Creating Moodle Quizzes

# Basic Use

Open the executable file MoodleQuizCreator.exe and the main screen will load.

Open a pdf file/web page with multiple choice question (MCQ) images. Using the windows snip tool (Win-Shift-S) or snapshot in acrobat reader copy the image of the MCQ to the clipboard. The image will automatically appear in MoodleQuizCreator.

Graphical user interface, text, application, email

Description automatically generated

1. Decide whether you are creating A-level or GCSE questions (the appropriate category list will automatically appear in the right part of the window, see below).
2. Give your question series a name (I use the name of the exam paper). Reset the counter to match the question number and a name will be created automatically. Most of time you will create MCQs but there is an experimental option to create numerical questions.
3. Select a category for your question from the right hand pane of the window.
4. Select the answer (it helps to have the mark scheme open in another window). At present it is hard coded for A, B, C, D as the responses because all the questions I have are like this; however, I can make this an option if necessary.
5. Now click save question and it will enter your question into the spreadsheet.

# Viewing Questions

Select the Question Data tab:

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It will display the questions you have created so far in a spreadsheet

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You can manually edit the details in a cell if you like. However, it is simpler to eitherdouble click the far left hand side of the row or use the Questions menu to view the selected question

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Here you can see the question and make any modifications:

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Note that, the topic and categories are not directly editable from here, you can only select values that already exist. If you are not happy with the image you can paste new one here.

# Loading and Saving Questions

Once you have created a bunch of questions you can save them to an xml file ready to import into Moodle. You can also load a previously saved file or one that you have exported from Moodle. The program uses Moodle XML Format and should be fully compliant with Moodle v2 and v3 (not tested on Moodle v4). You can open up a file in a text editor and have a look at the structure:

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It will import the questions with their categories so it is really quick to turn them into quizzes once they are imported to Moodle. If you wish to change the categories (see below) have a plan in place before you start to save you lots of headaches later on.

# Question Categories

The question categories are already set up and displayed in the right side of the screen.

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The categories can easily be changed to suit your needs as there are two xml files that define the categories for either GCSE or A-Level Physics. I only teach A-level Physics with OCR so the categories are arranged for my purposes. The GCSE category is pretty much identical to the A-level one as I was including some old GCSE questions in my A-level question bank.

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The xml files can be edited by hand (probably quickest is you are doing loads of changes) using any text editor:

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or from the Tools menu in the program:

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# Final Words

The software is experimental (it works for me) and may have some bugs if you do unexpected things (I have tried to anticipate most things). If you are into programming feel free to make a copy of the source code from GitHub (<https://github.com/martynwheeler/MoodleQuizCreator>) and compile it yourself in VS 2022 (free to use).

If you spot a bug or have an improvement idea please let me know (martyndwheeler@gmail.com)