Computer-aided assessment: resource overview

Collection: Assessment

Learning outcomes

To appreciate the potential of online quizzes as an assessment tool for English Studies and to develop the ability to design them.

Overview

The phrase 'computer-aided assessment' is one calculated to strike terror into the hearts of English and Creative Writing lecturers. How on earth can it be possible to involve computers in the assessment of students working in a discipline that places such a premium on subtlety, individuality and originality? Are any aspects of what we want our students to do so crude as to be capable of assessment by machine?

Focusing on one particular technique--online quizzes--the aim of this resource is to show that, yes, some of the subtleties of our subject are amenable to computerised assessment. What is crucial is the quality of the questions set. The sample quizzes showcased in this resource demonstrate that it is possible to write multiple-choice questions to test sophisticated knowledge about and responses to texts as well as 'pub quiz'-type factual recall.

Activities within this resource

- Writing multiple-choice questionnaires: individual activity
- Writing multiple-choice questionnaires: group activity

Resources in the Assessment Collection

- Assessment: introduction to the collection
- Assessment audit: resource overview
    - Auditing English: individual activity
    - Auditing English: group activity
- Designing and running innovative assessments: resource overview
    - Creative assessments in Literature: outcomes, criteria: individual activity
    - Creative assessments in Literature: outcomes, criteria: group activity
- Assessment SWOT analysis: resource overview
    - SWOT analysis: individual activity
    - SWOT analysis: group activity
- Mix and match: resource overview
    - Matching assessment to outcome: individual activity
    - Matching assessment to outcome: group activity
- Creative assessment: resource overview
    - Creative criticism
- Feedback and marking strategies: resource overview
    - Marking exercise: individual activity
    - Marking exercise: group activity
- **Computer-aided assessment: resource overview (*you are here)**
    - Writing multiple-choice questionnaires: individual activity
    - Writing multiple-choice questionnaires: group activity
- What is assessment for? : resource overview
    - Balancing the interest groups: individual activity
    - Balancing the interest groups: group activity