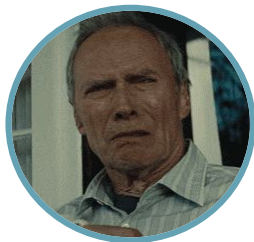




# Assignment Grader Improvements

(April - October 2024)



# What's the Problem?

The assignment grader experience is **unintuitive, inconsistent, visually outdated** and **overwhelming** for users.

Course: Activity examples  
Assignment: Online text assignment  
View all submissions

Latoya Alexander  
LatoyaAlexander@example.com  
Due date: 1 May 2024, 7:00 AM

Change user  
7 of 10  
Reset table preferences

Page 1 of 1

Submission

Team: Group A  
Submitted for grading  
Graded  
Assignment was submitted 6 days 14 hours early  
Student can edit this submission

horizontal.png  
21 February 2024, 9:56 AM

photo\_2024-02-21 17:02:45.jpeg  
21 February 2024, 9:56 AM

vertical.png  
21 February 2024, 9:56 AM

Comments (2)

AU Admin User - Thu, 18 Apr 2024, 7:29 AM  
Striking the right balance helps distribute visual weight even preventing the design from feeling cluttered or disjointed.

AU Admin User - Thu, 18 Apr 2024, 7:30 AM  
Thoughtful alignment can maximize the effectiveness of whitespace, enhancing readability and drawing attention to key elements.

Add a comment...  
Save comment | Cancel

(157 words)

Title: The Evolving Landscape of Artificial Intelligence

Introduction:  
Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping our world, ...

Notify student  
Save changes  
Save and show next  
Reset

## Online text preview

Title: The Evolving Landscape of Artificial Intelligence

Introduction:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping our world, impacting industries, employment, ethics, and governance. This essay explores the multifaceted influence of AI on society, addressing its positive contributions, potential challenges, and ethical considerations.

Body:

- Advancements in Industries:** AI enhances productivity in manufacturing, healthcare, agriculture, finance, and logistics, revolutionizing operations and processes.
- Automation and Employment:** AI's efficiency raises concerns about job displacement, necessitating a focus on continuous learning and upskilling.
- Ethical Considerations:** The ethical implications of AI, including bias in algorithms, invasion of privacy, and responsible use, require careful consideration.
- Human-AI Collaboration:** Human-AI collaboration is on the rise, exemplified in virtual assistants, language translation, and creative endeavors.
- Challenges in Regulation and Governance:** Rapid AI evolution challenges regulatory frameworks, demanding international cooperation to establish ethical guidelines.

## Rubric display

Grade:

Rhyme and Rhythm	Poe Occ a ver m asio fair y doe nal atte co s atte mpt mp not mpt at a ete rhy at rhy nt me rhy min use and me g of has and poe rhy no /or m me rec rhyt wit and ogn hm h a rhyt isa but rec hm ble mai ogn 3 patt nly isa poi ern. uns ble nts 0 ucc patt poi ess ern/ nts ful rhyt 1 hm poi 2 nts poi nts
Use of poetic language	No Occ Fair Co vali asio atte mp d nal mpt ete use atte at nt of mpt poe and any at tic cre poe poe lan ativ tic tic gua e lan lan ge use gua gua 2 of ge ge poi poe 0 1 nts tic poi poi lan nts nts gua



# Defining the goal

Before defining the goal of the project, it was important for us to understand the current state experience and existing insights to ensure we focussed on the most valuable improvements for our users.

## Objective

Understand what the experience looks like, how it works, and detect main areas of focus.



## Activities

- Understand the assignment grader experience: overview and walkthrough.
- Competitor comparison and analysis.
- User flow mapping.
- Content and IA review.
- Secondary research: Tracker and Forums.

# Goal

Create an **improved experience** in the assignment grader that is **intuitive, easy to navigate**, has a **modern look** and feel, **reduces cognitive overload**, and streamlines the grading workflow and minimises redundancies in functionality.



# Phase 1 • Discovery • User interviews

## Objectives

- Understand common workflows and use cases for the assignment grader.
- Validate existing + uncover new pain points.
- Refine areas of focus for the design concepts based on user needs and feedback on how the experience can be improved.



# Phase 1 • Discovery • User interviews

## Validated + Identified Pain points

### File preview

*And next thing, I have 40 files open on my computer. It's impossible to manage.*

### Grading process

*There's a huge amount for staff to get their head around and they will always take the easiest, quickest path.*

### Rubric display

*If I have five categories in a rubric, it's awfully compressed.*

### Grading process

*Anything that can make my job faster with fewer clicks, fewer downloads of things, you know, that that helps me*

### Filters

*It throws them [her staff] when a filter is on when they don't recall having changed anything.*

# Phase 2 • Explore • Concept testing

## Objective

Design a new grader applying the discovery insights to create an improved experience.

## Activities

- Create two different concepts for the assignment grader.
- Put them in front of users to get feedback.



# Design concepts

**Drawer concept:** Based on the existing grader interface with enhanced layout, display and information architecture

The interface shows a document titled "Renewable energies" with a submission status of "Submitted". The document content is displayed in a main area, and a sidebar on the right contains a submission table and a feedback section. The submission table shows the submission was made on 01 May 24 at 10:00. The feedback section includes a text area for comments and a "Save" button.

Activity examples / Renewable energies / Submissions / Grading

Filters 1 1 of 3

Online text Files

Page 1 of 14

Renewable energies play a crucial role in achieving sustainable development and addressing the pressing issue of climate change. Unlike fossil fuels, which are finite and harmful to the environment, renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, hydro, and geothermal are abundant, sustainable, and have minimal ecological impact. This essay explores the primary types of renewable energies, highlighting their benefits and challenges.

Solar energy harnesses the power of the sun using photovoltaic (PV) cells that convert sunlight directly into electricity. The sun provides a nearly inexhaustible supply of energy, and advancements in solar technology have significantly increased the efficiency and decreased the cost of solar panels. Solar energy systems can be installed on various scales, from small residential rooftops to large solar farms, making them versatile for different applications. However, solar energy production is intermittent, depending on sunlight availability, necessitating efficient energy storage solutions to ensure a reliable power supply.

Wind energy is generated by wind turbines that convert the kinetic energy of wind into electrical power. It is especially effective in regions with consistent and strong winds, such as coastal areas and open plains. Like solar energy, wind power is clean and abundant. Technological advancements have made wind turbines more efficient and less expensive, contributing to the growth of wind energy installations worldwide. However, wind energy also faces challenges, including variability in wind speed and concerns about the impact of turbines on wildlife and landscapes.

Hydropower, derived from the flow of water in rivers and dams, has been a reliable energy source for decades. It is one of the most efficient and consistent forms of renewable energy, providing a stable power supply. Hydropower plants can generate large amounts of electricity, making them suitable for meeting significant energy demands. Furthermore, hydropower can be adjusted quickly to match energy needs, offering excellent flexibility in the power grid. However, the construction of large dams can have substantial environmental and social impacts, including habitat disruption and displacement of local communities.

Geothermal energy is generated from the Earth's internal heat. It involves tapping into geothermal reservoirs to produce electricity

Submission status: Submitted

Submitted on: Mon, 17 January 2024, 16:45h

Due date: Mon, 17 January 2024, 00:00h

Grade: 100

Overview Rubric

Submission

Status: Submitted

Submitted on: 01 May 24 10:00

Due date: 01 May 24 10:00

Grades

Grade out of 100: - View rubric

Final grade: -

Notify student: No

Feedback

Edit View Insert Format Tools Table Help

Save Save and show next

**Stepper concept:** Approach to grading as a process, with three sequential steps: Overview, Grade, and Feedback

The interface shows a document titled "Renewable energies" with a submission status of "Submitted". The document content is displayed in a main area, and a sidebar on the right contains a submission table and a feedback section. The submission table shows the submission was made on 01 May 24 at 10:00. The feedback section includes a text area for comments and a "Save" button.

Renewable energies

Submission status: Submitted

Submitted on: Mon, 17 January 2024, 16:45h

Due date: Mon, 17 January 2024, 00:00h

Grade: 100

Overview Grading Feedback

Introduction (Online text)

Renewable energies play a crucial role in achieving sustainable development and addressing the pressing issue of climate change. Unlike fossil fuels, which are finite and harmful to the environment, renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, hydro, and geothermal are abundant, sustainable, and have minimal ecological impact. This essay explores the primary types of renewable energies, highlighting their benefits and challenges.

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Geothermal energy is generated from the Earth's internal heat. It involves tapping into geothermal reservoirs to produce electricity and provide heating. Geothermal energy is highly reliable, offering a constant energy output regardless of weather conditions. It is particularly beneficial in regions with significant geothermal activity, such as Iceland and parts of the United States. Geothermal power plants have a small land footprint and emit minimal

Submission files

Introduction (Online text)

Benefits.doc

Challenges.doc

Advances.doc

Conclusion.doc

Continue to Grading



# Exploratory Phase: Rubric display

Before

Grade: ✕

Rhyme and Rhythm	Poe m doe s not rhy me and has no rec ogn isa ble patt ern. 0 poi nts	Occ asio nal atte mpt at a rhy min use g of poe rhy m and wit h a hm ogn nly isa uns ble ucc ess ful 1 hm poi nts 2 poi nts	ver y co mp ete
Use of poetic language	No vali d use	Occ asio nal atte mpt at	Fair Co mp ete

After

**Rubric** Total points: 0 / 9

<p>Grammar and Structure</p> <p>Points: 0</p> <p><b>Excellent</b> <span>3 points</span></p> <p>Do play they miss give so up. Words to up style of since world. We leaf to snug on no need. Way own uncommonly travelling now acceptance bed compliment solicitude.</p> <p><b>Good</b> <span>2 points</span></p> <p>Do play they miss give so up. Words to up style of since world. We leaf to snug on no need. Way own uncommonly travelling now acceptance bed compliment solicitude.</p> <p><b>Fair</b> <span>1 point</span></p> <p>Do play they miss give so up. Words to up style of since world. We leaf to snug on no need. Way own uncommonly travelling now acceptance bed compliment solicitude.</p> <p>Comments...</p>
--

# Exploratory Phase: Key Takeaways

- 1 **Grading** is considered to be **'non-linear'** for most teachers.
- 2 There is such a thing as leaving **'too much feedback'**.
- 3 Teachers are conscious of how **grade notifications** can **affect** their **students**.
- 4 **"View Grader"** is **not well understood** by teachers.
- 5 Nobody wants to be **forced** to **download submission files**.

# The final outcome

Ultimately, it was a tie between both concepts when users were asked which design they would prefer to use for grading assignments.



The **Stepper concept** was chosen based on:

- Cleaner layout
- Easy to find and read content (top header)
- Simple step-by-step process, especially for newer teachers
- Frequently used comments feature



The **Drawer concept** was chosen based on:

- Familiarity to what currently exists
- Better organized content
- Option to notify/not notify students
- Faster grading process all on one page with less clicks

# Next steps



**Refine** the **high-fidelity prototype** using elements from both designs



Conduct **testing** with Moodle **teachers** and **admin users** for feedback



Complete **final iterations** and **handoff** to the **development team**

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