

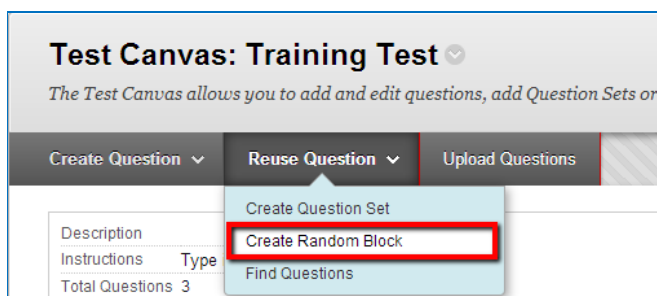
Creating Random Blocks

Random Blocks of questions can be added to a test canvas in order to ensure that students do not encounter all the same questions in the same order on a test. The basic process of creating a Random Block consists of

- selecting questions from one or more Pools;
- deciding how many of those questions the test will randomly choose and display for anyone taking the test; and
- setting a uniform point value for each question so that the total point value for the Block is equal for each student.

Since Blackboard allows creation of Random Blocks only from Pools, you must have at least one Pool of questions in the course. As shown in the tutorial on creating Pools, these can be assembled by creating new questions, adding questions from existing tests, or importing questions from external files (usually exported from other courses).

1. In the Test Canvas screen, select **Create Random Block** from the **Reuse Question** button on the action bar.



2. The Create Random Block page appears in a separate window. On the left pane, check the checkboxes for any Pools from which you wish to select questions. Below that, under **Question types**, select either **All Pool Questions** or the question types you wish to add.

Create Random Block

A Random Block is a group of questions retrieved from a Question Pool. Questions are randomly retrieved from the selected Question Pool based on the question type and the number of questions available in the selected pool. [More Help](#)

Choose Criteria

View

Pool

Sample Pool 1

Question types

All Pool Questions

Calculated Formula

Calculated Numeric

Either/Or

Essay

File Response

Fill in Multiple Blanks

Fill in the Blank

Hot Spot

Jumbled Sentence

Matching

Multiple Answer

Multiple Choice

Opinion Scale/Likert

Ordering

Quiz Bowl

Short Answer

True/False

Selected Criteria

Pool: Sample Pool 1 + Question types: All Pool Questions

Preview questions that match selected criteria

Displaying 1 to 5 of 5 items

Question Display

Question Text <input type="button" value="v"/>	Question Type	Source Name
<input type="checkbox"/> Adjective-Noun Agreement: Which form of the adjective best completes the sentence? Gisele ist eine _____.	Multiple Choice	Sample Pool 1
<input type="checkbox"/> Adjective-Noun Agreement: Which form of the adjective best completes this sentence? Es gibt in dieser ...	Multiple Choice	Sample Pool 1
<input type="checkbox"/> Adjective-Noun Agreement: Which form of the adjective best completes this sentence? Ich bin ein _____.	Multiple Choice	Sample Pool 1
<input type="checkbox"/> Adjective-Noun Agreement: Which form of the adjective best completes this sentence? Sie wohnen auf der...	Multiple Choice	Sample Pool 1
<input type="checkbox"/> Adjective-Noun Agreement: Which form of the adjective best completes this sentence? Wo ist der _____.	Multiple Choice	Sample Pool 1

Displaying 1 to 5 of 5 items

3. Click **Submit**.

4. A Random Block section appears on the Test Canvas. Specify how many questions will be selected from the Block to be displayed on the test, and click **Submit**. **NOTE:** The number of questions selected must be less than the number of total questions in the Block.

4. **Random Block**

Success: Random block saved. Edit number of questions to display and points.

Total Questions: 5

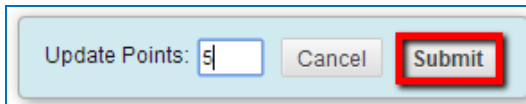
Number of Questions to display:

Source Pool: Sample Pool 1

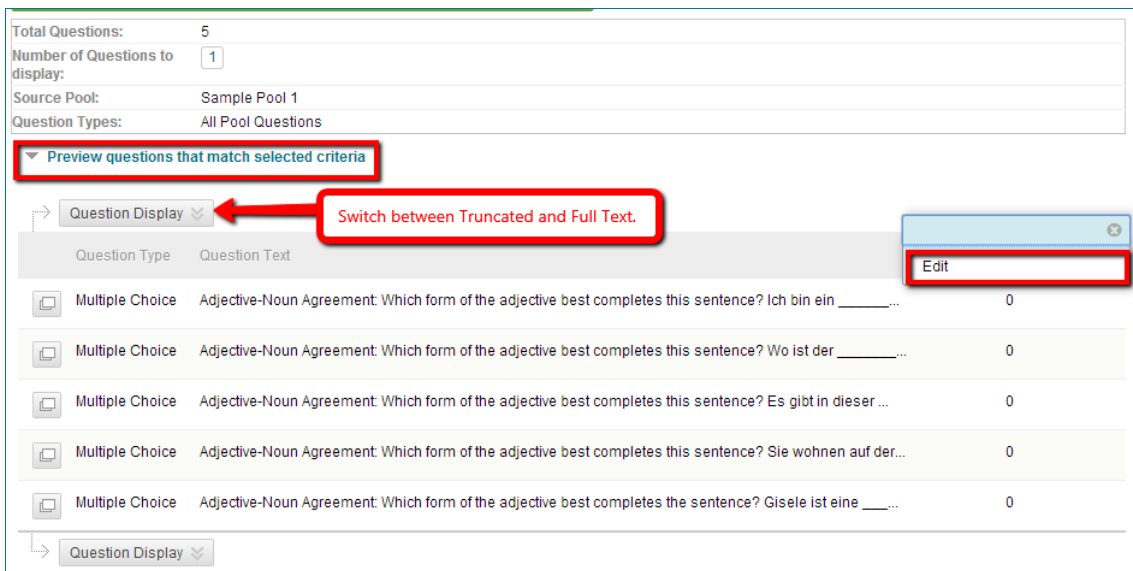
Question Types: All Pool Questions

[▶ Preview questions that match selected criteria](#)

5. Specify the point value for each question selected, and click **Submit**.



6. The Block provides a link to expand the area and view all the questions with full or truncated text. This has no effect on how the questions are displayed to students. Click the link labeled **Preview questions that match selected criteria**. Point to the **Question Display** button, and selected either **Truncated Text** or **Full Text**. In either mode, you can click the contextual arrow for a question and select **Edit** to modify the question stem or answers.



On the Test Canvas, the contextual arrow for the Block contains options to edit or delete it. Use the **Edit** command to modify the criteria for selecting questions; use the **Delete** command to remove the Block from the Test Canvas.

After you have created a Random Block, you cannot remove individual questions from it. However, if you remove a question from any Pool from which the question is drawn, it will no longer be part of the Block. You can also edit the Block to change the Pool and Question Type criteria.