Using Jing to enhance student understanding through video recorded assignment commentary

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What is Jing?

Jing is a screen capture tool which allows you to make a five-minute video recording of activity on your computer screen with an audio commentary. In this poster, we report on the findings of a pilot project, a current research project and spontaneous use of Jing by tutors working on modern language modules in the Open University. Jing can be downloaded free from http://www.techsmith.com/jing.html.

How tutors found it

"You can show [the student] annotations step by step and explain why you are doing [what you are doing]. This is less overwhelming for students.

It adds another dimension to feedback and may, because of its less traditional presentation, reach more students.

The feedback on a weak piece of work may appear "softer". My feedback felt "warmer" because I could speak to the student. There was an imagined dialogue. The written and oral feedback complement each other very well.

I think it is more personal and maybe memorable for the student.

I felt I had the student in front of me."

What students thought

"The use of highlighting and the moving cursor worked well.

To hear the tutor’s voice with the feedback made in a positive way was motivating.

The feedback felt more personal and was easily understandable. It showed how my work had been assessed and […] generally made me feel that my work had been valued by my tutor.

It was a very positive, personalised and motivating experience."

Where next?

• Analyse student and tutor feedback from research project questionnaires
• Analyse how tutors have used Jing and how effective this seems to have been
• Provide guidance notes to tutors on potential uses of Jing to enhance student learning
• Create a resource bank of generic recordings for use in supporting language learning