

Minimising Pain with QMPlus Quizzes

Primož Skraba

May 2020

These are notes on tricks and pitfalls for making QMPlus Quizzes.

Making the Quiz: This is the same as adding a file or any other kind of activity. When you create it you can add questions. If you want to edit the quiz which is already created, the edit quiz is on the **right**.

Adding Questions: The most important point is **use question banks**. This is a on the bottom right (under edit the quiz). Using question banks makes organisation, fixing, and previewing questions much easier.

- In question banks make categories and sub-categories - this is especially important for randomisation. The easiest way to randomise is to choose a random question from a (sub)category. One important bit – the default category makes no sense and is likely to be non-sense.
- When viewing the category tab in the question bank, I found it useful to tick show question text. This gives a quick overview all the questions in the category. Here there is also a preview button – through this screen was a good way to check many questions quickly.
- Once you have the question in a form you like – duplicate the question, then edit. This is also a quick way to randomise – make one question then duplicate several times changing the values.

Types of Questions: These are the types of questions I have tried. Note that I have not tried the feedback options yet.

- Multiple choice: this one is straightforward – there is only one bit, if multiple answers can be correct (such as choose all that apply) - you need to think carefully about how to weight these (i.e. assigning negative percentages) - otherwise choosing all will result in 100%.
- True or False: Same as above.
- Algebra: Use the evaluation method and hope for the best - this chooses random values and evaluates the expressions - SAGE does not work!
- Drag and drop: This can be a handy way of filling in non standard forms and I can see a lot of different types of questions fit into this – for example I did truth tables using this. If you generate latex or any other images, uses SVG, it looks the best. When specifying drop zones: do it approximately, then edit by hand. This takes some time to get right and double check the full preview (the inline preview is not accurate).

Questions:

1. It is not clear randomisation will repeat questions or if the system is smart enough not to.
2. Feedback for the other types of questions (e.g. algebra)
3. For drag and drop, it is not clear how to do custom partial credit (as far as I can tell, it is percentage of drop zones which are correct.)