Week 7 Language
 - week 7 concepts Macroeconomics and the circular flow
- Week 9 Language
 - Week 9 economic shocks
 - week 9 concepts Aggregate Demand/Supply and Economic Growth

Typical Hot Potatoes et up using cloze, matching and drag and drop



Word matching

Key words and making economic choices

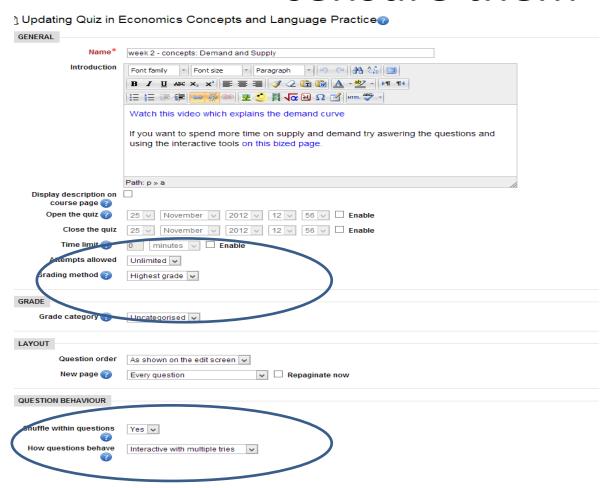
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week 1 - 3 key words

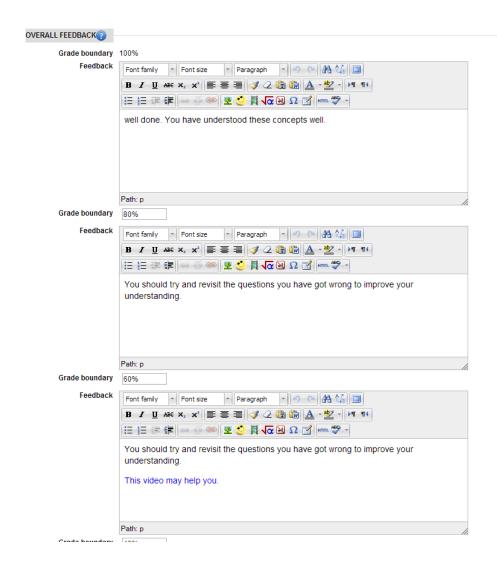
Word matching exercise

Match the words on the left to their dictionary definitions on the right. A dictionary of economics is available in the LRC. Check produce produce N - (pl. -ies) the relationship between production, trade and the supply of money in a particular country or region production N(U) - the study of how a society organises its money, trade and industry. producer N - a purchaser of goods and services for the personal satisfaction of themselves or other member of their household. Not for use to generate further income. productive Verb - to make things to be sold consumer N - the use of resources to make goods or services. Organised within the firm or within the household. consume ADJective - making goods or growing crops, especially in large quantities consumption N - a person, firm or country that grows or makes food, goods or materials. economics Noun - fresh fruit and vegetables economic ADJ (always before a noun) - connected with the trade, industry and development of wealth of a country. economy V - to use or buy something N - the final use of economic agents to satisfy their needs. Index

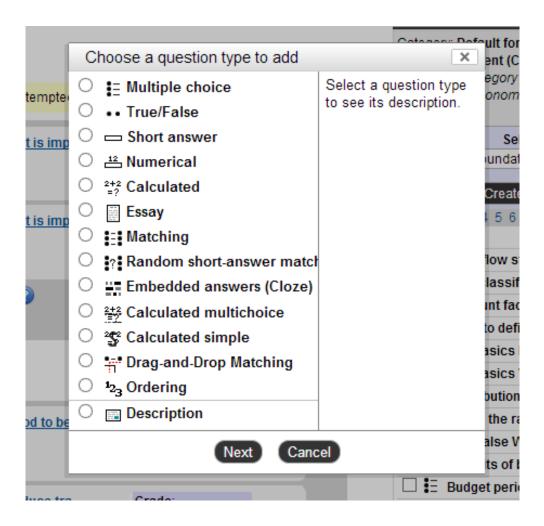
Moodle quizzes have to be set up to encourage students rather than censure them



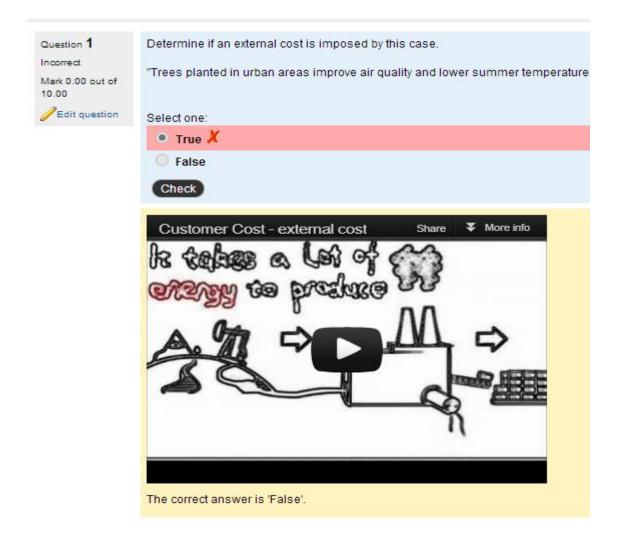
and



Moodle has many question types



Feedback can be accompanied by videos from YouTube or elsewhere



Feedback can be provided through text



Determine if an external cost is imposed by this case.

"Old computer monitors contain toxic materials that pollute the environment when improperly disposed of."

Select one:



False

Check

Disposing of old computer monitors imposes an external cost: the marginal cost to those disposing of old computer monitors is lower than the marginal social cost, since environmental pollution is borne by people other than the person disposing of the monitor. The difference between the marginal cost and the marginal cost to those disposing of old computer monitors is the marginal external cost. A tax on disposing of computer monitors, or a system of tradable permits for their disposal, could raise the marginal cost to those disposing of old computer monitors sufficiently to make it equal to the marginal social cost.

The correct answer is 'True'.

Students should be able to revisit quizzes to increase marks

week 6 - concepts - market failure and government policy

Try and answer these concept questions on the law of demand and external costs/benefits.

Grading method: Highest grade

Attempts: 18

Summary of your previous attempts

Attempt	Completed	Marks / 20.00	Grade / 100.00	Feedback
Preview	Sunday, 25 November 2012, 01:15 PM	10.00	50.00	You clearly understand something about these ideas. You might want to revisit the questions you found more challenging.

Highest grade: 50.00 / 100.00.

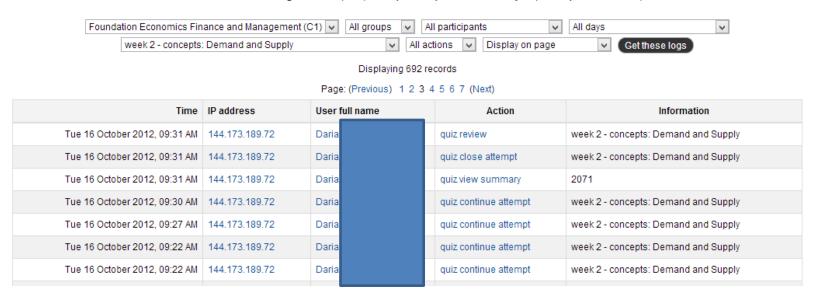
Overall feedback

You clearly understand something about these ideas. You might want to revisit the questions you found more challenging.

Re-attempt quiz

Teachers can receive feedback on the work done

Foundation Economics Finance and Management (C1): All participants, All days (Europe/London)



phase 3 - future

- use of on-line dictionary/glossary to support lexical development
- fine tuning of feedback mechanisms
- development of short answer feedback to include some text analysis
- write clear objectives for each quiz

Link to sites that can be used to create web pages

- http://intranet.exeter.ac.uk/insess/ltsig/softw are.html
- http://intranet.exeter.ac.uk/insess/ltsig/sites.h
 tml
- http://wallwisher.com/wall/teachersweb20