

AIKEN format for Moodle quizzes/tests

The Aiken format is a very simple way of creating multiple choice questions using a clear human-readable format. Questions may be multiple choice or true/false. True/False answers will be multiple choice with only two choices. Here is an example of the format:

What color is the apple the witch leaves for Sleeping Beauty?

- A. green
- B. yellow
- C. black
- D. red

ANSWER: D

Note these peculiarities of the Aiken format:

- The question must be all on one line. That is, word-wrapping to the next line is acceptable, but within the questions and each answer there cannot be a have a "hard return" (the "Enter" key pressed).
- Each possible answer must start with a single-letter character, followed by a period '.' then a *single* space.
- The answer line must immediately follow the list of possible answers, starting with "ANSWER:" and then giving the appropriate letter. (No blank line between the last choice and the answer.)
- The word "ANSWER" must be in all capital letters.
- Use the same case (lower case or upper case) for the correct response as you use in the list of possible answers.
- Separate the questions by a *single* blank line.
- Do not use indenting or numbering to format the questions.
- Do not add titles or instructions. They can be added to a particular category later or within the test settings in Moodle.

Create the question file this file either Word (.doc), **then save as Plain Text format before uploading these questions into Moodle.** When prompted, select "Other encoding" > Unicode (UTF 8) as shown. Click the **OK** button.

