Weighting assignment marks in the Moodle Gradebook

These instructions apply to any marked assignments in Moodle, including quizzes, Turnitin and Moodle assignments. You can have a mixture of assignments – for instance, a quiz accounting for 10%, a Turnitin assignment 35% and a Moodle assignment 55%.

As standard, Moodle assigns equal weight to every assignment. So if a module has two assignments, each will provide half of the total mark for the module as shown in Moodle’s Gradebook (this is separate from and not linked to, the student database).

Summary

To apply weighting to your assignments you should.

- Give each assignment an ID.
- Add a formula to the Gradebook to apply the weighting.

Give each assignment an ID

You need to give every assignment/quiz a unique identifier. We recommend a combination of letters and numbers for clarity; e.g. a ‘First Essay’ assignment worth 25 might be ‘FE25’ (see Figure 1 for an example).

From the context menu (cog icon) within your module, choose Gradebook setup.

The setup shows each assignment and quiz in the module.

Choose Edit >> Edit calculation in the Module total row.

Below the calculation box, each assignment is shown. Add a unique ID for each.

Choose Add ID numbers.
Add a formula

- Type the calculation in to the calculation box. The ID for each assignment is listed below the box.
- Simple example, two assignments, one worth 25%, one 75%:
  \[ \text{=sum}([[QU25]]*0.25, [[QU75]]*0.75) \]
- More complicated example, two moodle assignments, 25% and 15%, a Turnitin assignment, 50%, and a quiz, 10%:
  \[ \text{=sum}([[am25]]*0.25, [[at15]]*0.15, [[ae50]]*0.50, [[tq10]]*0.10) \]

![Figure 2 - Example of weighting different forms of assignment (Turnitin, Moodle assignment, quiz)](image)

- Choose **Save changes**. Assuming there are no errors, Moodle will recalculate the grades – click **Continue** to return to the Gradebook.

Troubleshooting

- The calculation must start with an `=`.
- A formula, such as SUM, must follow the `=` (upper or lower case).
- The whole calculation after the formula must be enclosed in brackets.
- Each ID must be surrounded by double squared brackets `[[ae50]]`.
- If any ID is entered incorrectly, Moodle will report the formula is invalid.
- Weighting is applied as a fraction – 10% is 0.10.
- Separate each item with a comma, not a `+`; `[[ae50]]*0.50,[[tq10]]*0.10`
- Moodle does not check your fractions add up to 1; double check before saving.