# Quick Check
## at Indiana University

## Challenge

If you want to assess student learning in a face-to-face classroom, it's pretty easy: Just pose a question and students raise their hands in response. But if the class, the materials, or the learning activities are exclusively online, things get more challenging. While there are plenty of tools for instructors to pose questions in online learning management systems (LMSs) — such as quizzing tools — these traditional online assessment systems tend to raise anxiety, interrupt learning, and restrict feedback. What's missing was a flexible tool for low-stakes formative assessment, where an instructor could embed assessments inline with course content, give students detailed item-level feedback, and get immediate insights about student learning.

## Quick Check is a sophisticated, flexible, inline formative assessment platform.

Quick Check makes it easy for instructors from all disciplines to embed formative assessments into online course sites, with a range of question formats. Quick Check is seamlessly integrated with the LMS, performs grade passback through LTI, and also logs advanced analytics about student progress and behavior. At Indiana University, instructors create and edit question sets (distributable across multiple course sites), and deploy these assessments as external tool assignments, which can include learning materials directly in the assignment instructions. Students can complete the assessments as many times as they want, and Quick Check will only submit to the gradebook the highest earned grade before the assignment deadline. As students complete their work, Quick Check populates analytical dashboards displaying student- and assessment-level insights into learning comprehension and performance.

## Learning Impact Outcomes

At Indiana University, more than 1,500 classes and 45,000 students have used Quick Check since its launch in 2016. By embedding opportunities for student responses inline with course materials, all these classes and students have benefited from a more active learning experience. Research has repeatedly demonstrated active learning, primarily through formative assessments, has massive benefits for learning outcomes, course performance, and student success. Moreover, low-stakes assessments can drive motivation with learners in complex disciplines. And while the primary peril of low-stakes assessment is that it may lead to reduced effort during learning activities, Quick Check has a rate-limiting feature (provisioning time delays for rapid repeated attempts) that actively mitigates this risk. Thus,

Quick Check not only provides a service for improving learning outcomes and student success at an institutional scale, it also helps facilitate students getting the most out of the service.

## Return on Investment

We built Quick Check at Indiana University after an lengthy search found no tool that could flexibly implement low-stakes formative assessments within online course materials. As IU continues to increase the number of courses offered online, this investment has paid massive dividends — for we now have a sophisticated platform that enables instructors to easily turn any assigned reading, video, reflection, or study guide into an active learning experience.