# A Moodle question type for creating multiple-choice questions fast

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## We call the question type Blackwater (after a river in Essex)



## A fragment of your lecture

$$\forall \varepsilon \; \exists N : \forall n > N \; |a_n - a| < \varepsilon$$

#### A possible distractor

$$\forall \varepsilon \; \exists N : \forall n > N \; |a_n - a| < \varepsilon$$



$$\exists \varepsilon \ \forall N : \exists n > N \ |a_n - a| < \varepsilon$$

#### Another possible distractor

$$\forall \varepsilon \; \exists N : \forall n > N \; |a_n - a| < \varepsilon$$



$$\forall \varepsilon \; \exists N : \forall n < N \; |a_n - a| > \varepsilon$$

## A multiple-choice question prepared by hand

1. 
$$\forall \varepsilon \exists N : \forall n > N |a_n - a| < \varepsilon$$

2. 
$$\exists \varepsilon \ \forall N : \exists n > N \ |a_n - a| < \varepsilon$$

3. 
$$\forall \varepsilon \exists N : \forall n < N |a_n - a| > \varepsilon$$

4. 
$$\exists \varepsilon \ \forall N : \exists n < N \ |a_n - a| > \varepsilon$$

When we choose meaningful distractors, changes we make are

- small, and
- concentrate in some carefully chosen parts of the text

### Change of type 1

$$\forall \varepsilon \; \exists N : \forall n > N \; |a_n - a| < \varepsilon$$



$$\exists \varepsilon \forall N : \exists n > N \ |a_n - a| < \varepsilon$$

## Change of type 2

$$\forall \varepsilon \; \exists N : \forall n > N \; |a_n - a| < \varepsilon$$



$$\forall \varepsilon \; \exists N : \forall n \; \langle N \; | a_n - a | \rangle \; \varepsilon$$

#### Creating an MCQ using Blackwater

$$\forall \varepsilon \; \exists N : \forall n > N \; |a_n - a| < \varepsilon$$



$$\exists \varepsilon \forall N : \exists n > N \ |a_n - a| < \varepsilon$$

and/or

$$\forall \varepsilon \; \exists N : \forall n \; \langle N \; | a_n - a | \rangle \; \varepsilon$$

## Example 1

Or perhaps 2+2 is a different number?

Answer text

0

Answer text

#### Which one is correct?

#### Select one:

$$\bigcirc$$
1. 2 + 2 = 4

$$\bigcirc$$
2. 2 + 2 = 2

$$\bigcirc$$
3. 2 + 2 = 1

$$\bigcirc$$
4.  $2 + 2 = 3$ 

$$(x - y)^2 = x^2 + y^2 - 2xy$$

- Change of type 1: vary where 2s are in the answer
  - That is, either in front of  $x^2$ ,  $y^2$  or in front of xy
- Changge of type 2: vary where the minuses are in the answer
  - That is, either in front of  $y^2$  or in front of xy

",1", 2", 
$$x^2$$
,  $y^2$ 

- Change of type 1 (in front of  $x^2$  and  $y^2$ )
  - Correct option: empty
  - Incorrect option: coefficient 2
- Change of type 1 (in front of xy)
  - Correct option: coefficient 2
  - Incorrect option: empty

$$,1,2,...$$
  $x^2,...$   $x^2,...$ 

- Change of type 2 (in front of  $y^2$ )
  - Correct option: +
  - Incorrect option: -
- Change of type 2 (in front of xy)
  - Correct option: -
  - Incorrect option: +

#### Answer text

$$(x - y)^2 = ..1 ..2 ... x^2 ...2 + ... - ... ...1 ...2 ... y^2 ...2 - ... + ... ...1 2 ... xy$$

#### Which one is correct?

#### Select one:

$$\bigcirc 1. \ (x-y)^2 = x^2 - y^2 + 2xy$$

$$\bigcirc$$
2.  $(x-y)^2 = x^2 + y^2 - 2xy$ 

$$\bigcirc$$
3.  $(x-y)^2 = 2x^2 + 2y^2 - xy$ 

$$\bigcirc$$
4.  $(x-y)^2 = 2x^2 - 2y^2 + xy$