Moodle GIFT Template for OOo 2.0

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Note: This template & macro needs OOo 2.0.1 to work properly. It will not work on OOo 2.0

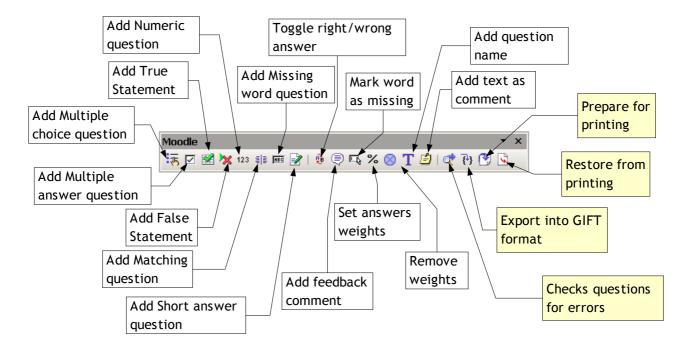
Note: Macro library GIFT Convert must be installed into "My macros" before use.

The template allows to write and format almost all questions types that can be included in Moodle's quizzes and exams. Obviously, the actual styles can be changes by the user. But the style names should be kept in order to run the associated macros. Macros can be fired from a custom toolbar. There are tool icons for inserting questions and comments, and for changing formating of answers, add weights etc.

In addition, there are three macros to:

- Check the internal consistence of the text: all questions has at least a right answer (rules change accordingly to question type), feedbacks are placed in the right position. There is no
- Convert the text into a GIFT-format file for direct import into Moodle. The OOo file is saved and a new file, in plain ASCII text, is created. Formating and symbols are preserved in conversion.
- Prepare text for printing as a written exam form. Just hide those portions of the text not intended for students in a written exam (right answers indication, feedbacks, comments etc.).
- Restore original comments after printing

The purpose is to have an easy way to write the exam questions, and that with a single source the teacher could do both autoevaluation quizzes on line and certification examinations.



Installation

The Moodle toolbar is stored in macro template file. It will not appear in documents created form other templetes (e.g. default template). On the other hand, the macros that the toolbar icons call upon clicked need to be stored in OOo configuration space. You must install the GIFT_Convert library contained in Moodle_Quizz_Template.ott or Moodle_Quizz_Example.odt into OOo. These are the steps to do that:

- Open an empty OOo Writer document
- Select menu Tools > Macros > Organize Macros > OpenOffice.org Basic
- Click on the **Organizer** button.
- Select the Libraries Tab
- Make certain that "My Macros & Dialogs" is selected in the Location drop down list box.
- Use the **Append** button to add this new macro library and select either Moodle Quizz Template.ott or Moodle Quizz Example.odt from the file dialog
- Make sure to tick the checkbox by "GIFT_Convert" and leave unchecked the "Standard" entry before you accept the import of this library

Once the GIFT_Convert has been installed you may open either Moodle_Quizz_Example.odt or Moodle Quizz Template.ott and you will get the Moodle Toolbar ready for work.

Future

This version of the Template use an intermediate conversion to HTML in order to preserve symbols and formatting information in GIFT text. Earlier versions used XHTML, the preferred standard for Moodle. However, the XHTML export filter in OOo 2.0 has changed from the beta versions. There are several subtleties concerning encoding that are not well documented yet. When this topic will settle in OOo I will transform again the GIFT export into XHTML output to comply with Moodle guidelines for content.