

# Problem solving in remote groups

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During your studies there may be times where you need to engage with a range of people to solve problems or get research.

Bringing a group physically together for a problem-solving session is both costly and may not be logistically practical.

There are tools and approaches that can be applied to achieve these outcomes remotely.

In this session we will introduce four different tools and give you the opportunity to engage in a genuine, live issue being explored by a team at the OU.

We have chosen four tools to use, there are alternatives that could be used in similar ways.

Two are synchronous and require your group to be engaged live.

Two are asynchronous and may be completed outside the session.



I will introduce each tool and discuss use, benefits and drawbacks.

Then a member of the team will lead you through the real activity.

# The Future of Learning and Assessment

The issue being explored

# Mentimeter

Mentimeter is a real time short response tool.

Useful to gain an understanding of a current situation or current feelings.

In Mentimeter the participants can join the live voting via their phone, tablet or computer.

It can be used in a physical setting such as a conference.

## **Benefits:**

- Presenter has a level of control and can resolve issues
- Real time information
- Can include qualitative and quantitative data
- Simple to use

## **Drawbacks:**

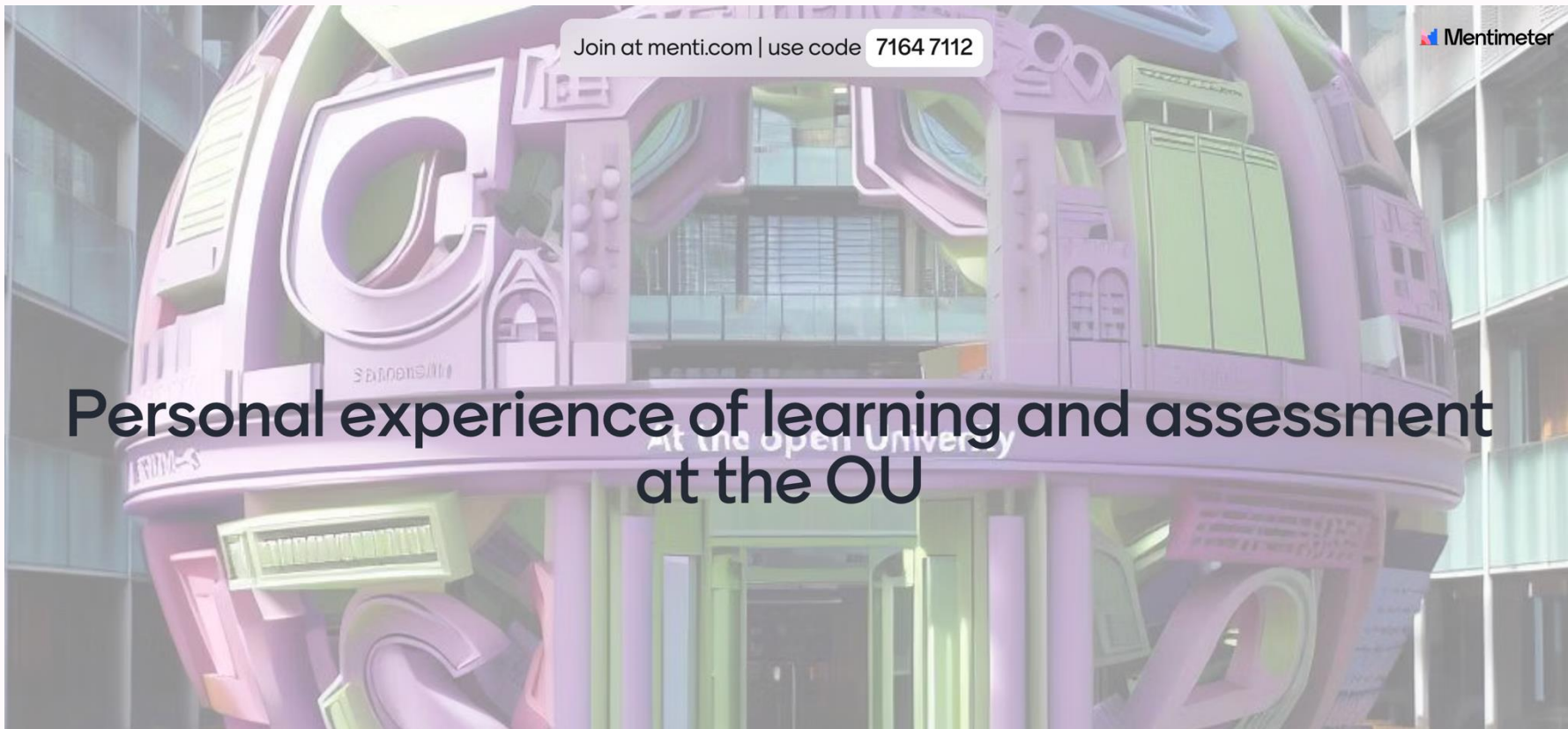
- Limited thinking time for synchronous exercises
- Not all participants will want to use their equipment, so participation may be low
- Potential accessibility issues

# Mentimeter



**Direct Web Page** <https://www.menti.com/al8b5jqs6cfv>

**Join usingh code** [www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com) Code = **7164 7112**



**Personal experience of learning and assessment  
at the OU**



# Miro

Miro is a shared drawing board that can be used asynchronously. Useful to gain a deeper understanding of issues. The boards can be very large and detailed for large projects or issues. It can be used both synchronously and asynchronously.

In Miro the participants join via a link and can be allowed to add to and edit the board.

A range of interactions are available to be used.

## **Benefits:**

- Can be used for data collection and presentation.
- Can include qualitative and quantitative data
- Asynchronous contributions can be considered at length.

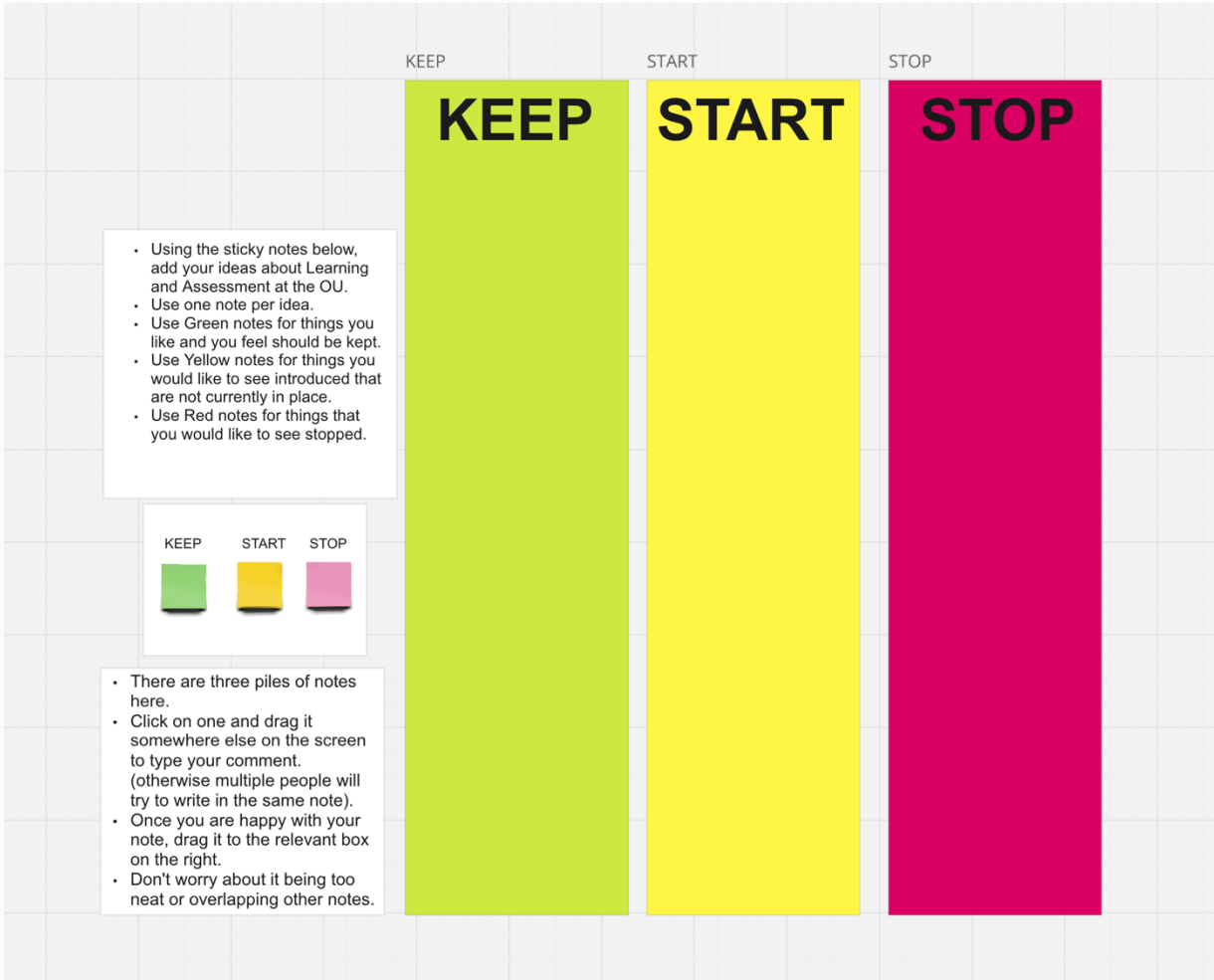
## **Drawbacks:**

- Requires a basic level of IT skills to contribute
- Presenter is not always present to give advice, resolve issues
- Results can be very unpredictable, clear instructions needed
- Potential accessibility issues

# Miro

Miro board link: <https://miro.com/app/board/uXjVLXkl5hI=/>

Password: SHL2024FLA




KEEP      START      STOP

**KEEP**      **START**      **STOP**

- Using the sticky notes below, add your ideas about Learning and Assessment at the OU.
- Use one note per idea.
- Use Green notes for things you like and you feel should be kept.
- Use Yellow notes for things you would like to see introduced that are not currently in place.
- Use Red notes for things that you would like to see stopped.

KEEP      START      STOP



- There are three piles of notes here.
- Click on one and drag it somewhere else on the screen to type your comment. (otherwise multiple people will try to write in the same note).
- Once you are happy with your note, drag it to the relevant box on the right.
- Don't worry about it being too neat or overlapping other notes.

# Break-out Rooms

Most virtual conferencing software has the facility for Break-out rooms. These enable participants to work in smaller groups in real time.

In Adobe Connect, the break-out rooms allow group output to be captured and reviewed later.

## Benefits:

- Real time feedback
- True discussion is available
- Can be clearly focused on particular issues, issues can vary by room

## Drawbacks:

- Only available as a synchronous exercise
- Presenter is not in the rooms to support, but facilitators could be used
- Without a facilitator to keep the discussions on track and record outputs, the chat may go off topic
- Potential accessibility issues
- Reluctance of participants
- Take longer than expected.

# Break-out Rooms

## Task 1 Instructions

In this Break-Out room you can use mics, cameras and the chat pod to communicate.

Breakout rooms cannot be recorded.

If you want to return to the main room at any time, click the drop-down menu next to where it says "Currently in:\*\*\*\*\*" and then click "Main Room" that will bring you back to me.

In your group you have 5 minutes to do the following:

- Take note of your Breakout room number
- Say a very quick hello
- Nominate one person to act as a scribe – only the scribe should write on the notes pod
- Discuss what you have learned so far in the session.

After 5 minutes you will automatically be returned to the main room.

# Forms and surveys

## Microsoft forms

An asynchronous tool for collecting qualitative and quantitative data that can be collated after an event.

Fairly simple to set up and share, forms can be completed on phones, tablets and computers.

## Benefits:

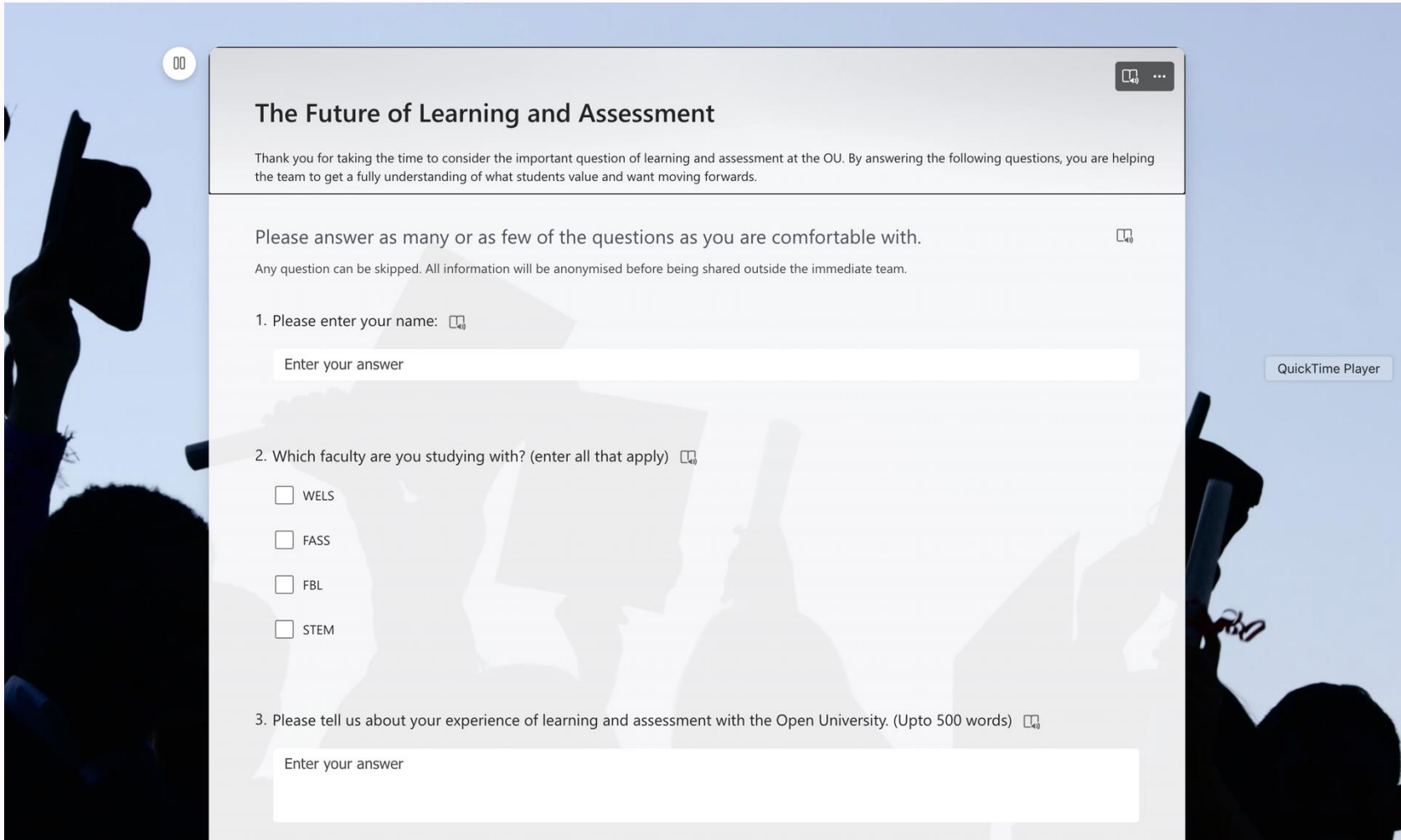
- Easy to set up and share
- Completion is simple
- Complexity of the form can be tailored to the situation

## Drawbacks:

- Response rate can be low
- Accessibility issues with some forms
- Length of time to collect information

# Forms and surveys

Link to complete: <https://forms.office.com/e/WnB24R6gEt>



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## The Future of Learning and Assessment

Thank you for taking the time to consider the important question of learning and assessment at the OU. By answering the following questions, you are helping the team to get a fully understanding of what students value and want moving forwards.

Please answer as many or as few of the questions as you are comfortable with. Any question can be skipped. All information will be anonymised before being shared outside the immediate team.

1. Please enter your name:

Enter your answer

2. Which faculty are you studying with? (enter all that apply)

- WELS
- FASS
- FBL
- STEM

3. Please tell us about your experience of learning and assessment with the Open University. (Upto 500 words)

Enter your answer

QuickTime Player

We will now answer  
your questions from  
the chat.

# Feedback please

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Please use the following link to provide feedback to help the studenthublive team to continue to improve what we do

<https://forms.office.com/e/U5uRvDRaGb>



# Upcoming sessions

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31-Oct	11am	Workshop	Developing your essay writing (Intermediate)
05-Nov	11am	Connect LIVE	Generative AI in OU learning
06-Nov	11am	Workshop	Planning short written answers
07-Nov	11am	Workshop	Mastering essay writing (Advanced)
12-Nov	11am	Connect LIVE	Information security and keeping safe online
14-Nov	7pm	Workshop	Creative problem-solving
21-Nov	4pm	Connect LIVE	Studying with disability
26-Nov	11am	Community	Support and Wellbeing for Student Carers
28-Nov	7pm	Workshop	Memory and Learning
03-Dec	7pm	Workshop	Power reading: boost your reading skills

Details and booking information from

<http://studenthublive.open.ac.uk/>

Past student hub live online study skills sessions [here](#)

Visit us at <http://studenthublive.open.ac.uk/> and subscribe for events as they are announced. Send us feedback at [studenthub@open.ac.uk](mailto:studenthub@open.ac.uk)