University of Hull

VLE usability test sheets

Staff Version

Your name:

So that we know who you are and what sandbox you have tested please ‘save as’ each time you use file using the following format. Save this blank file somewhere safe so that you can reuse it. Don’t worry if the boxes run over – as long as the information is there.

Firstname\_Surname\_moodle

Or

Firstname\_Surname\_canvas

You should have 5 files at the end of the test to email/return to us.

Return completed files to XX XXX by **Friday 27th March 2015** to:

xxx@hull.ac.uk

You can also use this address for any questions

The help site is on eBridge called VLE Blog

# VLE Usability Test

Thank you for agreeing to participate in this assessment of usability, which has been highlighted as a key factor in the selection of the new VLE. The University is keen to have a system that can be learnt quickly, and used easily and efficiently by as many people as possible.

## What is Usability?

A function has usability issues if it is considered likely that users may be prevented or deterred from using that function due to the design or implementation of the system. The following list indicates some of the factors used to determine whether or not a function is deemed to have usability issues:

* Ability to make corrections and amendments
* Amount of clicking, scrolling and typing required to carry out each function
* Use of popup windows and alerts
* Effort required to learn and become accustomed to the user interface
* Content and positioning of error messages
* Ability to locate and navigate to functions
* Interface design involving the use of tabs and new pages
* Aesthetics affecting users’ perceptions of ease of use
* Volume and complexity of information on screens
* Access and usefulness of context-sensitive help
* Use of terminology and icon design
* Grouping of menu options

## Scoring Criteria

In order to assess the usability of the shortlisted VLEs, a number of scenarios have been devised. For each VLE, you should *try* to complete as many of the scenarios as possible in a set time and complete the form provided based on your experience. It is important that you spend the **same amount of time** using each VLE and attempt the scenarios in the same sequence in order to avoid bias for or against a particular solution.

For each scenario we would like you to rate the usability on a five-point scale, indicating your assessment of how easy it was to complete the scenario on the first attempt and estimate how easy it would be to repeat the scenario having already completed the process.

When the set time has elapsed for each VLE, you should add any specific comments that you have about its usability and provide an overall score, based on the following criteria:

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| --- | --- |
| **Score** | **Level of usability** |
| 1 – 3 | The overall usability may prevent or deter use of the system. |
| 4 – 6 | The overall usability will not significantly deter or encourage use of the system. |
| 7 – 10 | The overall usability will help to encourage use of the system. |

You can access the test systems and the sample pre-prepared materials from the link in the email. We would recommend that you work through the order of VLEs presented in the list:

# System Usability Assessment

Which sandbox?

What computer are you using? is it a desktop or a laptop ? Is it a windows PC or a Mac? (or another e.g. Chromebook) what operating system is it? E.g. Windows 7 or 8 or Mac OS?. Which browser are you using? e.g. Internet Explorer or Safari etc.

Use what you would normally, to access the internet, we just need to know a little about how you are doing it.

For each of the scenarios detailed below, please rate the usability of the sandbox for a first attempt and estimate for subsequent use.

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| **Scenario** | **First attempt** | **Subsequent use** |
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| --- | --- |
| Poor | Good |

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|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Poor | Good |

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| 1. Take three **word documents** and make them available to students. |

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| 2. Create a **calendar entry** visible to students. |

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| 3. Using the built-in **HTML editor**, create two HTML pages for students. |

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| 4. Post an **announcement** to students. |

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| 5. Create a **discussion topic** and post an introductory message. |

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| 6. Create an **assignment** requiring students to submit a file by a specified deadline. |

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| 7. Create a **test** containing one multiple choice question and one gap-filler question. |

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| 8. Insert video or audio feedback (if you are able) |

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Interacting with the system

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| --- | --- |
| Poor | Good |

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| 1. Did the VLE keep you updated on what was happening? For example if you uploaded documents?
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| 1. How easy was the VLE to navigate? Where you able to find what you wanted?
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| 1. Did you try uploading all three documents at once? Did it work? (please indicate)
 | **Yes / No** |
| 1. Did the VLE give you options before you uploaded something i.e. a warning?
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| 1. How easy was it to log on?
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Please add any particular comments you have and an overall score for the usability of the sandbox

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| **Comments** | **Overall score (1 – 10)** |
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