moodle

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Quiz FAQ

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Contents

General

How can I try a quiz before it is released?

You have prepared a quiz exam for your students. It is currently in a hidden state. The exam opens on the day of the exam, at a time that the students know about. However, to satisfy yourself that it is doable in the time allotted, You wish to do a dry run yourself before that date. How can You accomplish this?

Method 1: Use the Preview feature available to you as a teacher as you are making the quiz.

Method 2:

1. Make a dummy account with a name like "Test Student".
2. Enrol that user in the course as a student.
3. Add a "User override" to the quiz, so "Test Student" can attempt the quiz before it is open to everyone else.
4. Log in as "Test student".
5. Attempt the quiz.
6. Log back in as teacher.
7. Review the attempt.
8. Go to Results -> Grades and delete the test attempt.
9. Un-enrol "Test Student" from your course.

Method 3: Set up a Moodle Playground course for your teachers. Add teachers with dual role (teacher and student). Teachers can later copy the quiz/assignment/whatever over to their live class.

How can I enable notification of quiz submissions?

See Quiz submission notification.

How do I send a bulk message to all students who haven't completed a quiz?

- From your navigation block, click *Reports>Course participation*
- From the drop down, choose your quiz.
- In *Show only*, choose "Student" and in *Actions*, choose "post"
- In the list that appears, tick/check the boxes next to those you wish to message.
- In the bottom dropdown *With selected users*, choose "send message"

Student 88	No	☑
Student 87	No	☑
Student 86	No	☑
Student 85	No	☑
Student 84	No	☑

Select all   Deselect all

With selected users...   ✓ Choose...
                          Send a message
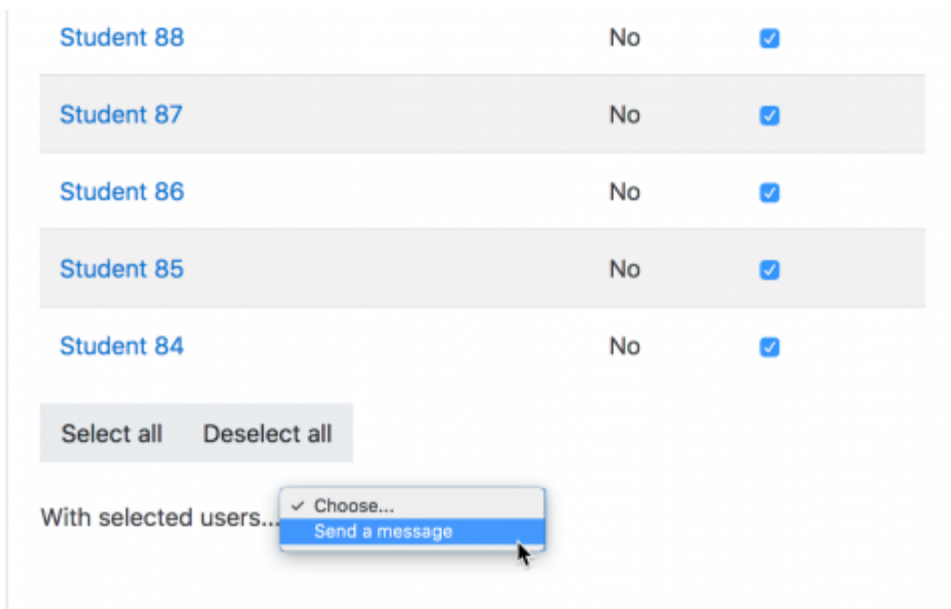
How can build a quiz that picks X questions randomly from a larger question bank?

See the section on adding random questions in Building Quiz.

How can I print a copy of a quiz?

Use your browser printer option (for example by right-clicking and selecting Print) When a student prints their finished quiz, responses and feedback will also be printed.
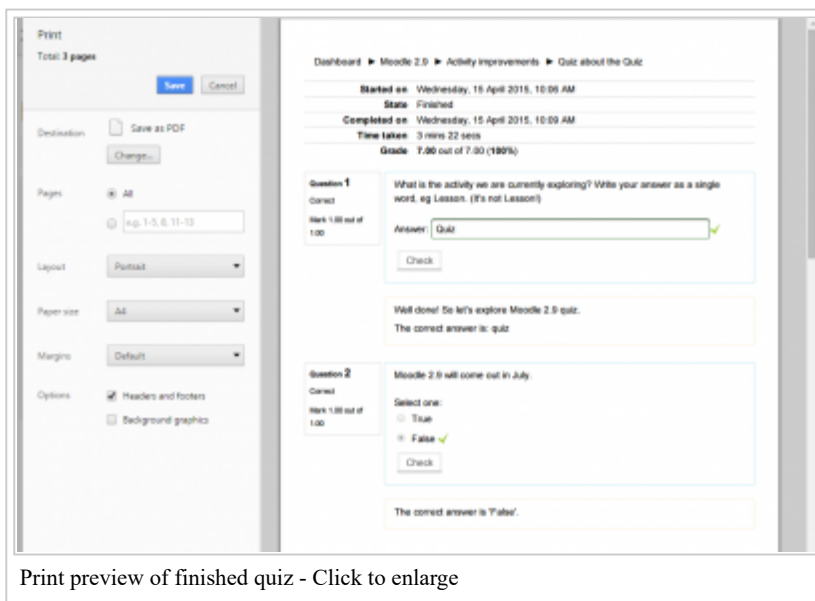
Print preview of finished quiz - Click to enlarge

You can also export the question as Moodle XML, or GIFT format. If you open either of those files in a text-editor, you should be able to see most of the details of each question.

How can I print all the students' quiz questions and answers?

Install the quiz archive report additional plugin and print the webpage to PDF.

How can I optimize a Moodle server for performing more concurrent quizzes?

See Performance recommendations.

Can I release the answers to students who did not attempt a quiz?

Yes. One way to handle this with standard Moodle would be to open the quiz after the deadline and add a time limit to the quiz of one second. Unless students are extremely quick they will not be able to gain any points, but would see the general feedback.

How can I make Moodle quizzes if my school does not have enough computers / fast internet / a good Moodle server?

- Check the Offline quiz activity additional plugin.
- Read about the use of Chromebooks and iPads in the Safe exam browser Moodle documentation.
- Visit the page for Transforming Exams - Transforming Exams is an Australian Government funded research project looking at approaches to conducting authentic digital assessment in the exam rooms of Australian universities via the use of Bring-your-own laptops. The project involves 10 Australian university partners and is lead out of Monash University. See TransformingExams.com for project information.

Can I print the quiz results without the answers history?

If you want to to print the results of all the student attempts, but ommit the answers history, as it might take much space, you can do so by accessing the settings on Site admin -> Appearance -> Additional HTML. In the 'Within head' setting, put something like:

```css
<style type="text/css">
@media print {
    .que .history {
        display: none;
    }
}
</style>
```

Is it possible for a teacher to add a personal/private note to a student's quiz submission?

Not really, but as a workaround, you can use the buit-in Notes feature.

Copying a quiz

When you add questions to a quiz, you are not actually adding questions, but rather links or pointers to questions in the question bank. When you copy a quiz, two things can happen depending on where the questions are placed:

- If the questions are placed in a question category of the quiz, for example the "Default category for questions shared in the quiz context", the quiz is copied as well as the question category together with the questions it contains. See [How to access the Quiz activity context].
- If the questions are not placed in a question category of the quiz, the quiz is copied but not the questions. However, the links to the original questions are copied. Therefore, when editing the quiz copy, you are also editing the questions of the original quiz, because the question links point to the same questions. Be careful!

Setup

Why am I no longer allowed to add or remove questions?

Most likely it is because you have students that have already attempted the quiz. You will need to delete all of the attempts by selecting them and choosing to delete them if you need to add/remove questions from a quiz.

If you are developing a new quiz where the attempts have just been trials then deleting the previous attempts will have no consequences in the grade book.

There are several ways of getting to the "attempts #" which you need to click on to delete the previous attempts. Use which ever works for you.

1. Click on the quiz that you want to amend. It will take you to a page with "attempts #" at the top.
2. If you are on a page with this message "You cannot add or remove questions because the quiz has been attempted (attempts #)" Click on "attempts #".
3. If you have navigated away from the page with the message go to the Settings block > Quiz Administration > Edit Quiz.

Whichever way you find "attempts #" click on it and you will go to a page with a drop down menu at the top. Select "all users who have attempted the quiz". There are several other click boxes select whatever applies to your situation. Click "Show Report" and then "select all". Click "Delete selected attempts" and confirm selection.

Go back to Quiz Administration > Edit Quiz and you will now be able to add or delete questions.

How can I remove a problem question after the quiz has been taken?

You can not remove a question once a quiz has been taken by one student or more. However you can change the score and flag the question so you know it has problems.

Set the score for that question to 0.

- Caution: In some versions of Moodle if you use this question in an other quiz, this will potentially change the question in that quiz as well. A trick is to score the question as 0, then regrade the just completed quiz. This will establish the new grade for gradebook. Now go back and change the score to the original value.

Find the question in Question Bank. Maybe edit the title (e.g. 'Do not use in Bio101'). Or if you do not share the question category with other teachers, create a sub category, move the offending question there, and perhaps create a better question to replace the one you just moved. Create a new quiz and if necessary hide the old one.

- Caution: if other departments or teachers use a question category it might be wise to check with the team before moving or changing any question. This is one reason importing questions in a course is a good best practice in some situations.

How can I turn off glossary auto-linking in a quiz?

- In the Quiz administration settings block there will be a link "filter".
- Click the link and you will have the option to disable filters just for that particular quiz:

Can I make a second quiz start right away after a first quiz is finished?

By using a hack (See this forum thread).

In the 'Overall feedback' for the first quiz, add some code which redirects to the second quiz. Make a big button to make that obvious:

```
<div style="text-align:center;padding:20px;">
  <a href="https://--your domain--/mod/quiz/view.php?id=--quiz 2 no--" target="_blank">
    <button type="button" style="height:100px;font-size:24px;">Click here to access Quiz 2</button>
  </a>
</div>
```

It would look like this:
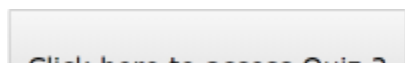
Notes:

- The button will not appear in the gradebook.
- In the quiz settings and under Review options, select 'Overall feedback' under 'Immediately after the attempt'. Deselect 'Overall feedback' under 'Later, while the quiz is still open' and 'After the quiz is closed'.

Attempts

How can I give particular students extra time or numbers of attempts?

- In the Quiz administration there is a link "User overrides"
- Click this link and you will be able to choose one or more users and change quiz dates, times or number of attempts.

Can I have different start times/timings/numbers of attempts for different groups?

- In the Quiz administration settings block, there is a link "group overrides" that allows you to do things like grant extensions to certain groups of students.
- Click this link and you will be able to select your groups and change the quiz dates, times and number of attempts:

Override

Override group*   Group 1 ▼

Require password   ☐ Unmask

Open the   8 ▼ December ▼ 2011 ▼ 20 ▼ 30 ▼ ☐ Enable

What happens if students submit answers after the quiz closing date?

It is possible for students to still submit answers after the quiz has closed (for example if they started the attempt before the closing date but then took a long time before submitting). These responses are stored by the quiz module, but the students are not given any credit for them. The teacher can see these answers when reviewing the student's attempts and can give the student credit for them by manually entering a grade in the gradebook. Also the teacher could change the closing date after the fact and regrade the attempts. The students' answers would then get graded.

How can a "Never submitted quiz" attempt be submitted?

Currently there is no way to retrieve an attempt that was "Never Submitted", and get it back into the "In progress" state. Perhaps the best solution is to plan ahead and set your quiz to set your quiz to be submitted automatically. Alternatively, you can

1. Update the quiz : set the "close the quiz" date after today
2. Set "When time expires" to "There is a grace period ..."
3. Under Grade set "Attempts allowed" to "unlimited"
4. Question behavior: Each attempt builds on the last "Yes"
5. Invite the students who did not close their exams

6. Allow them to start a new attempt, and close it immediately.

Why can't people (guests) attempt a quiz without creating an account and logging in?

This is difficult to implement for technical reasons.

To explain: The quiz has to link all information about an attempt to a particular 'user' record in the database, and each user can only have one open quiz attempt at a time. All not-logged-in users share the same 'guest' user database record. Therefore, two guests could not attempt the quiz at the same time, and even if they could, it would be difficult to prevent one guest seeing another guest's attempts.

Of course, given enough work, it would be possible to change some of those assumptions, and so make it possible for guests to attempt quizzes. Indeed, some of the obstructions to implementing this have already been removed while doing other work on the quiz, but there is still some way to go. If you would like to see this implemented, please vote for MDL-17892.

A workaround is to create a visitor account, say with username = guest, password = visitor, for everyone to share.

How can I prevent a student from reviewing or jumping around questions in a quiz?

You can block the quiz navigation block and the summary of quiz page with CSS code in a theme. However, if a student fails to answer a question, they will not know if you implement this "solution". Also if others on the site do not want this patch, make sure the theme you select for the course is not used by others.

For example using the Afterburner theme, enter this in the CSS code area:

    div#mod_quiz_navblock {visibility:hidden;}
    table.quizsummaryofattempt {visibility:hidden;}

There are other CSS solutions.

How can I force my students to answer all the question in a quiz before they submit?

There are various ways to answer this:

1. You can't.
2. Your students are not stupid. They know they will get zero marks for any question they do not answer, so they already have a strong incentive to answer every question. Furthermore, at the end of the quiz there is the summary page where they can easily check that they have answered all the questions before they submit, so they won't accidentally miss questions.
3. OK, so you want us to write code that won't let students submit before they have answered each question. Well, all that does is forces the student to put random junk like "asdf" into each question before they click the button, or randomly make a choice in each multiple choice question. There is no educational benefit in this. You get more meaningful information if students leave those questions blank rather than putting in random responses.

Can I force a user to reattempt only incorrect questions in subsequent attempts?

The easiest way to implement this solution is to use javascript or modify the source code on your Moodle site. The javascript solution described in this forum thread is as follows:

- Insert the following code in the HTML of the text of a description question.
- Include this description question in the quizzes. If the quizzes are displayed on multiple pages, add the description question on each page.
- If you are using the Adaptable theme you can put the JS in the JS section of the Adaptable theme. With the standard Boost theme or Classic theme place the script in the Site Administration / Appearance / Additional HTML section. This way you don't have to include the script in every quiz.

```
<h3>Title of the quiz</h3>  // optional
<p>Give some info.</p>      // optional

<script src="https://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/3.4.1/jquery.min.js"></script>
<script>
    $(document).ready(function() {
        // Clear sessionStorage after a certain delay
        if (sessionStorage.getItem("setTime") != "set") {
            nd = new Date();
            lastTime = nd.getTime().toString();
            sessionStorage.setItem("time", lastTime);
            sessionStorage.setItem("setTime", "set");
        }
        // Set the delay to say 5 minutes: aferXmin = 5
```

```
        // (Use 0.33 minutes, i.e. 20 sec, for demonstration purposes)
        afterXmin = 5;
        maxDelay = afterXmin * 60 * 1000;
        d = new Date();
        newTime = d.getTime()
        lastTime = sessionStorage.getItem("time")
        delay = newTime - lastTime;
        if (delay > maxDelay) {
            sessionStorage.clear();
        }
        // Show or hide correct or incorrect questions in the previous attempt:
        i = 0;
        $(".que").each(function() {
            i++;
            var x = i.toString();
            if ($(this).hasClass("correct")) {
                sessionStorage.setItem(x, "correct");
            }
            if ($(this).hasClass("incorrect")) {
                sessionStorage.setItem(x, "incorrect");
            }
            if ($(this).hasClass("answersaved") && sessionStorage.getItem(x) == "correct") {
                $(this).hide();
            }
            if ($(this).hasClass("answersaved") && sessionStorage.getItem(x) == "incorrect") {
                $(this).show();
            }
        });
    });
</script>
```

Grades

Why is my quiz not displaying in the gradebook?

Go to the editing quiz page and check that you have a maximum grade that is more than 0 - if your score is 0, then the quiz will not appear in the gradebook.

I've entered quiz grades manually in the gradebook. How can I allow students to improve on these grades?

When a grade is entered directly in the gradebook, an "overridden" flag is set, meaning that the grade can no longer be changed from within the quiz.

However, the flag can be removed by turning editing on in the grader report, then clicking the edit grade icon, unchecking the overridden box and saving the changes.

How can I set a grade to pass?

See the section 'Setting a grade to pass for a quiz' in Activity completion settings for details.

How can I have a quiz that is not graded?

On the Edit quiz page, change the total score and each question's score to 0 instead of the defaults of 10 and 1 per question:

Editing quiz: Mid-Module As

Appearance

How can I turn off question flagging?

By default, flags are available in quiz questions.

There is a capability attached to this: Capabilities/moodle/question:flag. Remove this capability from roles that you don't want to see the flags. You can either do that by editing the role definitions globally, or by overriding the permissions in just one quiz or course.

How can I hide the number of marks available for each question?

This is not really possible unless you are prepared to edit the code.

If you have a custom theme, you can add CSS like this:

```
.que .info .grade { display: none; }
```

or you could try to make it more specific, and only hide the grade before the question is answered:

```
.que.answersaved .info .grade,
.que.invalidanswer .info .grade,
.que.notyetanswered .info .grade { display: none; }
```

You can also add this CSS using the Additional HTML admin setting.

Alternatively, you can alter the PHP code here: https://github.com/moodle/moodle/blob/4de51c25ae227a727dcba7c39f6f644a5d47ce7a/mod/quiz/locallib.php#L1820. Change that line to give the behaviour you want, e.g.

```
$options->marks = self::extract($quiz->reviewmarks, $when,
                self::MARK_AND_MAX, self::HIDDEN);
```

Be warned that any of these approaches will affect every quiz in the Moodle site.

How can I delay the quiz feedback after the quiz has passed

- Suppose the students take a "Main" one-hour quiz from 2 April 14:00 to 2 April 15:00. They shall not have any feedback during and after the quiz until the following week.
- Students take a "Follow up" quiz a week later, starting 9 April 14:00. If they succeed the "Follow up" quiz, they can then review the "Main" quiz and get their points.

This can be done by editing the "Main" and "Follow up" quiz settings, and the Gradebook set up as follows:

"Main" quiz settings *See also the image on the right ->*

Timing

```
Open the quiz:   2 April 14:00
Close the quiz:  9 April 14:00
```

Review options

```
During the attempt
    Uncheck feedbacks
Immediately after the attempt
    Uncheck feedbacks
Later, while the quiz is still open
    Uncheck feedbacks
After the quiz is closed
    Check feedbacks
```

Restrict access

```
Student must match any of the following
    Date: until 2 April 15:00
    or
    Student must match all of the following (restriction set)
        Date: from 9 April 14:00
        and
        Grade: Follow up
          Check must be ≥ 1 %
```

"Follow up" quiz settings

Timing

```
Open the quiz: 9 April 14:00
```

Gradebook set up

```
Main quiz: Weight 0.0, ID number "main"
Follow up quiz: Weight 0.0, ID number "followup"
Grade item "Total": Weight 100.0, Calculation = [[main]] + [[followup]]  (<- do not copy/paste this equation, rewri
```

Is there a way to display submitted images instead of titles of Images on the review page for the quiz?

Yes. See this forum post.

Errors

I obtain the error 'The number of random questions required is more than are still available in the category!'

Review your quiz and verify Moodle has enough questions from each category of questions it will be pulling from. You may have inadvertently selected more questions than what exists in the category. Also make sure you're not pulling questions from a category that has zero questions. Because you are picking random questions, rather than a specific question, it may not be apparent at first that you have run out of questions to ask!

Quiz plugins

There are a number of ways to extend quizzes, such as adding new reports and questions types. See Moodle plugins directory: Plugin type: Quiz.

See also

- Effective quiz practices
- Questions FAQ

Any further questions?

Please post in the Quiz forum on moodle.org.