WebCT –Evaluating Student Progress

Agenda:
- Questions about last week / past sessions?
- A brief mention: thanks to ECN for providing the pilot project support
- Getting help - from others
  - David Jacoby is a contact person at ECN for questions regarding development. His WebCT page (and an email address) is at: http://harbor.ecn.purdue.edu/~jacoby/WebCT/
  - ECN's REDISTRIBUTION LIST - email group of Purdue profs & staff developing with WebCT: redlist@ecn.purdue.edu
  - Contact the MIDC staff with questions: midc@purdue.edu

Today’s topic:
- WebCT Evaluation tools – Quizes & Tests
- Linking to TestPilot Tests

a) On-line quizzes and tests
- Overview: WebCT is equipped with a powerful and flexible quiz tool for creating evaluation components for your on-line course. When building quizzes, one can create individual quizzes, or build a whole database of questions. Questions can be created on-line or uploaded (individually or in groups), and can be multiple choice, matching, short answer, paragraph, and calculated response-type. From this group you can create individual quizzes and set preferences (scoring, randomization, timing, etc.) as desired.
- Features:
  1. Five question types: multiple choice, matching, short answer, paragraph, and calculated
  2. Options available for test time limit and limited availability
  3. Grades can be automatically calculated, returned to user, and added to the gradebook
  4. Written response questions can be manually graded and returned with individualized feedback.
  5. Option for random question ordering
  6. Option for feedback to responses
- Why you’d want to use:
  1. On-line quizzes can free up class time for instruction
  2. Allows you as instructor to gain an insight into class comprehension of course material
  3. Quizzes can act as instructional tool (help student learn, reinforcing material)
  4. Automatic evaluation can streamline grading process
- Why you might not want to use:
  1. Impersonal nature of responses could be disconcerting to students
  2. could be time-intensive to generate large tests

Task A: Adding the Quiz Icon to your WebCT Course Page

Step A.1 Return to your course page.

Step A.2 From the home page, click on “Organize Icons”. Note: if your site map from Week 1 differs from this placement, you may wish to add your Quiz icon to a different page.
Step A.3  
Click on “Add”

Step A.4  
Click on “WebCT Tool”. This will create a separate page for organizing several tools.

Step A.5  
You now need to give the WebCT tool a link title and choose the icon. Choose the quiz icon and title the icon “Quizzes”. Click “Add” once you’ve made the selections.

Step A.6  
You will be returned to your homepage, which should now have a new icon and title “Quizzes”.

Workshop Handout: WebCT Basics

Week 6: Evaluation Tools
Task B: Building A Question Database

Step B.1 Enter the quiz area by selecting the “Quizzes” WebCT tool.

Step B.2 Select the “Questions” button

Step B.3 You now are in the Question database area, with the current database of “none” selected. In the left frame, you will see two listings, one for all, and one for temporary (this is the set of example questions included with WebCT).

Step B.4 Entering a Category.

Every question in WebCT must be associated with a category. This grouping of questions can help you design your quizzes: you can build a quiz from a single category, or from multiple categories. Click on the “New Category” button.

Step B.5 Call the category “Week 6” and select “Add”.

Your list should now appear as below

Step B.6 Select the category you just created (“Week 6”). Select the “New Question” button.
Step B.7-12  Add a question of each type to your test category “Week 6”.

Creating the Quiz

Now you have added five questions to your database. The next step is to create a quiz by picking the questions for the quiz and determine the point value of the individual questions.

Task C: Creating a Quiz from a question database

Step C.1  Select the “Add Quiz” button from the course management menubar.

Step C.2  Create a quiz with a new title. If you do not have a title in mind, use “Quiz Week 6”. Select “Add” when finished. (Note: be patient! If you hit the “Add” button repeatedly, you will end up with several copies of the quiz).

Step C.3  Select the title (click on the works) of the newly created quiz.

You now should be in the quiz editor, and your display should look like the image below. Note that “no questions have been added to the quiz yet”.

Quiz Editor

No questions have been added to quiz yet.
Step C.4
Select the “Add Questions” button.

Step C.5
This takes you to the question database. Here you can select a category in the left frame, and choose questions by checking them off in the right frame.

Step C.6
Click “Pick” on the button bar when you have selected all the questions you want. This returns you to the page for this quiz, where the question(s) you chose is/are now listed.

Step C.7
You can move the question order in your quiz by using the “Up”, “Down”, “Top” and “Bottom” buttons to move them around until they are in the order you want them to appear on the quiz. This menu is also where you select the point value for each question.
Task D: Modifying Quiz Settings

Step D.1  
In order to change quiz settings (title, time limit, availability, etc.), you need to be inside of the particular quiz that you want to modify. From the quiz menu, click on the tile of the quiz for which you wish to change preferences.

[Image: Quiz settings screenshot]

Step D.2  
You are now in the Quiz editor, and should see a listing of questions in your quiz.

[Image: Quiz editor screenshot]

Step D.3  
If you wish to make changes to your quiz appearance - background, header, footer, etc. select the “Customize” button in the course management toolbar.

[Image: Customize options screenshot]

As with your WebCT home page, your appearance options are a standard set (see below)

Step D.4  
To edit quiz properties, select the button “Settings” in the course management toolbar. (see Step D.3 for image)

Step D.5  
Here you have options for renaming your quiz, along with quiz availability, number of attempts a user is allowed to make, and scoring procedure.
b) **Uploading a Question File (from the WebCT help file)**

The WebCT Question Database provides you with a facility to upload questions from a text file. This allows you to generate questions offline, and upload them all at once into WebCT. Currently, the Batch Upload facility supports all question types. The Batch Upload files must follow a strict format in order for them to be recognized by WebCT.

**Format for Uploading:**

*Note*: “field name” in the description below refers to a column-label in the Question Database

- all lines beginning with a : are deemed ‘special’, and signify a field name
- each question in the file must begin with a type declaration (MC, M, S, P or C for multiple choice, matching, short answer, paragraph and calculated, respectively) before any of the other fields are read for that particular question.
- if a field name is encountered in the file which is not already defined in the database, the field will be created.
- each question has a few required fields including:

Step D.6  
Be sure to select “Update” when you are finished with the changes, or else they won’t be saved!
• TYPE - M or MC or S or C or P
• CAT - Category to file the question under
• TITLE - A title
• QUESTION - the text of the question
• usually, any modifiers to a command are specified immediately after the command, separated by a colon. For example, to specify the category, use:
  :CAT:Anatomy
• lines beginning with a # are ignored and can be used for comments

Sample Batch File:
The following file shows the format to be used for Multiple choice and Matching questions (to view the formats of other question types, it is easiest to create such a question manually, and then use the Download feature to view the resulting text file):

# QUESTION 1 - Sample Multiple Choice Question
# TYPE
# optional arguments: 1 (for students allowed to choose 1 answer only)
#                     N (for students allowed to choose more than 1 answer)
:type:MC:1

# Title of the question - used to identify in question listing
:title:Shoulder Joint

:cat:Anatomy

# Question text -
# Lines following this command will be placed into the question text until
# another command is encountered
# Optional arguments: H (format as HTML) - default
#                     T (format as Text)
:question

Look at the picture of the woman casually leaning against the counter. From the list below choose which best describes the position of her right shoulder joint.

# Image to use
:image:quiz/anat/kiko.gif

# Now here are the answers for each question. Each answer has a
# number associated with it, indicating its position in the order of
# answers.
# One of the answers must have an argument indicating the
# % of correctness for that answer.
# Optional 2nd argument: H (format as HTML) - default
#                     T (format as Text)
:answer1:100:H
Abduction
:answer2:0:H
Adduction
:answer3:0:H
Flexion
:answer4:0:H
Extension
:answer5:0:H
Pronation
# Now comes feedback for why an answer is correct or incorrect
# Optional argument: H (format as HTML) - default
#     T (format as Text)
# Note: Don't have to have a reason for each possible choice
:REASON1
This is my reason 1
:REASON2
This is my reason 2

# Now come the user defined fields, which are fields that were added
# in the Column Editor of the Question Database

:Week: 10

:Discipline: anatomy

:Session: lecture

:Source: textbook

# end of question
#
# The next question can now begin
#
# QUESTION 2: Sample Matching Question
# TYPE - Matching questions can specify optional arguments to denote
#     the formatting of the answers, and the marking mode
#     The format is as follows:
#
#     TYPE:M:::
#
#     format can be either "short" or "long"
#     marking mode must be one of:
#     E - Equally weighted
#     A - All or Nothing
#     RW - Right less Wrong


# Title of the question - used to identify in question listing
:TITLE:Match Last Names

:CAT:Famous People

# Question text -
# Lines following this command will be placed into the question text until
# another command is encountered
# Optional arguments: H (format as HTML) - default
#     T (format as Text)
:QUESTION
Match the following first names to their last names:

# Image to use
:IMAGE:quiz/people/star.gif
# Now here are the various choices to present to students. The words
# in the left column must be labelled with LX (where X denotes the item’s
# position), and the right column words are labelled with RX.

:L1
Brian
:L2
John
:L3
Willie
:L4
Bart

:R1
Mulroney
:R2
Chretien
:R3
Nelson
:R4
Simpson

# Now come the user defined fields, which are fields that were added
# in the Column Editor of the Question Database

:Week: 12
:Discipline: famous people
:Session: lab
:Source: newspaper

c) For Advanced users: Adding a TestPilot test to your WebCT class

- Don’t like the WebCT testing module? Already have time invested in creating test modules
  using Purdue’s TestPilot product? These extra instructions will show you how to create a
testing area with links to TestPilot tests, quizzes, or surveys.
- why you’d want to use:
  (1) Significant time savings if already have TestPilot material.
  (2) TestPilot is non-web based, so development can take place off-line
- why you might not want to use:
  (1) grading system in TestPilot is separate from that of WebCT. Any tests scored in
      TestPilot will have to be added to gradebook system on your own.
  (2) Presentation style shifts when including tests from two different systems. You may
      confuse users if the test structure / style differs. Suggestion: If using both test systems,
      be sure to familiarize users with both before you start grading performance.
  (3) Adding a page in this fashion requires some basic understanding of HTML

Task E: Adding a TestPilot test to your WebCT class

Step E.1

First, go to the course MIDC102 to download a copy of my example TestPilot host file (a
basic page, but one to get you started). On the HomePage, there is a button marked
“Advanced Users – For Week 6, Task E)”. Select this icon.
Step E.2  Click on the “Save File…” button. Save your file to “C:\temp”

Step E.3  From your course home page, click on “File Manager”

Step E.4  Click on “Course Files” under “Directories”

Step E.5  Click on the “Upload” button at the bottom. You will get a dialog box like this:

Step E.6  Click on “Browse” Find the file you download in Step E.1 (TestPilot-example.zip) and select it. Click “Continue” when the name of your file appears in the WebCT text box. You now should have the file “TestPilot-example.html” in your course directory.

Step E.7  Return to your course home page. Select “Organize Icons”.

Step E.8  Click on “Add”

Step E.9  Click on “Single Page”. This will create a link to a separate HTML page.
Step E.10  You now need to give the TestPilot page a link title and icon. For this example, create a link titled "TestPilot Tests", and choose an appropriate icon from the WebCT icon collection. For a page filename, browse to your course files and select the file TestPilot-example.html in your course directory (which you retrieved in steps E.1-6).

Be sure to select "Add" once you've made the selections.

Step E.11  You will be returned to your homepage, which should now have a new icon and title "TestPilot Tests". Now you need to modify the file to contain links to your own TestPilot tests. *Do this on your own for practice.* *If you need help, contact David Wisniewski.*

Result  You now have a TestPilot Test page, with a links to previously created test material.