

How to set up a short answer quiz in Brightspace using regular expressions

If you want to set up a quiz in Brightspace which should allow an answer that can vary slightly in formatting, you can use regular expressions. Example: The following regular expression



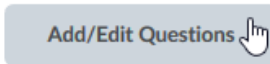
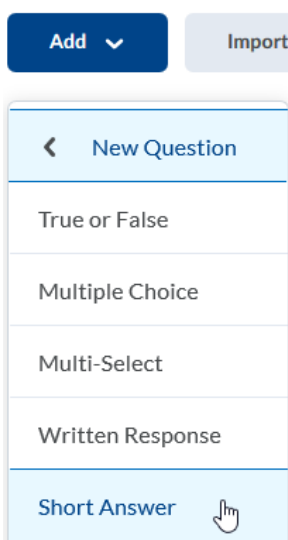
```
(\s*singleVal\s*=\s*matrixA\s*[(\s*3\s*[,\s*2\s*[])]\s*(;?)\s*)
```

will evaluate to True for all of the following strings (and many more):

- `singleVal = matrixA(3,2);`
- `singleVal=matrixA(3,2);`
- `singleVal = matrixA (3 , 2) ;`
- `singleVal = matrixA(3,2)`

Hint: If you are constructing a regular expression and you would like to test if it works for a particular answer choice, the following website will do exactly that for you: <https://regex101.com/>. To test multiple answer choices at once, put them onto different lines.

Here is how we set this up in Brightspace:

1.	Go into the Brightspace course.	
2.		Click onto the quiz where you would like to use a regular expression for the answer (or, create a new quiz first).
3.		Click onto "Quiz Setup".
4.		Click onto "Add/Edit Questions".
5.		Click onto "Add", then select "New Question" and click onto "Short Answer".

<p>6.</p>	<p>Question Text *</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p>5.9 4.3 7.3 7.3 6.2</p> <p>4.8 2.3 9.5 6.0 11.7</p> <p>6.6 8.9 8.0 8.0 13.0</p> </div> <p>Type the command needed to assign the highlighted value from <code>matrixA</code> to a variable named <code>singleVal</code> using array indexing.</p> <p>Answers for Blank 1 *</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p>abc (\s*singleVal\s*=\s*matrixA\s*[(]\s*2\s*[,\s]*3\s*[)]\s*(?:\s*)</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;"> <p>Text</p> <p>Case-Sensitive Text</p> <p style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 2px;">Regular Expression </p> </div>	<p>Fill in the question text and put the regular expression into the answer field.</p> <p>It is important that you set the format of the answer to "Regular Expression", otherwise it will not evaluate the regular expression. Instead, it would look for an exact match (and you probably don't require the regular expression itself as the answer).</p>
<p>7.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid #007bff; background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px 15px; display: inline-block;"> Save </div>	<p>Hit "Save".</p>