Scripted Online Marking System

Concept

A major concern for educationalists has always been the inability to mark scripted essays or short written answers and record the scores and comments accordingly. With the advent of online technology and our experience of developing data capture software, firstly for OMR paper based systems in 1991, and subsequently Online systems over a number of years this is now possible using a system specifically developed for this task by our software team.

Solution

Our research showed that although there are systems in the market that can undertake this type of task, they tend to be aimed at high end, large volume exams and expensive in terms of being able to cater for smaller projects or tests. Therefore, the basis of the system is to address the market with a comprehensive but cost-effective solution that allows the online marking of examination scripts, which cannot be machine evaluated and therefore require to be assessed, judged and manually marked.

The system allows two different methods of reviewing scripts to mark, the first by entering scores directly into an online system after reviewing a paper script or, alternatively, candidates scripts can be image scanned centrally and then distributed to individual examiners who can then view and mark the script onscreen and upload the results data accordingly.

Options for online mark entry include the ability for an assessor to be assigned complete question/answer papers for marking or to be allowed to only mark individual questions (where each question/ answer takes a single page). The system also supports double check marking, whereby two assessors mark the same question/ paper independently to ensure marking consistency is maintained thus ensuring that the appropriate checks and balances are in place.

What's Needed

The requirements to run the Scripted Online system are straightforward and can be summarised as follows -

1. Web hosting services, with read/write access, either provided by the client using their own servers or by the distributor supplying this service to the client. It is recommended that this type of application should be undertaken using secure servers due to the nature of the information.
2. Purchase of the Online Marking software and, if needed, an Image Scanner should you wish to scan and distribute scripts from a central location.
3. Access to the internet for individual examiners for uploading the scores allocated against each individuals script.

The new online marking system for examination scripts has been installed and thoroughly tested at pilot sites and has resulted in positive feedback from administrators, examiners and staff alike.

For further details, please contact your local distributor. Alternatively email Colin Woolhouse or Amy Walters at either colin@traxuk.com or amy@traxuk.com to discuss your requirements further.

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