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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. Visually, it is more engaging. 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.”

How our tutors have used Jing

“To talk through corrections as they are making them
To explain corrections which they have already made in the marked work
To draw attention to key errors which they have already corrected in the marked work
To correct errors which they have shown are errors but not yet corrected
To provide a generic recording regarding a language issue for all students making similar errors

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