



HOW TO CREATE A COURSE IN **MOODLE™**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Creating a Lesson in Moodle	3
Step 1: Create a New Course in Moodle	3
Step 2: Add a Lesson to the Course	4
Step 3: Create a Question Page	6
Step 4: Create a Content Page	9
Step 5: Add More Content and Question Pages	10
Creating a Lesson in iSpring Suite	11
Step 1: Create Info Slides	12
Step 2: Add Quiz Questions	13
Step 3: Polish Your Quiz Design	17
Step 4: Publish to Moodle	19
To Sum Up	22



HOW TO CREATE A COURSE IN MOODLE

A lesson in Moodle is a complete training session with theory and practice. The theory helps to convey knowledge through lessons containing text, images, and videos; hands-on activities such as quizzes allow you to check how much the student has learned.

Creating a lesson in Moodle will take a new user from 30 minutes to an hour. If you need to make it quicker and easier, you can use the iSpring Suite authoring tool. In this article, we'll demonstrate how to build the same lesson in Moodle and in the [iSpring Suite authoring toolkit](#), so you can decide which tool works best for you.

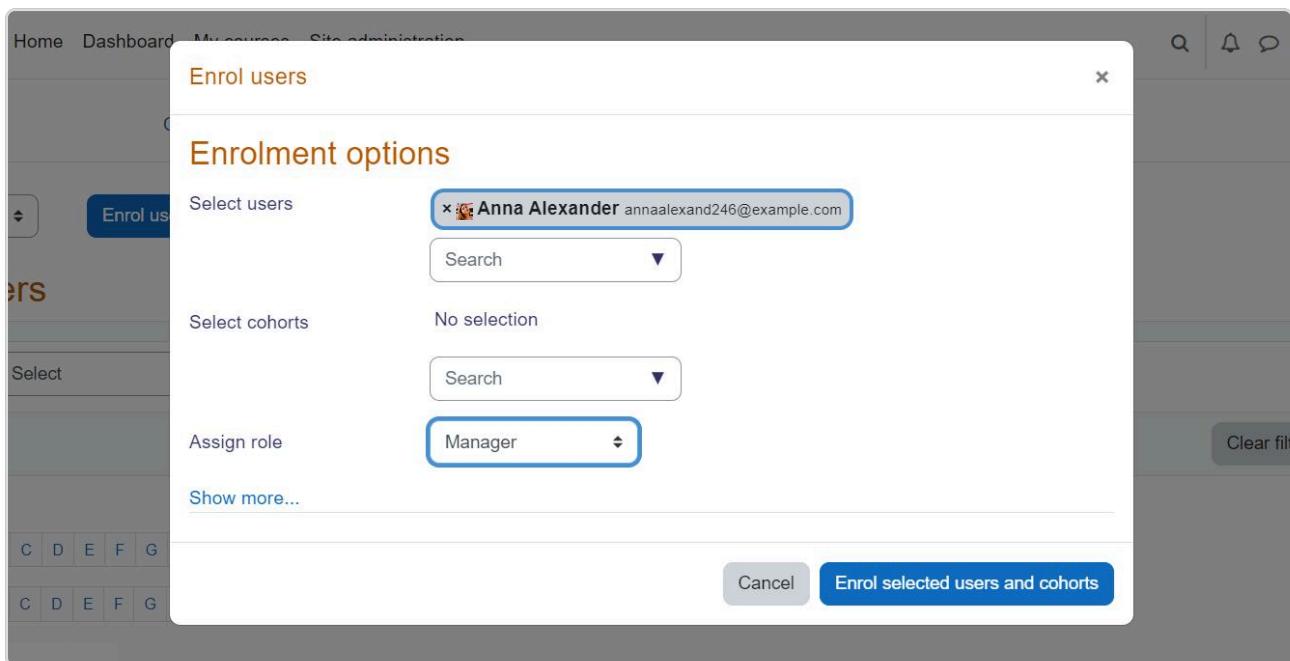
Creating a Lesson in Moodle

As an example, we'll build a course on Planets and a lesson on Solar System.

Step 1: Create a New Course in Moodle

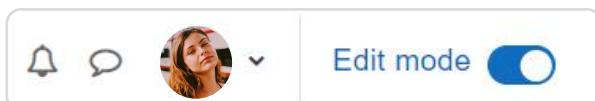
According to the logic of Moodle, you can't create a lesson without creating a course first. To create a new course, go to **Site Administration** → **Courses** → **Add a New Course**. Enter full and short course names ("Planets") and click **Save and Display**.

Now go to **Participants** and enroll yourself in the course; this way, it'll appear in the list of available courses. Click Enrol users, enter your name in the pop-up window, and choose Manager from the dropdown menu. Then click Enrol users.



Step 2: Add a Lesson to the Course

Switch on the Edit mode.



Then click +Add an activity or resource. The Moodle toolbar will appear on the screen.

A screenshot of a Moodle course page titled 'Planets'. The page includes a toolbar with 'Course', 'Settings', 'Participants', 'Grades', 'Reports', and 'More'. Below the toolbar, a section titled 'Solar System' is expanded, showing a 'Add an activity or resource' button. At the bottom of the page is a 'Add week' button.

Click Lesson in the Activities section.

Add an activity or resource x

Search

All Activities Resources

Assignment	Book	Chat	Choice	Database	External tool
					
Feedback	File	Folder	Forum	Glossary	H5P
					
IMS content package	Lesson	Page	Quiz	SCORM package	Survey
					
Text and media area	URL	Wiki	Workshop		
					

In the new window, we'll need to set up four sections:

- **General:** Enter the name of the lesson and its description.
- **Appearance:** Configure the lesson design. Would you like learners to see a progress bar or demonstrate the lesson as a slideshow?

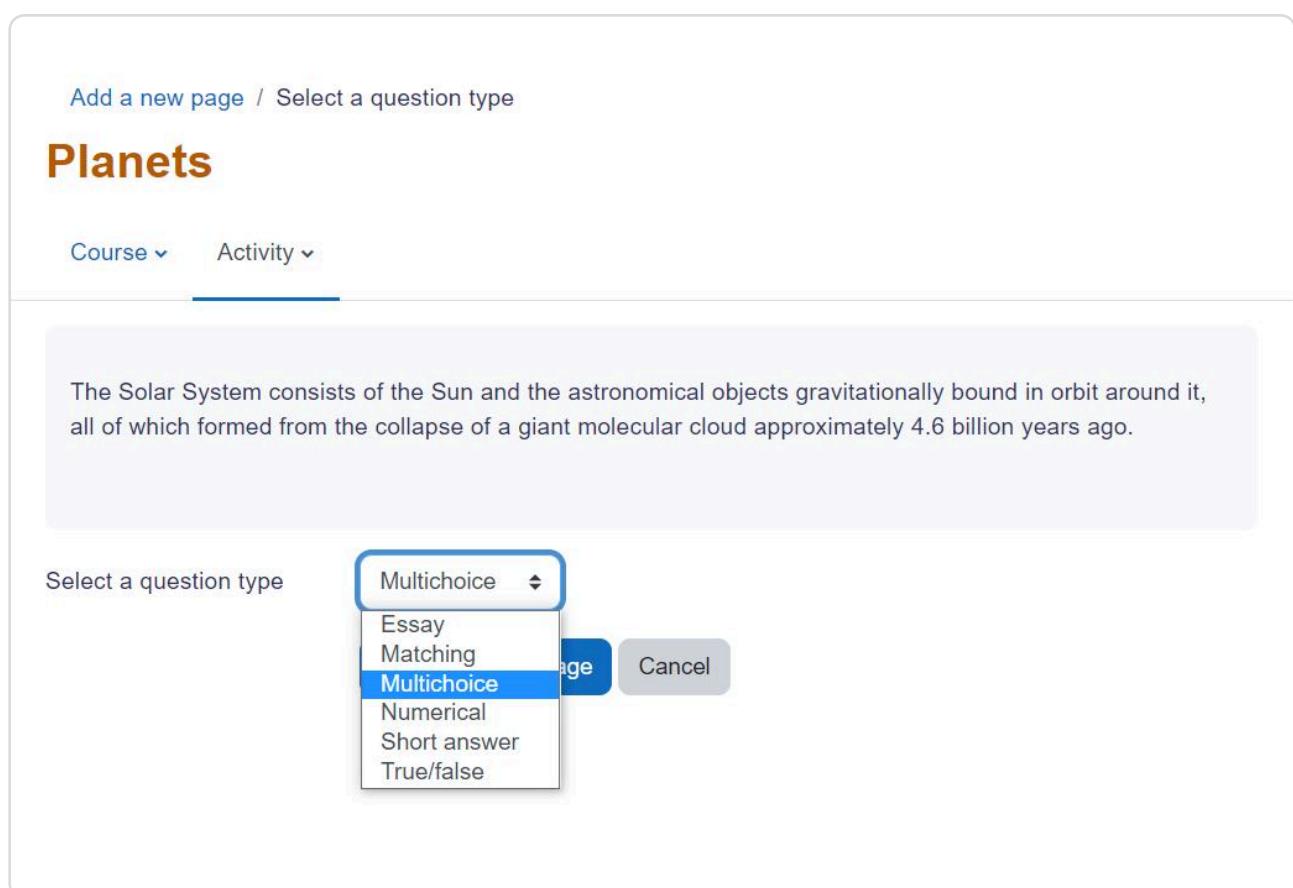
- **Flow Control:** Set up the rules for taking the lesson. For example, it'd be wise to allow learners to view the lesson on fire safety several times, but for an exam session, it's better to give just one attempt.
- **Grade:** Determine the rules of assessment. Will you use points or a scale to evaluate the results? What is the passing grade? For the sample lesson, set four points as the passing grade as there are four test tasks.

Click **Save and display**.

Step 3: Create a Question Page

To add a question, click **Add a question page** in the **Actions** column.

In the new window, select a question type and click **Add a question page**.



Add a new page / Select a question type

Planets

Course ▾ Activity ▾

The Solar System consists of the Sun and the astronomical objects gravitationally bound in orbit around it, all of which formed from the collapse of a giant molecular cloud approximately 4.6 billion years ago.

Select a question type

Multichoice

- Essay
- Matching
- Multichoice
- Numerical
- Short answer
- True/false

Cancel

On a new page, do the following general setup for the question:

Page title

Inner planets of the Solar System

Page contents

Select the four inner planets of the Solar System:

[Expand all](#)**▼ Create a Multichoice question page**

Page title



Inner planets of the Solar System

Page contents



Select the four inner planets of the Solar System:

Options

Multiple-answer

Answer 1

Mercury

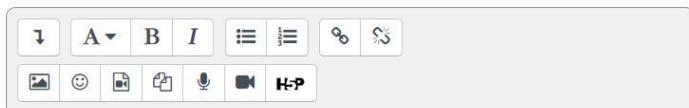
Response

Correct

▼ Answer 1

Answer

?



Mercury

Response



Correct

Jump

?

Next page



Score

?

1

Answer 2

Jupiter

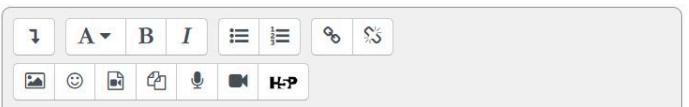
Response

Incorrect

▼ Answer 2

Answer

?



Jupiter

Response



Incorrect

Jump

?

Next page



Score

?

0

Once you've added all answer options, click **Save page**.

Step 4: Create a Content Page

The content page is a building block for creating a lesson in Moodle. It may contain text, pictures, audio or video. Click **Add a content page** to create one, then enter a page title and its contents.

Below, you'll also see a **Content 1 (Content 2, Content 3, and so on)** section. Using these fields, you can set up navigation within a lesson. Each Content is a button that forwards a learner to another slide of the lesson. For instance, you can create buttons for every page of the lesson, so learners will be able to jump from the first page to the last one. If you prefer closed navigation and don't fill in the Content fields, learners will have to study the pages one by one.

Expand all

▼ Add a content page

Page title Terrestrial planets

Page contents

The toolbar includes buttons for bold, italic, underline, list styles, and various media and link options.

The four inner or terrestrial planets have dense, rocky compositions, few or no moons, and no ring systems. They are composed largely from refractory minerals, such as the silicates, which form their crusts and metals such as iron and nickel, which form their cores.

Arrange content buttons horizontally?

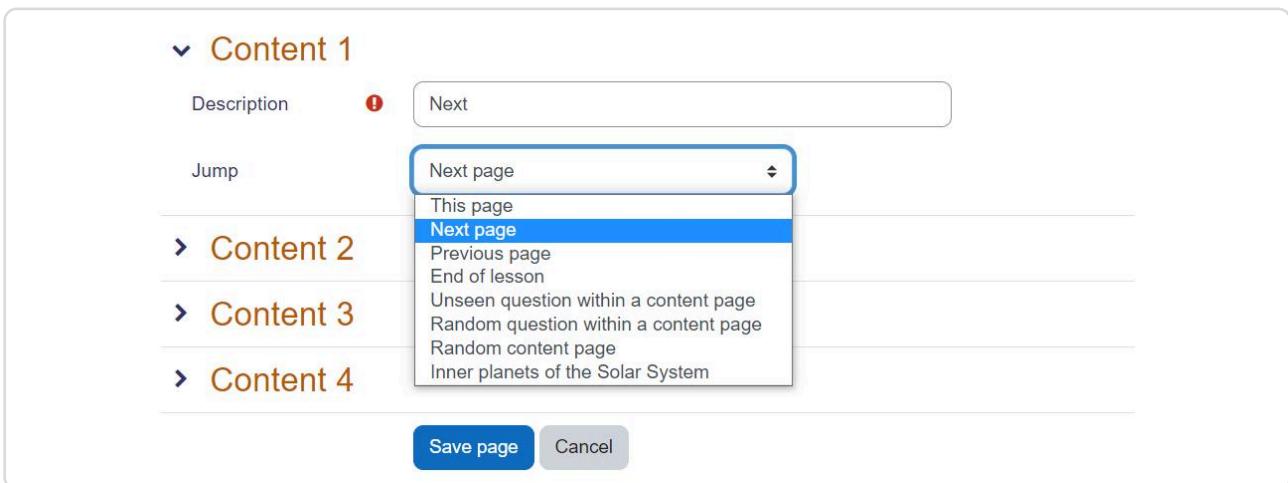
Display in menu?

For the sample course, we don't need any extra navigation buttons except Next.

For our sample course, we'll set up closed navigation and create just one button, Next, that leads to the next page.

Step 5: Add More Content and Question Pages

Create the rest of the pages using the lesson source file. Also, don't forget to create the Next button by entering the word Next in the **Content 1** description and choose to jump to **Next page** on each new page you add.



Content 1

Description: Next

Jump:

- Next page
- This page
- Next page

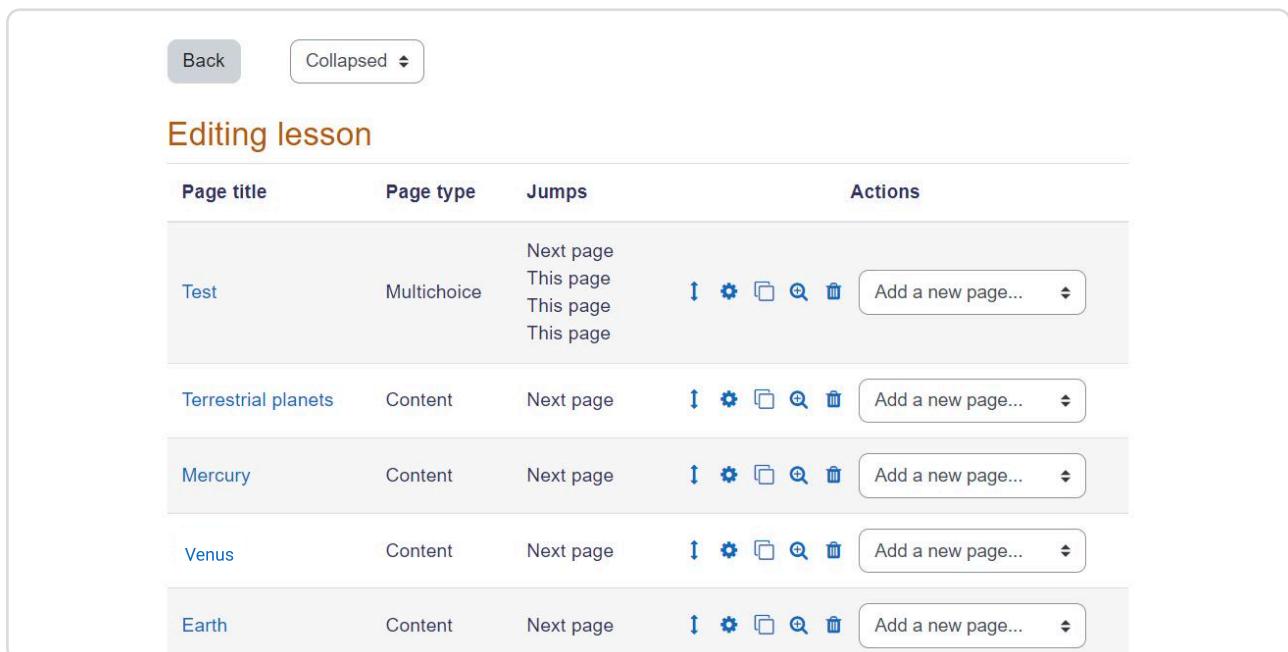
Content 2

Content 3

Content 4

Save page Cancel

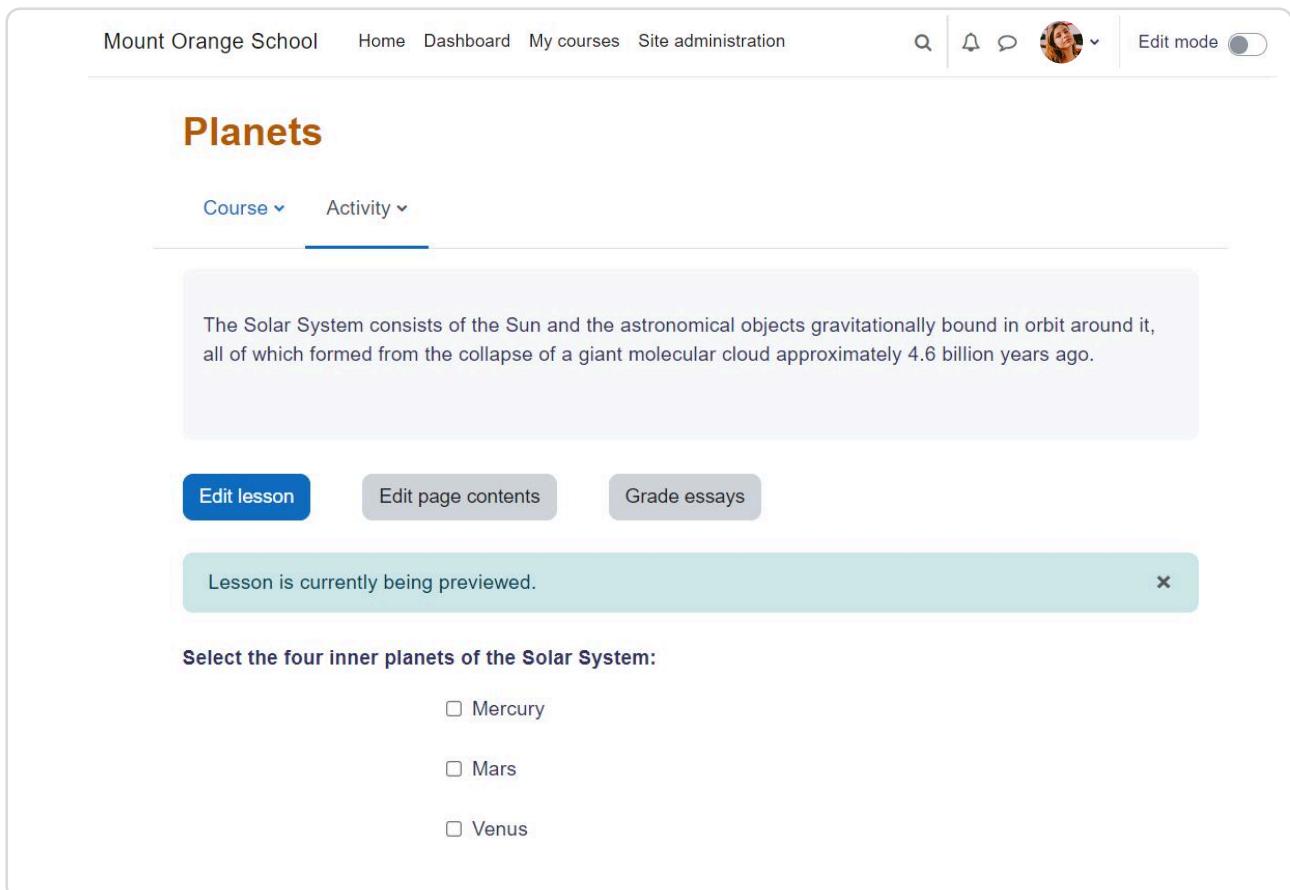
In the end, you should get the following structure:



Editing lesson

Page title	Page type	Jumps	Actions
Test	Multichoice	Next page This page This page This page	Add a new page...
Terrestrial planets	Content	Next page	Add a new page...
Mercury	Content	Next page	Add a new page...
Venus	Content	Next page	Add a new page...
Earth	Content	Next page	Add a new page...

The lesson is ready. You can preview it through the admin panel.



Mount Orange School Home Dashboard My courses Site administration

Plans

Course Activity

The Solar System consists of the Sun and the astronomical objects gravitationally bound in orbit around it, all of which formed from the collapse of a giant molecular cloud approximately 4.6 billion years ago.

Edit lesson Edit page contents Grade essays

Lesson is currently being previewed. x

Select the four inner planets of the Solar System:

- Mercury
- Mars
- Venus

Creating a Lesson in iSpring Suite

If the built-in Moodle editor isn't enough to create lessons and courses you need, you can use [iSpring Suite](#). This comprehensive authoring tool allows you to create literally any type of eLearning content, including slide courses, training videos, smart screencasts, scenario-based simulations, 14 types of interactive quizzes, and cheat-proof assessments.

The best part is that it works directly in the familiar PowerPoint interface, so the learning curve is minimal. Its incredible ease of use and [smooth integration with Moodle™](#) software via the iSpring plugin make this

authoring tool ideal for educational institutions, academics, and teachers worldwide:

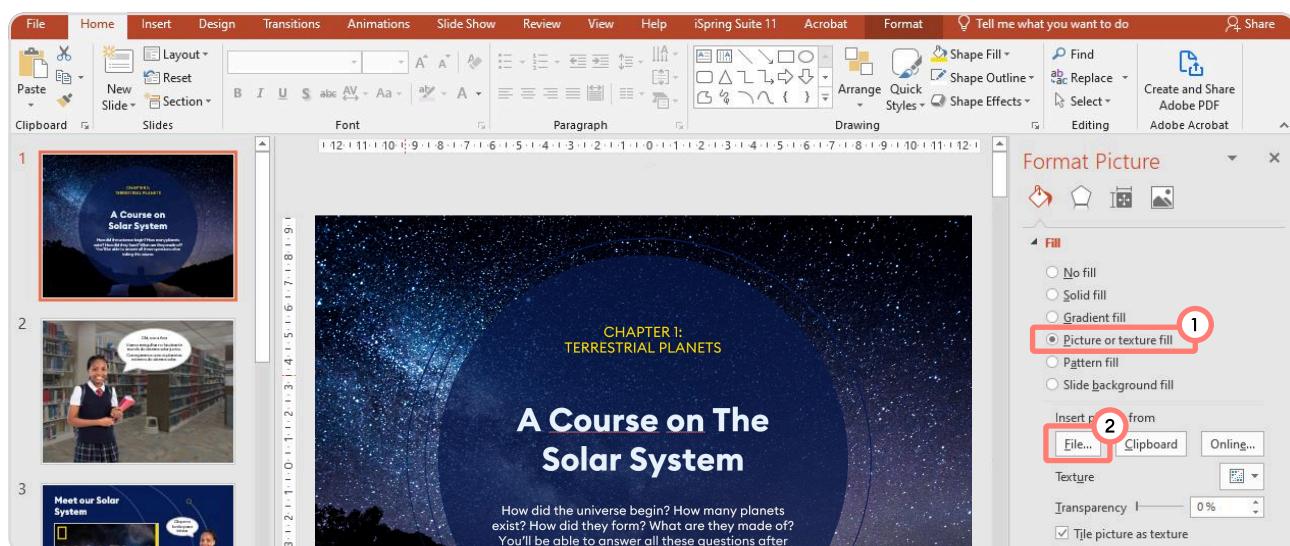


To start creating a course with iSpring Suite, first [sign up for a free 14-day trial](#).

Step 1: Create Info Slides

Create a new presentation. We don't need to use any additional functions so far; just create enough slides and fill them with information.

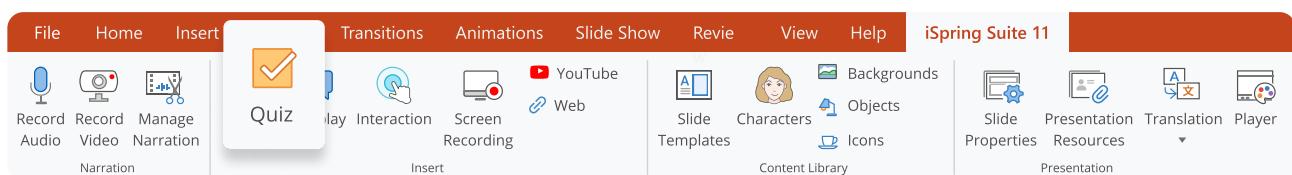
You can set custom backgrounds for slides to make them more informative and attractive. Go to the **Design** tab and click **Format Background**. Choose **Picture or texture fill** in the right pane and then select an image you'd like to use from your computer. For the cover page of the Solar System lesson, we used a photo with stars.



With iSpring Suite, you can use the familiar PowerPoint interface to create info slides.

Step 2: Add Quiz Questions

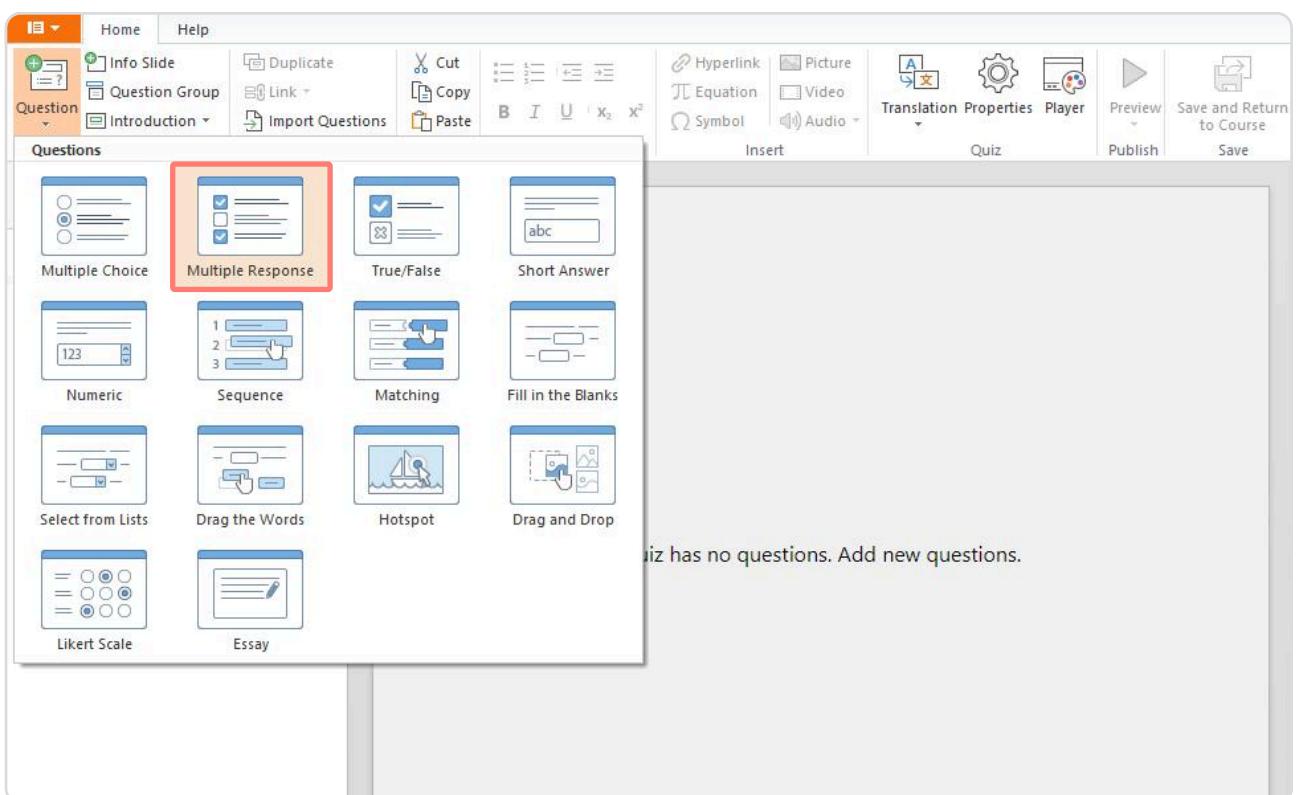
In the sample lesson, there are four test questions. While you can create six basic question types with the built-in Moodle editor, there are 14 types of tasks in iSpring Suite. Go to the iSpring Suite tab and click the **Quiz** icon to launch the QuizMaker tool.



You can create 14 types of questions: Sequence, Matching, Drag & Drop, and more.

In the new window, choose **Graded Quiz**.

The first test question in the lesson is a Multiple Choice. Click **Question** in the upper left corner of the ribbon and choose the necessary question type. If you pay attention to the preview icons in the drop-down list, you'll get an idea of how each question will look on the slide.



Place the cursor on the question type to see the preview.

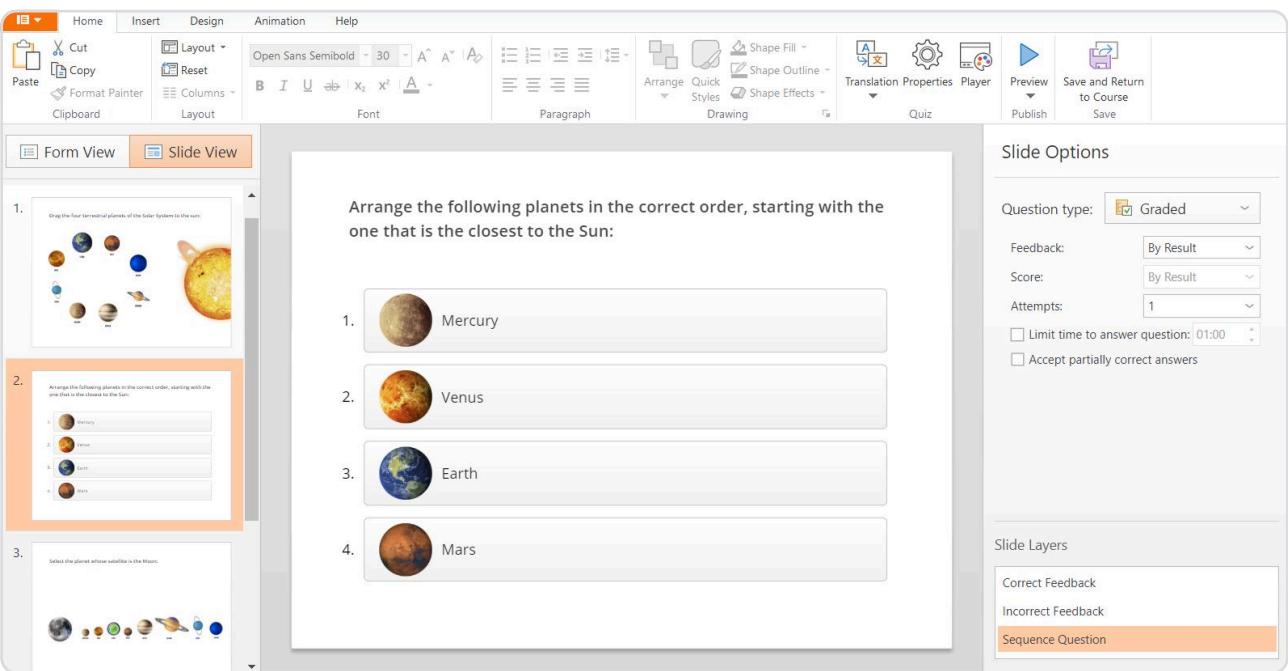
iSpring QuizMaker has an interface that is similar to Microsoft Word, so it's easy to work with text. Fill in the **Question**, **Choices**, and **Feedback** fields. Then go to the **Quiz Results** section in the left pane.

You can also customize the question slide design using **Slide View**.

In the **Quiz Results**, enter custom feedback for learners who pass or fail and un-check all the boxes, save for **Allow user to retry quiz** (for the Failed tab), in the **Result Slide Options** to the right. In our sample, we don't need to show the user's score or set a passing score, so we'll leave only one button, **Retry**, on the Results slide. You can experiment with different configurations and click **Preview** on the ribbon to see what it'll look like.

Let's add three more questions. To make the lesson more interactive, let's use some question types that aren't present in the Moodle editor.

Sequence question. You can ask learners to choose not only one response, but organize options – in our case, planets – in the correct order.



The screenshot shows the iSpring authoring tool interface. The top menu includes Home, Insert, Design, Animation, and Help. The ribbon bar contains various editing tools like Cut, Copy, Paste, Format Painter, Layout, Font, Paragraph, Drawing, and Quiz. The main content area displays a sequence question. The question text is: "Arrange the following planets in the correct order, starting with the one that is the closest to the Sun:". Below the text is a numbered list with four items, each containing a planet icon and its name: 1. Mercury, 2. Venus, 3. Earth, 4. Mars. To the left of the main content, there are three smaller preview windows for other questions. On the right side, there is a "Slide Options" panel with settings for the question type (Graded), feedback (By Result), score (By Result), attempts (1), and time limit (01:00). Below the "Slide Options" panel is a "Slide Layers" section containing "Correct Feedback", "Incorrect Feedback", and "Sequence Question".

Sequences are more fun than multiple choice questions.

Drag and Drop question. For example, you need to check how well students know which planets are terrestrial. The drag and drop feature turns an ordinary question into a game, where the learners can pick up different planets and drag them to the Sun.

Question List

Drag the four terrestrial planets of the Solar System to the sun:

Venus

Mars

Neptune

Earth

Uranus

Mercury

Jupiter

Saturn

Your Score: 0 of 10

Question 1 of 1

Submit

Answering drag-and-drop questions is more fun than answering theoretical questions.

Hotspot question. In hotspot questions, students should mark an object or objects, which is much more engaging than answering standard questions.

Question List

Mark the planet whose satellite is the Moon:



Mercury Venus Earth Mars Jupiter Saturn Uranus Neptune

Your Score: 0 of 10 Question 3 of 1 **Submit**

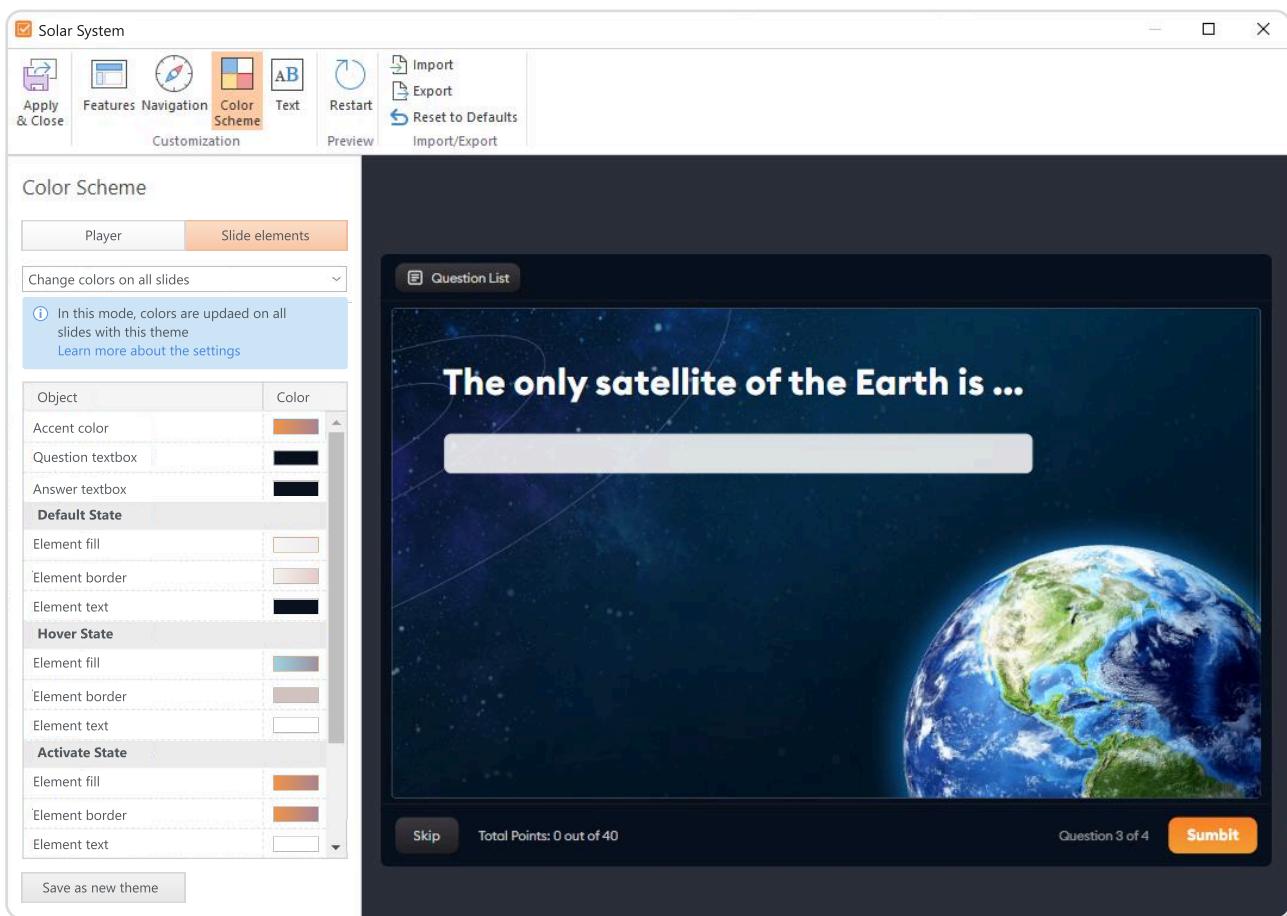
Show, not tell.

When creating questions, you can also check how they look in the **Slide View** and customize the fonts and size of text and objects, and insert images.

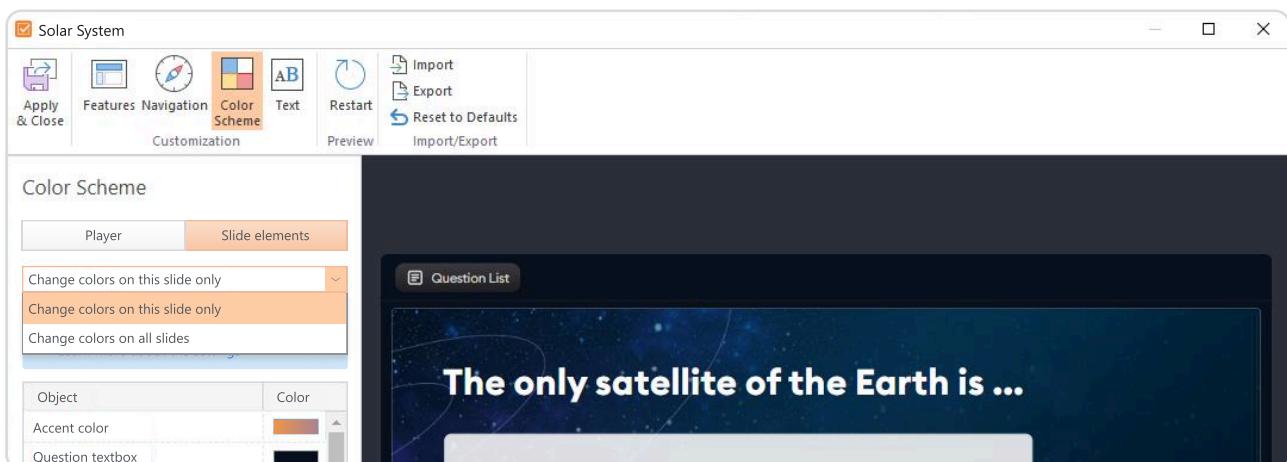
Step 3: Polish your quiz design

Once your quiz is almost ready, you can customize its look and feel to match the rest of your course or your brand identity. Use the pre-designed themes with trendy colors and graphics to make quizzes eye-catching and tweak every detail – from slide backgrounds to checkbox colors.

1. Go to the **Color Scheme** on the top panel. In the **Slide Elements** tab, you can select the color and transparency of slide elements, including element borders, controls, and markers. Choose the colors for the default, hover, and active states.

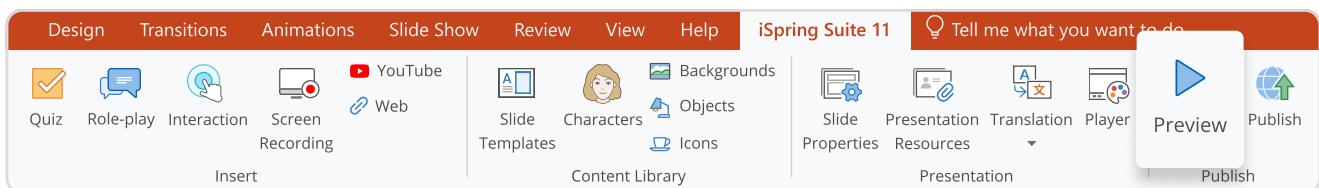


2. Next, choose whether to apply the color settings to all slides or this particular slide only.



Step 4: Publish to Moodle™

When the lesson is ready, you can see what it looks like on different devices in the **Preview** mode:

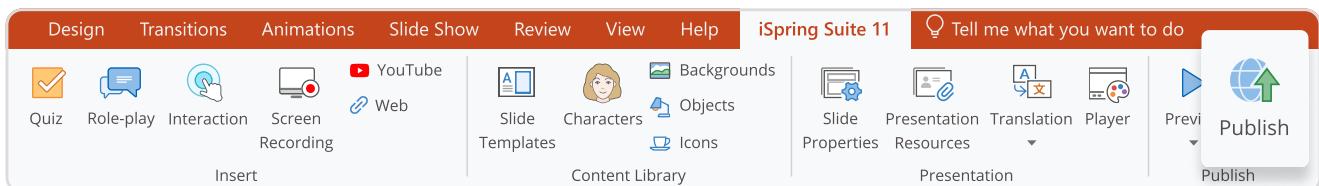


If you're satisfied with the result, it's time to publish your course to Moodle™. As mentioned earlier, iSpring Suite smoothly integrates with the LMS via the iSpring Module plugin. It allows course developers to publish courses directly to Moodle™ software and access comprehensive visual LMS reports on iSpring quizzes and role-play simulations.

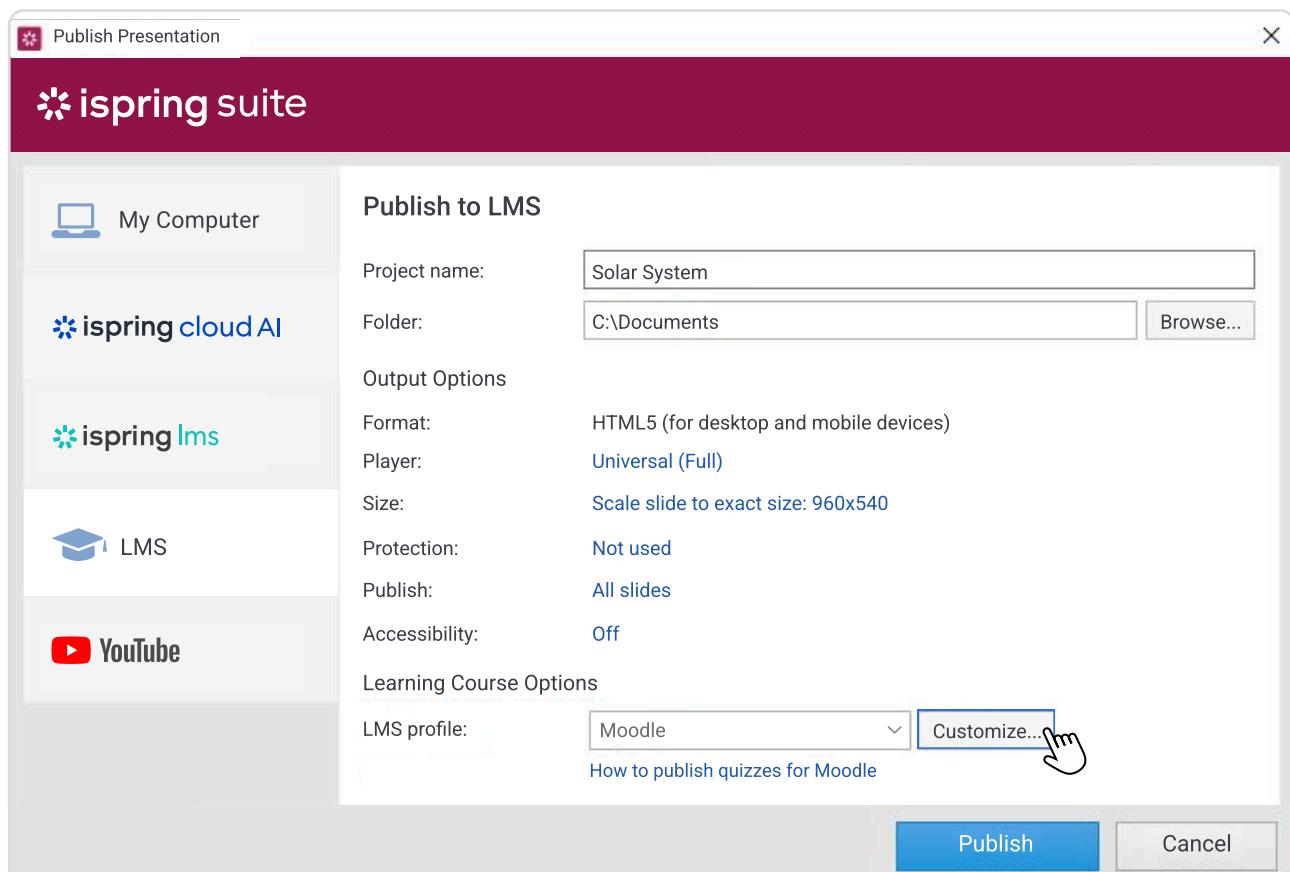
Before uploading a course to Moodle, first you need to install the iSpring Module plugin. Check a brief instruction on how to do it quickly:

[How to install the iSpring Module plugin for Moodle™ →](#)

1. Once you've installed the plugin, click on **Publish** on the iSpring Suite toolbar:



2. In the LMS tab, select **LMS profile** → **Moodle**. Then, customize the progress and completion of the course: the number of attempts available, maximum score, and passing score.



3. Click on **Publish**. You'll see a .zip file that you can upload to Moodle™.

With the iSpring Module plugin for Moodle™ software, you can access detailed visual LMS reports on quizzes and role-plays as soon as a student completes the course, ensuring all attempts are effectively tracked.

Gather, filter, and analyze data such as time spent on training, scores, completion rates, and more – while keeping your statistics intact, even when reloading content.

Lindsay Walter



Awarded score **100 (100%)** | Completion date **80 (80%)**

Time spent **07:31:29** | Completion date **Apr 24, 2024**

1. Select inner planets of the Solar system

Multichoice | Points: 10

Correct answer	User answer	Answer Choices
		Mercury
		Jupiter

Correct · Awarded: 10 points

Course details

Content	Type	Passing score	
Dialog 1	Role-play	27	Completed View
Dialog 2	Role-play	26	Completed View
Solar System	Quiz	8	10 Passed View

To Sum Up

The benefit of the **Moodle™** editor is that it's free and you can build content right on the platform. It's comprehensive, but one potential drawback for some users might be its complex interface. Every content item – a course, a lesson, or a quiz – consists of individual pages. Each page must be individually set up. In short, many steps must be taken to prepare a lesson that will catch a learner's attention.

iSpring Suite, on the other hand, has a highly-intuitive interface that allows you to quickly build professional-looking lessons for **Moodle™** without the need to create numerous pages or spend hours learning how it works.

This plugin makes reviewing student performance faster and easier. Clear, organized reports allow you to accurately evaluate learner progress, including their achievements and areas where they struggle. This helps you identify specific knowledge gaps and address them more effectively, ensuring that learning materials are continuously improved.



The best authoring tool for Moodle™

Create online teaching materials in no time, smoothly upload them to Moodle™, and track your learners' progress with easy-to-read reports. [Learn more →](#)

Save 30% on iSpring Suite with your academic discount

Work right in MS PowerPoint

Start creating courses right away – no advanced eLearning experience necessary.

Test student knowledge precisely

Create 14 types of interactive quizzes with multimedia and cheat-proof testing rules.

Build scenario-based sims

Help students practice their skills and enhance knowledge recall with role-play simulations.

Turn slides into SCORM in seconds

Start from scratch or enhance your existing presentation with interactivity.

Record pro-looking video lectures

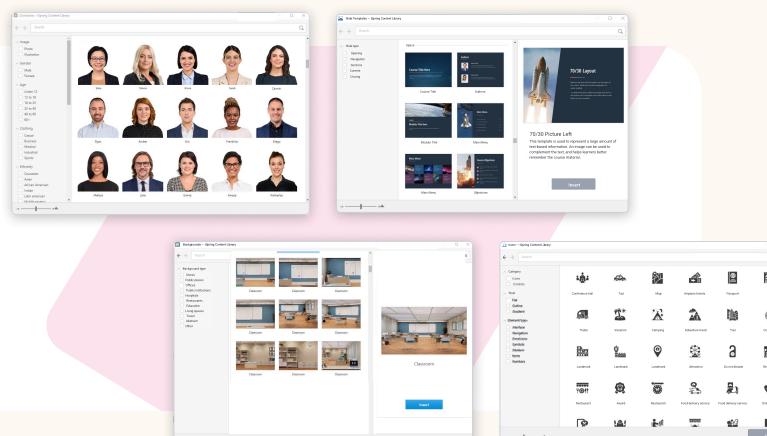
Sync slides with a talking head video, and edit it easily, even if you've never done it before.

Replace plain text with interactions

Let students engage with the material through interactive timelines, hotspots, and more.

Enjoy 134,000+ pre-designed assets

Course templates, characters, locations, objects, and icons so you can create tailored professional-looking courses quickly, with no design skills.



Start 14-day free trial

No credit card required

Have any questions about the tool or **academic discount**? Feel free to reach out at: sales@ispring.com

Welcome to the iSpring Community!

Feel free to join and become a valuable part of a community of instructional designers and eLearning professionals who are taking training to the next level with iSpring.

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