

Brightspace Quiz Question Types

Quick Summary

This article will demonstrate each quiz question type available in Brightspace and how various question types transfer from Blackboard. Please note, this article only pertains to quizzes using Brightspace's built in quiz tool.

Question Types:

- [Arithmetic](#)
- [Fill in the Blanks](#)
- [Matching](#)
- [Multiple Choice](#)
- [Multi-Select](#)
- [Multi-Short Answer](#)
- [Ordering](#)
- [Short Answer](#)
- [Significant Figures](#)
- [True or False](#)
- [Written response](#)

Transfer from Blackboard:

Blackboard test questions transfer differently depending on the migration method used. Please review the [chart](#) at the end of this document to understand how your questions transferred and what adjustments may be required.

Video

The video below provides a quick overview of each question type and how it displays for students.

[D2L's Brightspace: Quiz Question Types](#)

Part 1: Brightspace Quiz Question Types

This section will provide an overview and example of each question type. For more details about how to create each question type and all of the options available, please review [Creating Question Library Questions](#) from D2L's Brightspace Community.

Arithmetic

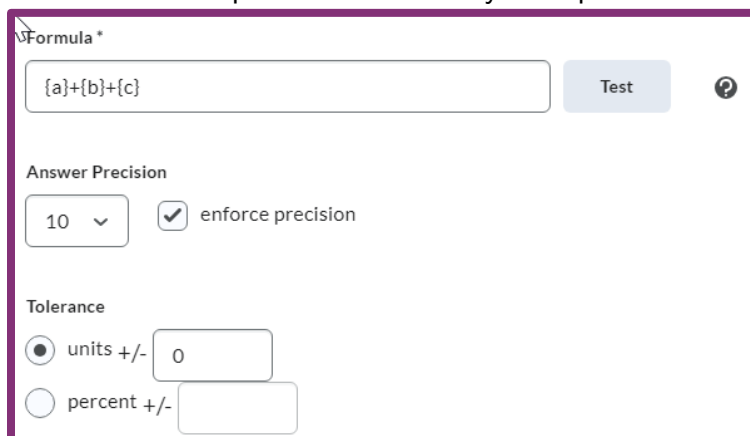
Arithmetic questions allow you to set parameters so that each student will receive a unique question based on a formula you create. You will create a problem with variables and then set a numerical range for each of those variables. Here is an example of the question text with variables "a", "b", and "c":

There are {a} orange barrels on I-480 East, {b} orange barrels on I-271 North, and {c} orange barrels on I-77 in both directions. How many orange barrels are there in all?



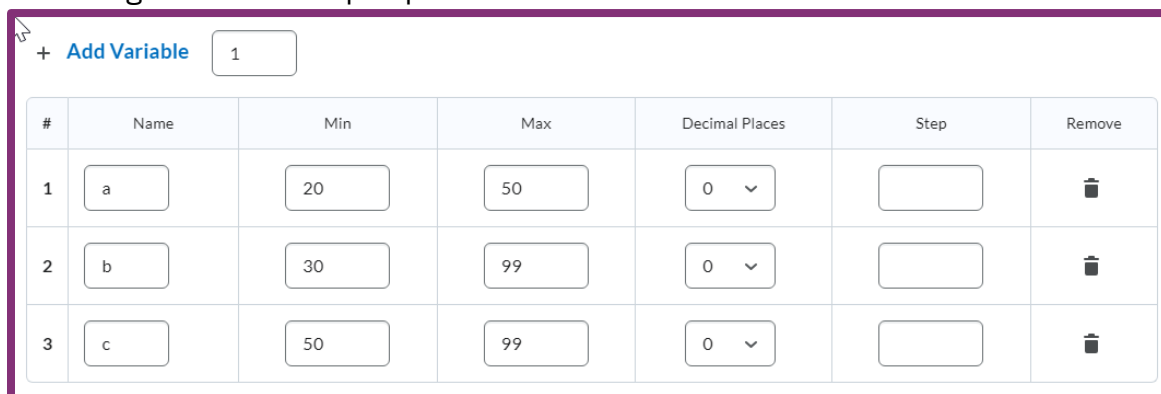
Note that the variables need to be typed in curly brackets {}.

- As you create the question, you will be required to create a formula (in this case, $a + b + c$). You can also decide how precise an answer you require.



The screenshot shows a 'Formula' editor interface. At the top, there is a text input field containing the formula $\{a\}+\{b\}+\{c\}$. To the right of the input field is a 'Test' button and a help icon. Below the input field, there is a section for 'Answer Precision' with a dropdown menu set to '10' and a checked checkbox labeled 'enforce precision'. Further down, there is a 'Tolerance' section with two radio button options: 'units +/-' (which is selected) and 'percent +/-'. The 'units +/-' option has a text input field next to it containing the value '0'.

- For each variable, you will need to set a range. Brightspace will choose a random number from each range to create unique questions.







The screenshot shows a table for configuring variables. At the top left, there is a '+ Add Variable' button and a text input field containing the number '1'. The table has seven columns: '#', 'Name', 'Min', 'Max', 'Decimal Places', 'Step', and 'Remove'. There are three rows of variables labeled 'a', 'b', and 'c'.

#	Name	Min	Max	Decimal Places	Step	Remove
1	a	20	50	0		
2	b	30	99	0		
3	c	50	99	0		

- Time Saving Tip:** At the bottom of the screen, you'll see a button that says, "Save and Copy." If you need to create a quiz that tests the same problem type repeatedly, you can just create the problem once and use this button to make as many copies of the question as you need. Each question will be randomly generated based on the parameters you provide, ensuring that students receive a unique set of questions for each quiz attempt.

Question Display:

 **Question 3 (Bonus)** (1 point)

  Listen 


You may use a calculator for this question.

There are 40 orange barrels on I-480 East, 54 orange barrels on I-271 north, and 50 orange barrels on I-77 in both directions.

How many orange barrels are there in all?

Your Answer:

Answer

 [Add attachments to support your work](#)

Note that if you require students to show their work, there is an option for them to add an attachment.

Fill in the Blanks

Fill in the Blanks can be used for situations in which students need to fill in one or more missing words. To ensure accuracy of auto-grading, it is recommended to limit correct answers for each blank to 1-2 words. You will be asked to provide weights for each blank; make sure they equal 100%.

When you create the question, you'll begin by typing question text, stopping where the first "blank" will go. You can continue to add as many blanks and/or pieces of text as you need. You do not need to type a space for the blank (_____) into the text box.

Question Text

+ Add Blank

1

+ Add Text

1

1

2

Remove

Text # 1:

Par... B [list icon] [list icon] [list icon] [list icon]

[list icon] + [list icon] A [list icon]

[list icon] [list icon] [list icon] [list icon]

The capital of France is

4 [trash icon]

Blank # 1:

Size: 30 3 + Add Answer 1

Check Answers

Answer	Weight (%)	Evaluation	Remove
Paris	100	<div>5</div> <div><input checked="" type="radio"/> Case Insensitive <input type="radio"/> Case Sensitive <input type="radio"/> Regular Expression</div>	[trash icon]

6

Text # 2:

Par... B [list icon] [list icon] [list icon] [list icon]

[list icon] + [list icon] A [list icon]




[list icon] [list icon] [list icon] [list icon]


Its most famous landmark is
the Eiffel Tower

4 [trash icon]

- ### Question Display

Question 2 (1 point)

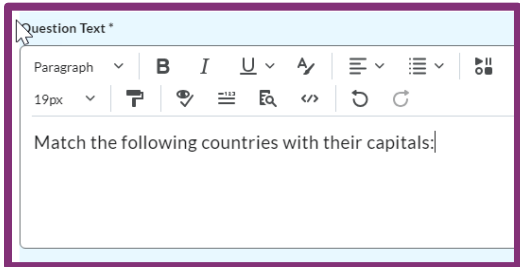
  Listen 

The capital of France is  Its most famous landmark is the Eiffel Tower.

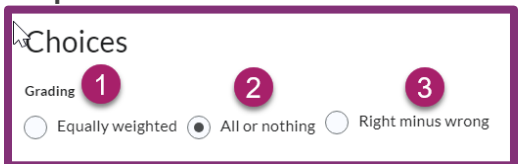
Matching

Matching questions require the student to select items from two columns that go together. You can add extra distractor answers that will not be used (so there may be more answer choices than matches).

Step 1: Type the question prompt (directions) into the “Question Text” box.

A screenshot of the 'Question Text' box in a quiz editor. It features a rich text editor toolbar with options for Paragraph, Bold (B), Italic (I), Underline (U), Text Color (A), List (bulleted and numbered), Indent, and Link. Below the toolbar, the text 'Match the following countries with their capitals.' is entered into the text area.

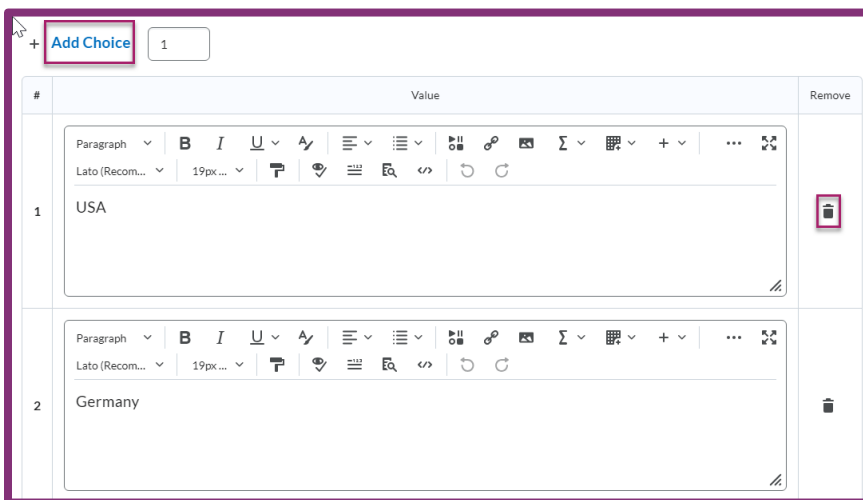
Step 2: Under “Choices” select how you want the question to be graded.

A screenshot of the 'Choices' section in a quiz editor. It shows three numbered options: 1. Grading, 2. All or nothing, and 3. Right minus wrong. Below these, there are three radio buttons for grading: 'Equally weighted' (unselected), 'All or nothing' (selected), and 'Right minus wrong' (unselected).

1. **Equally weighted:** The percent distribution is equal across choices. For example, if a student answers 3 out of 4 choices correctly, they will receive a score equal to 75% of the question's point value.
2. **All or nothing:** The student receives either full credit or nothing, regardless of if their answer is partially correct.
3. **Right minus wrong:** Students lose partial points for an incorrect answer; the goal of this option is to penalize students for select an incorrect answer choice by making that choice worth negative points, rather than zero.

Step 3: Add your choices.

This will be the “right column” of the question- the answer choices that students will select. You can select “Add Choice” next to the plus sign to create as many items as you need. Use the trash can icon to delete extra choices.

A screenshot of the 'Choices' list in a quiz editor. At the top, there is a '+ Add Choice' button and a counter showing '1'. Below this is a table with two columns: '#', 'Value', and 'Remove'. The first row is numbered '1' and contains the text 'USA'. The second row is numbered '2' and contains the text 'Germany'. Each row has a trash can icon in the 'Remove' column. The 'Value' column has a rich text editor toolbar for each choice.

Step 4: Add matches.

Your answer choices will be automatically randomized in the quiz, so the fastest method is to put the matches in the order that corresponds to the choices created in Step 3. Make sure to verify that the number in the “correct choice” column corresponds to the number associated with the choices created in Step 3. Select the trash can icon if you need to delete a match.

Matches are randomized when taking the question.

+ **Add Match** 1

#	Value	Correct Choice	Remove
1	<div>Paragraph B <i>I</i> <u>U</u> </div> <div>Lato (Recom... 19px... </div> <div>Washington, D.C.</div>	1	
2	<div>Paragraph B <i>I</i> <u>U</u> </div> <div>Lato (Recom... 19px... </div> <div>Berlin</div>	2	

Question Display

Question 3 (1 point)

Listen

Match the following countries with their capitals:

	Washington, D.C.	1. USA
	Berlin	2. Germany
	Tokyo	3. Japan
	Brasilia	4. Brazil

Multiple Choice

A multiple choice question is the typical question with several answer choices provided. Use this question type if there is only one correct answer that students should select. For a “check all that apply” type of question, use “Multi-Select” (below).

Question Text *

What is the largest planet in our solar system?

Answers *

1 ☐ Earth ×

☒ Jupiter ×

☐ Saturn ×

☐ Neptune × 3

2 Add Answer

4 ☐ Randomize answer order

Points *

1

What is the largest planet in our solar system?

☐ Earth

☐ Jupiter

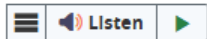
☐ Saturn

☐ Neptune

1. Select and drag the chocolate bar to move the answer choices up and down.
2. Select “Add Answer” to create additional blank answer choices.
3. Select the “X” to delete an answer choice.
4. Select the checkbox next to “Randomize answer order” if you want the answer choices to appear in a different order for each student.

Question Display

Question 4 (1 point)



What is the largest planet in our solar system?

- ☐ Jupiter
- ☐ Earth
- ☐ Saturn
- ☐ Neptune

Multi-Select

A multi-select question is like a multiple choice question, but students can select multiple correct answers. Use this type for a “check all that apply” type of question.

The screenshot shows a question editor for a multi-select question. The question text is "Which of the following are prime numbers? Select all that apply." The answer choices are 4, 5, 7, and 9. The interface includes a list of answers with checkboxes and a chocolate bar for reordering. There are also buttons for deleting answers (X) and adding new answers. At the bottom, there are settings for randomizing answer order, points, and how points are assigned to blanks.

Question Text *

Which of the following are prime numbers? Select all that apply.

1 answers *

1 4 X

2 5 X

4 7 X

9 X

Add Answer 3

5 Randomize answer order

Points * 6 1

How are points assigned to blanks? 7 All or Nothing

Which grading method should I choose?

Which of the following are prime numbers? Select all that apply.

☐ 4

☐ 5

☐ 7




☐ 9

1. Use the chocolate bar to reorder answers.
2. Use the X to delete answer choices.
3. Select “Add Answer” to create additional answer choices.
4. Make sure to select the checkbox next to all correct answers.

5. Select the box for “Randomize answer order” if you want the answer choices to be in a different order for each student.
6. Add the appropriate number of points for the question.
7. Decide how you want the question to be scored:
 - a. **All or Nothing:** Students earn full credit when all correct answers are selected, and all incorrect answers are left blank. No option for partial credit.
 - b. **Correct Answers:** Points are evenly distributed across all answers. Students earn partial credit for correct answers selected and correct answers left blank.
 - c. **Correct Answers, Limited Selection:** Points are evenly distributed only across the correct answers. In this example, each of the two selections is worth $\frac{1}{2}$ point. Students are limited to selecting only the correct number of answers (in this example, they would only be able to select two choices). Can receive partial credit.
 - d. **Right Minus Wrong:** Points are evenly distributed across all answers. Students earn partial points for each answer that is correctly selected or left blank, but they will lose points for incorrect selections and blanks. However, they cannot score less than 0.

Question Display

Question 5 (1 point)

  Listen 

Select all prime numbers from the list below.

☐ 5

☐ 9

☐ 4

☐ 7

Multi-Short Answer

This question type is designed for questions where you are looking for multiple answers, but the answers could be listed in any order. It works best when the correct answers are definitive and short – 1-2 words. Brightspace will autograde this question type based on possible answer choices you provide.

The screenshot shows the 'Question Text' editor in Brightspace. At the top is a rich text editor with a toolbar. Below it is a text area containing the question: 'Name two continents that begin with the letter "A."'. A red circle with the number '1' is next to this text area. Below the text area is an 'Image' section with an 'Insert an Image' button and an 'Alternative Text' input field. At the bottom is the 'Options' section, which is highlighted with a light blue background. It contains an 'Input Boxes' section with three configuration fields: 'Input Boxes' (set to 2, with a red circle and number '2' next to it), 'Rows' (set to 2, with a red circle and number '3' next to it), and 'Columns' (set to 20, with a red circle and number '4' next to it).

1. Enter the question text.
2. Enter the number of input boxes. In this case, we're looking for two answers, so there will be two input boxes.
3. Enter number of rows- this determines how the input boxes will display. In this case, each input box will be in its own row.
4. "Columns" refers to how wide the input box is. Your choices are 20, 40, and 60, which basically equate to small, medium, and large. Choose the size based on the length of your correct answers.

Answer **1**

+ Add Answer 1 Check Answers

# 3	Answer	Weight (%) 4	Evaluation 5	Remove 2
1	Africa	33.33	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Case Insensitive <input type="radio"/> Case Sensitive <input type="radio"/> Regular Expression	
2	Australia	33.33	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Case Insensitive <input type="radio"/> Case Sensitive <input type="radio"/> Regular Expression	
3	Asia	33.33	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Case Insensitive <input type="radio"/> Case Sensitive <input type="radio"/> Regular Expression	

1. Use “Add Answer” to create more possible correct answers. You should have one answer for each possible correct entry.
2. Use the delete icon if you need to remove an answer choice.
3. Enter a unique correct answer in each blank.
4. Use weights if some answers are “more correct” than others.
5. Decide if you want the answer to be case sensitive or not.
 - “Regular Expression” refers to various codes you can use to denote variations in entry or spelling. [Learn more.](#)

Question Display

When taking the question, it would appear as:

Name two continents that begin with the letter "A."

When grading the question, it would appear as:

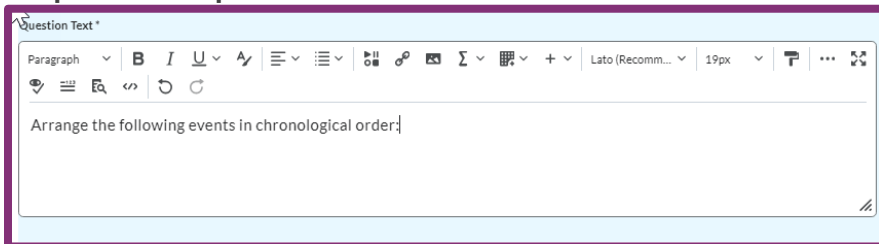
Name two continents that begin with the letter "A."

(Africa, Australia, Asia)

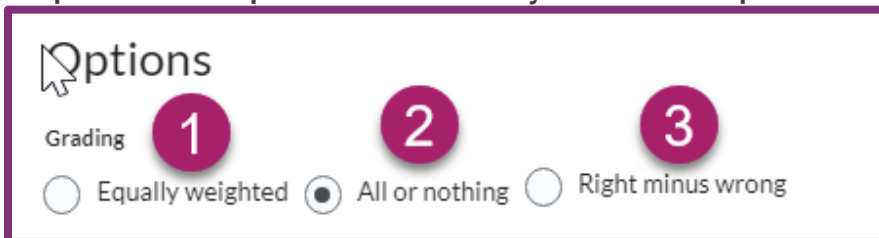
Ordering

Ordering questions ask students to organize items into a list. This question type is commonly used for steps of a process or events in a timeline.

Step 1: Enter question text.



Step 2: Under “Options” select how you want the question to be graded.



1. **Equally weighted:** The percent distribution is equal across choices. For example, if a student answers 3 out of 4 choices correctly, they will receive a score equal to 75% of the question's point value.
2. **All or nothing:** The student receives either full credit or nothing, regardless of if their answer is partially correct.
3. **Right minus wrong:** Students lose partial points for an incorrect answer; the goal of this option is to penalize students for select an incorrect answer choice by making that choice worth negative points, rather than zero.

Items randomized when taking the question

+ Add Item 1

#	Value	Correct Order	Feedback	Remove
1	<div> <div>Para... B ▾ ≡ ▾ ...</div> <div>≡ ▾ + ▾ A ▾ T</div> <div>≡ ▾ ↺ ↻</div> </div> <p>The fall of the Roman Empire.</p>	<div>4</div> <div>1 ▾</div>	<div>Para... B ▾ ≡ ▾ ...</div> <div>≡ ▾ + ▾ A ▾ T</div> <div>≡ ▾ ↺ ↻</div>	<div>2</div> <div>🗑️</div>
2	<div>Para... B ▾ ≡ ▾ ...</div> <div>≡ ▾ + ▾ A ▾ T</div> <div>≡ ▾ ↺ ↻</div> <p>The invention of the printing press.</p>	<div>2 ▾</div>	<div>Para... B ▾ ≡ ▾ ...</div> <div>≡ ▾ + ▾ A ▾ T</div> <div>≡ ▾ ↺ ↻</div>	<div>🗑️</div>

- Tip:** Brightspace will automatically randomize the order for each student when they take the quiz. It is easiest to simply type the answers in the correct order when creating the question.

Question Display

Cuyahoga Community College
Instructional Design & Learning Excellence | Created by Heather Young Mandujano | April 2025

Short Answer

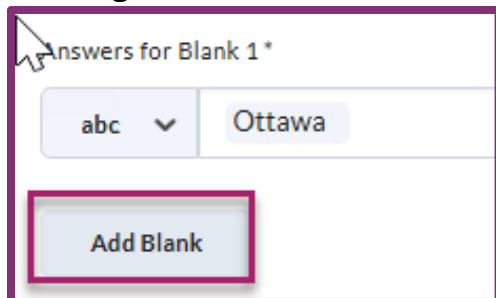
Use a short answer question when you want students to type a response that has a definite correct answer. This question type is auto-graded based on the parameters that you set.



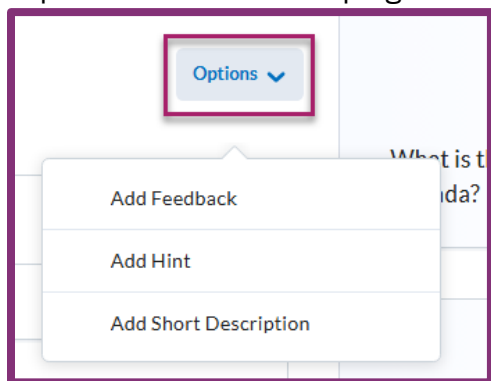
1. Type the question text.
2. Type the correct answer(s).
3. Select the dropdown arrow next to “abc” to select how you want the students’ answers to be compared. Decide if you want the answer to be case sensitive or not.
 - **Text:** Not case-sensitive.
 - **Case-Sensitive Text:** Students’ entries must match in terms of capital and lowercase letters.
 - **Regular Expression:** Refers to various codes you can use to denote variations in entry or spelling. [Learn more.](#)

Optional:

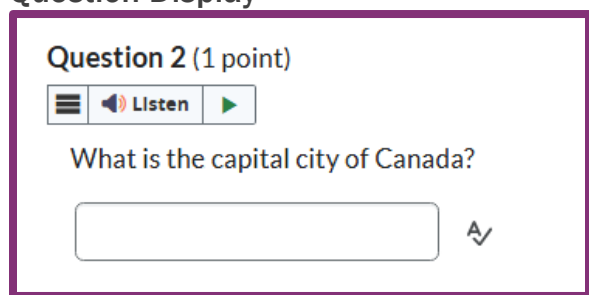
1. **Add a blank.** If your question has more than one place for an answer, you can add blanks by selecting the button under the first answer blank.



2. **Add feedback, hints, or description.** Unlike other question types, you will find these items in the “Options” menu at the top right of the question entry window.



Question Display



Significant Figures

Significant Figures function similarly to Arithmetic questions with two key differences:

1. Answers must be expressed with a specific number of significant figures, and faculty can decide how much of the score this is worth.
2. Both question variables and student answer must be given in scientific notation.

In this way, the title of this question type is a bit of a misnomer; while significant figures are a component of the scored answer, its primary purpose is to require scientific notation.

The basic instructions on setting up the question and variables are the same as the [Arithmetic](#) question above. See the guide below for how to set parameters specific to this question type.

Significant Figures

2 Deduct: 10 % of points for incorrect significant figures

1

Tolerance

☐ +/- 0.5 from the least significant figure

☐ units +/- x10

☒ percent +/- 0

2

3

1. Indicate the number of significant figures you want students to use for their answer.
2. Decide how much of the question score you will deduct for incorrect significant figures.
3. Decide how you will handle answers that are close to the correct answer.

Additionally, when adding variables, they must be expressed in scientific notation.

+ Add Variable 1

#	Name	Min	Max	Step	Remove
1	a	<input type="text"/> x10 <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> x10 <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> x10 <input type="text"/>	

Question Display

When taking the question, it would appear as:

$(4.138 \times 10^3) \times (6.17 \times 10^3) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

Note: Your answer is assumed to be reduced to the highest power possible.

Your Answer:

x10

Answer

When grading the question, it would appear as:

$(4.138 \times 10^3) \times (6.17 \times 10^3) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

⇒ 2.55x10^7

Comment: (given as feedback)

- No comment specified. -

True or False

True or False questions are self-explanatory. You provide a statement, and the students determine if it is true or false.

The screenshot shows the 'True or False' question editor. At the top, there is a dropdown menu set to 'True or False' and an 'Options' link. Below this is the 'Question Text' field, which contains the text 'The Great Wall of China can be seen from outer space with the naked eye.' This field is marked with a red circle containing the number 1. Underneath the question text is the 'Answers' section, which has two radio button options: 'True' and 'False'. The 'False' option is selected, indicated by a checkmark inside the radio button, and this section is marked with a red circle containing the number 2. At the bottom, there is a 'Points' field with the value '1', which is marked with a red circle containing the number 3.

1. Enter the question text.
2. Select the correct answer.
3. Verify or change the number of points.

Question Display

The screenshot shows the 'Question Display' interface. At the top, it says 'Question 3 (1 point)'. Below this is a 'Listen' button with a speaker icon. The question text 'The Great Wall of China can be seen from outer space with the naked eye.' is displayed. Below the text are two radio button options: 'True' and 'False'.

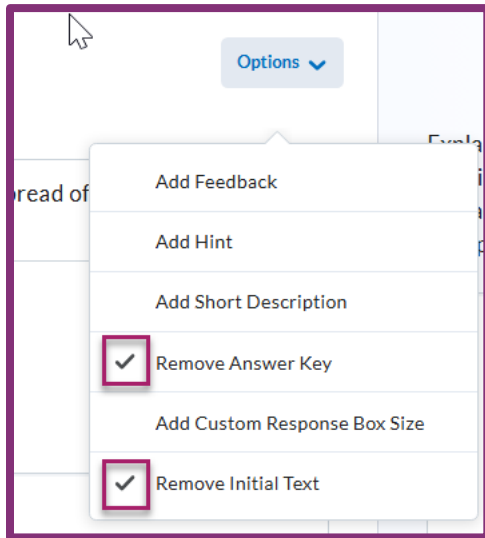
Written Response

Written response questions should be used for essay questions, anything longer than a word or short phrase, or any question in which there are multiple correct answers. This question type is not autograded.

The screenshot shows the configuration interface for a 'Written Response' question. At the top left, a dropdown menu is set to 'Written Response'. To its right is a blue 'Options' button with a downward arrow, labeled with a purple circle containing the number 4. Below the dropdown, the 'Question Text *' field is labeled with a purple circle containing the number 1. The text box contains the prompt: 'Explain the impact of the printing press on the spread of knowledge in Europe.' Below the text box are two optional checkboxes. The first, 'Enable HTML Editor for learner responses', is labeled with a purple circle containing the number 2. The second, 'Allow learners to insert images and add attachments', is labeled with a purple circle containing the number 3. At the bottom, the 'Points *' field is labeled with a purple circle containing the number 4 and contains the value '1'.




1. Enter the question text.
2. Optional: Enable the HTML Editor. This is the standard text editor found throughout Brightspace. This option is helpful if students need to format their text or use the “insert stuff” button to add an image or video.
3. Optional: Allow learners to insert images and add attachments. This is helpful if students need to attach a document or image, but you do not want to give them all of the options found within the HTML editor.
4. **Options:** This menu contains the standard options for adding feedback, hints, and descriptions that are found in other question types. It also has the following options that are unique to Written Response questions:
 - **Add Answer Key:** While there is no option at present to add a rubric to this type of question, you can add an answer key to describe what you are looking for in a student’s response.
 - **Add Custom Response Box Size:** Change the size of the response box. This can be helpful to indicate to students the length of answer you are asking for. For a longer essay question, making the response box larger makes it easier for students to review and edit their answers before submitting.
 - **Add Initial Text:** This option is helpful if you want to point your students in the right direction by providing the start of the statement you are looking for.

When you add these options, a checkmark will appear next to the item in the options menu. To remove them, select the item under options to remove the checkmark.

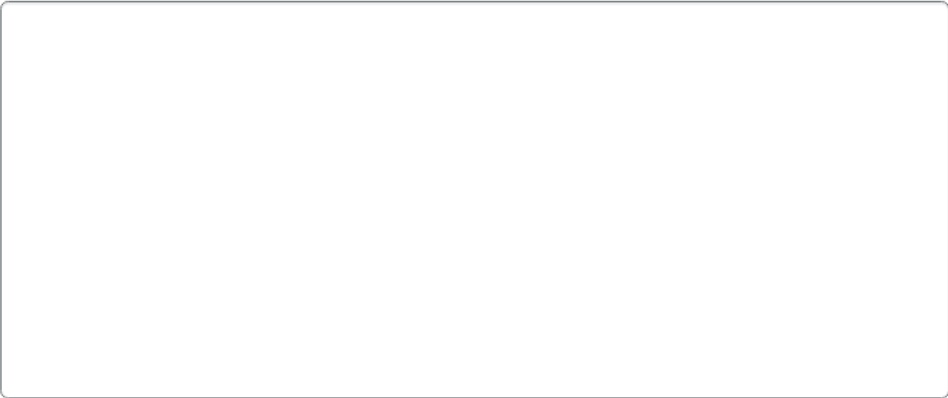



Question Display

Question 11 (1 point)

  Listen 

Explain the impact of the printing press on the spread of knowledge in Europe.





Part 2: Migration from Blackboard

If you migrated Blackboard test questions to Brightspace, they will transfer differently depending on if you used the export/import method or K-16 Solutions. The chart below explains what happens to each question type and what actions (if any) are required to clean them up.

Blackboard Question	Export/Import Migration	K-16 Migration
Calculated Numeric	Short Answer Action: If a +/- range is needed, recreate as Arithmetic.	Arithmetic Action: None
Calculated Formula	Does not transfer Action: Recreate as an Arithmetic question.	Arithmetic Action: May choose to recreate as Significant Figures.
Either/Or	True/False Action: Update question text or recreate the question as multiple choice if “true” and “false” will not work as your answer choices.	True/False Action: Update question text or recreate the question as multiple choice if “true” and “false” will not work as your answer choices.
Essay	Written Response Action: None, but you cannot currently attach a rubric to any Brightspace quiz question type.	Written Response Action: None, but you cannot currently attach a rubric to any Brightspace quiz question type.
File Response	Written Response Action: Edit the question and check the box that says “Allow learners to insert images and add attachments.”	Written Response Action: None
Fill in Multiple Blanks	Fill in the Blanks Action: None; there is no option for partial credit.	Fill in the Blanks Action: None; there is no option for partial credit.
Fill in the Blank	Short Answer Action: Review the question text to make sure the blank is in the right place.	Short Answer Action: Review the question text to make sure the blank is in the right place.

Hot Spot	Does not transfer Action: Create a labeled graphic and use it in the prompt of a multiple choice question.	Does not transfer Action: Create a labeled graphic and use it in the prompt of a multiple choice question.
Jumbled Sentence	Matching Action: Review/adjust question text to make sure it makes sense in this format.	Fill in the Blanks Action: Review/adjust question text to make sure it makes sense in this format.
Matching	Matching Action: Defaults to all or nothing; change to partial credit if desired.	Matching Action: None
Multiple Choice	Multiple Choice Action: None	Multiple Choice Action: None
Multiple Answer	Multi-Select Action: Check the order of your answers if they are not set to shuffle.	Multi-Select Action: None
Opinion Scale (Likert)	Does not transfer Action: Recreate the question as multiple choice.	Multiple Choice Action: Verify that this format makes sense for the question.
Ordering	Ordering Action: Defaults to all or nothing; change to partial credit if desired.	Matching Action: Recreate as Ordering; defaults to all or nothing- change to partial credit if desired.
Quiz Bowl	Does not transfer Action: Recreate as written response.	Does not transfer Action: Recreate as written response.
Short Answer	Written Response Action: If the answer is 1-3 words and you want it autograded, recreate as Short Answer.	Written Response Action: If the answer is 1-3 words and you want it autograded, recreate as Short Answer.

True/False	True/False Action: None	True/False Action: None
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Need Help?

- For help with the mechanics of creating or editing question types, please contact the [Help Desk](#).
- If you need help designing questions that align with your objectives, please make an appointment with the Instructional Design Team:
 - [Virtual Appointments](#)
 - [Email us](#) to meet in-person
- Not sure whom to contact? Please review the [Faculty Support Flow Chart](#) to get the help you need quickly.

