



Common Inquiry:

How do I grade and report student responses?

H-ITT CRS gives you many methods to grade and report student performance based on their clicker responses to questions. Grading and reporting these data depends on what you are using the H-ITT System for. There are basically two ways to “grade” based on how you use the system:

1. The points based grading is used to enhance student involvement and will promote attendance, preparedness and class participation. Using the “points” method you do not necessarily need to “grade” questions you ask; points are given for just participating.
2. The percentage based grading is typically used where you want to give a letter or percent grade to students based on a specific test or quiz you give. And where there are right/wrong gradable answers you need to assign correct answer(s) for every question.

Grading the question, or rather assigning a correct answer to a question you pose can be done before, during, or after the question is asked.

1. Assigning a correct answer before you deliver the question(s) requires that you have pre-made the questions, which is typical for tests and quizzes. There are 2 ways you can do this based on how you deliver the questions to your students:

- A. If you give a paper based test or quiz, you can create an “answer key” (see below about the answer key) along with it and apply this to the test or quiz from the Analyzers Answer key window, click on the Key icon button, and browse to and open your answer key.
- B. If you want to display the content to your class with a computer projector H-ITT gives 3 options: a) use Qgen2 to create your test and click the correct answer(s) boxes. b) import a Blackboard format content file (like Examview) into Qgen2 and the correct answers are automatically selected. c) Create an answer key for the specific set of questions you display.

2. Assigning a correct answer during the time you are asking the question is done in Acquisition. You can use your computer keyboard or your instructors remote to do this, and can be done during the questioning (answer along with the students), or when the histogram for that question is displayed.

3. Assigning a correct answer after or modifying correct answers from an Acquisition session can be done in Analyzer from the answer key window in two ways: You can create/modify and apply an answer key to a class file at anytime, or you can use the question grader to modify/assign correct answers to specific question plus modify the question/answers points values.

About the Answer key: It is either a plain text or csv spreadsheet.

An example of an “answer_key.txt” file (answer key for a class file set of 4 questions) is:

1,C	MC type: C is the correct answer for question 1
2,A,3	MC type: A and C are correct answers for question 2
3,12.5	MD type: 12.5 is the correct answer for question 3
4,12.5,12.50	MD type: 12.5 and 12.50 are correct answers for question 4

An example of “answers.csv” spreadsheet file created in Excel

1	C		
2	A	3	
3	12.5		
4	12.5	12.50	

Same Answer key shown above (i.e. C is correct answer for Q1, etc), created in MS Excel, and saved as a CSV file.



About Point based grading and participation factors:

With the points system students are awarded points for both participation and achievements. The Analyzer is your gradebook and keeps a running total for each student throughout the semester. This running total of points earned vs. total points available are shown in the Analyzer>Students points window.

The point values are based on if the questions asked have a correct answer or not. The following describes the default point values for both cases. (Note that you can assign any points values you want from the Options>Answer Key pallet)

When the question does not have a correct answer it is worth 1 point, and any answer from a student is given 1 point, no answer gets 0 points.

When the question has a correct answer it is worth 3 points, and awarded as: 3 points if the student answers correctly, one point if they answer it incorrect, and 0 points for no answer.

This “points system” has proven very effective in promoting student involvement and grades, however the effectiveness is directly related to how much this “participation” factor will apply to their final grade in the class.

Which brings up the question “what portion of the students grades should you give for participation?”

If you already include a participation factor in grades, then it's easy, but you may want to adjust it since every student can participate. If you don't include a participation factor in your current grading scheme, you will be amazed at how much student performance will increase when it's included, and they know they are accountable on a daily basis.

Some typical participation factors account for between 5% and 50% of the student's final grade.

As with most grading principals you can “slope” the results so the highest scores are “A or B”, and the lowest are “D or F”. The Analyzer provides tools to do this by dropping the lowest X number of questions, which selectively does this for each individual student. As you adjust or slope the grades you can see the overall average results from the Answer key window, or see individual scores from the Student Points window. Both areas provide you the insight to appropriately slope grading to apply a fair participation factor to each student.

Reporting to your gradebook:

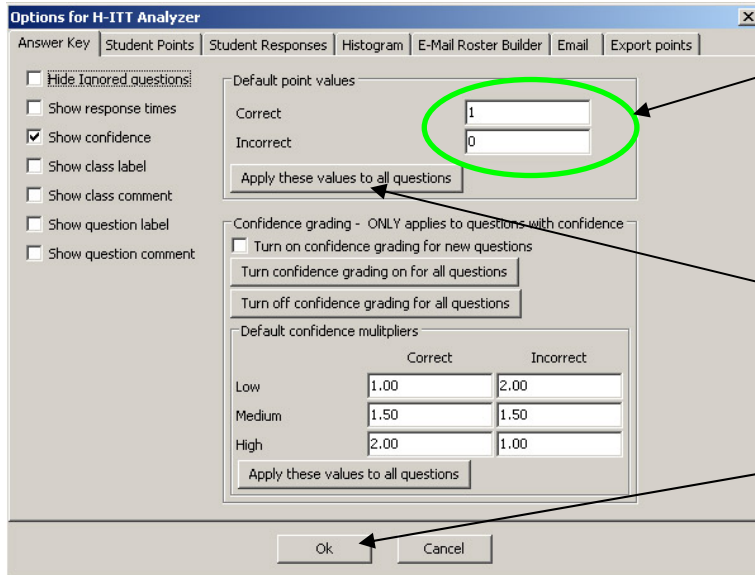
Since participation factors are accumulated, you typically only need to include these a few times a semester. For small classes, manually entering grades may be an easy option or you can export these data to your clipboard or to a text or spreadsheet file, and copy and paste the results into an electronic grade book. In addition the Options>export points pallet lets you set up your grades report export format to match your needs based on how you need to import into your gradebook.

Reporting to your students:

In many institutions it is required that you keep students informed of their grades on a regular basis. H-ITT provides a simple way to do this. If the students have Email, then include their email address in the roster. Then with a few mouse clicks you can send each student their individual, up-to-date H-ITT scores using the Email pull down menu.

Percentage based grading:

For accurate percentage grades, change the global points values to 1 point for a correct answer, and 0 points for or an incorrect (or no) answer from the Options>Answer Key pull down menu.



Enter the points values:

1 point for a correct answer
 0 for an incorrect or no answer

Click on Apply these values to all questions

Click OK

Now every question is worth 1 point, so if you ask 10 questions, and a student gets 9 correct, the grade will be 90%, and is shown in the Student Points window as both a decimal and in percentage form.

Reporting grades by percentages typically implies that you want to grade a single class file that you gave as a quiz or test for in Acquisition. To grade this class file: For CRS V2 Analyzer (ver 2.0.5 or greater) Click the GRADE button to un-grade all the class files except the one that you want to report. For Previous versions of CRS, remove all other class files from the Answer key window with the X button. Now the only data set that shows up in the Student Points window is the specific class that you want to grade. The grades for each student are shown in the "Total Points" section under the Percent or Fraction columns.

Percentage based reporting:

You have several options to get these grades in your grade book. Your first choice would be put these in your grade book as you normally do. You can enter them manually by referencing the Student Points window, or if your grade book can accept a paste or import function, export to a file or clipboard and copy-paste from these. You may also set up the columns and information for direct import to your gradebook where applicable.

The Analyzer provides several tools to set up the grades report information the way you want.

From the Options>Export Points pallet you can select what information and which columns you want to export.

You can align the order of the report to align with your grade book by loading an Order file, which lists the student's names in the order of your gradebook. This makes pasting all student grades in your gradebook simple by column copy and paste.

If your school has a student management system that you can download Blackboard or WebCT files to, then you can generate a formatted file from the Options>Export pallet that can be up loaded to your system.