Summer Internship 2009

@ LearningMate

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Agenda

- Brief about LearningMate
- Work and Responsibilities
- Learning from the Organization
- My Experience

About LearningMate

- E Learning firm
- Founded by a team of experienced eLearning practitioners at its helm.
- CEO: Samudra Sen.
- Provides e-learning solutions globally for the past 8 years
- Clients like BlackBoard, WebCT, Pearson etc.

Why this firm?

- E- learning as a domain had attracted me
- Industrial exposure
- Work offered

Work and Responsibilities

Projects

- LearningMate Learning eXchange
- LearningMate QuAD





LX QuAD

Work and Responsibilities

Initial challenges

- LMS, VLE, SCORM ???
- How E- learning industry works?
- Target users
- Existing Competitive products in Market BlackBoard, Angel, WebCT etc



Why A Usability Test for LX and QuAD?

- Unique Target Audience
- Designers are not users.
- Many functions provided

Usability Tests Conducted

LX

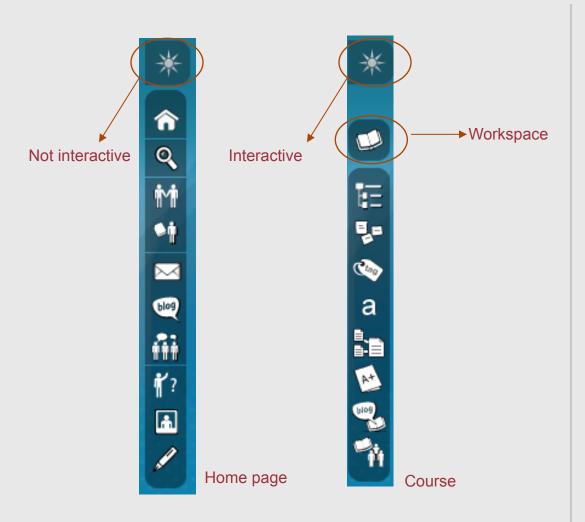
- Heuristic Evaluation
- Think Aloud

QuAD

Heuristic Evaluation



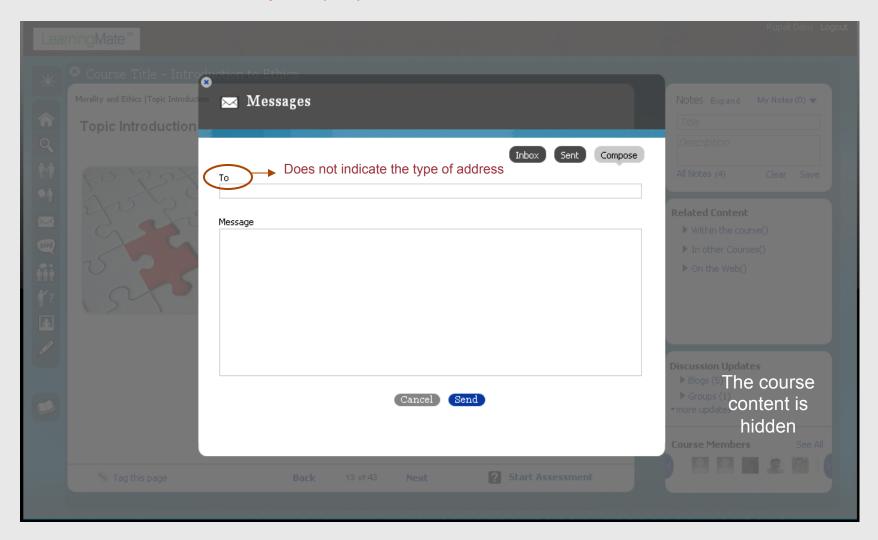
Heuristic Results Examples (LX)







Heuristic Results Examples (LX)



Think Aloud

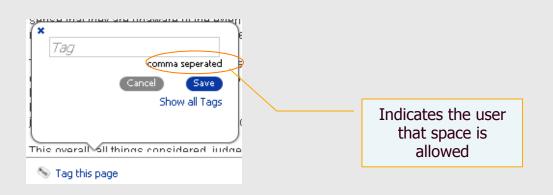
- Users were recruited by means of a Screener
- A protocol was created which contained a set of tasks for he test users
- 6 Users.
- 3 Novice
- 3 Advanced Beginners
- Analysis
- Design Solutions



Think Aloud Results Examples (LX)

Few Results of Heuristic Evaluation were confirmed by the users during the Think Aloud Test.

- Sun symbol is not interactive
- Close Button on Left is uncomfortable
- TOC issues Automatic Closing, Expand / Collapse
- Change of toolbox unnoticed
- To: field in message is not intuitive
- Etc...





Conclusion – LX

Positives

- Exploration Possible
- Good for Advanced Beginners
- Many features provided
- Layout

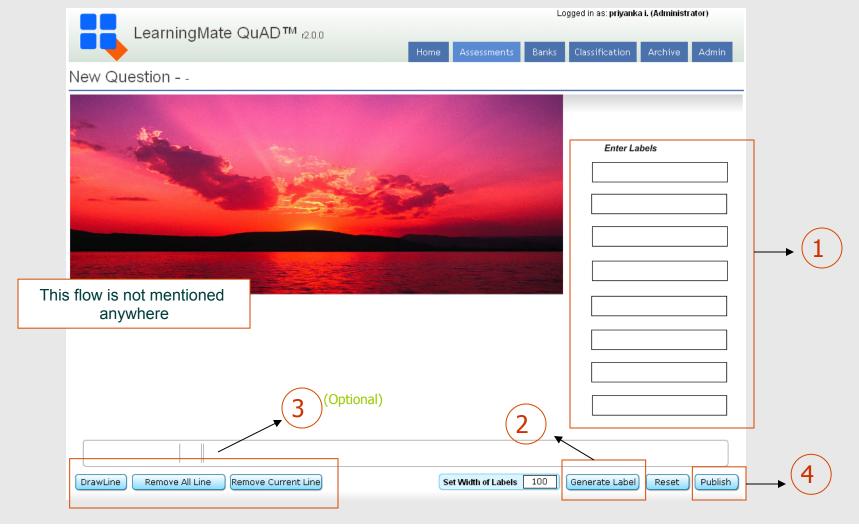
Negatives

- Contradicts the Usability slogan –"Less is More"
- Less Intuitive specially "Blogs" and "Groups"
- User requires to remember the navigation
- No guidelines for first time users



Heuristic Evaluation Results Examples

Label the Diagram - steps



Conclusion - QuAD

- QuAD usable in terms of functionalities
- Usability at finer level needed :
 - "Grouping Information",
 - "Missing Links",
 - "Instructional Text"

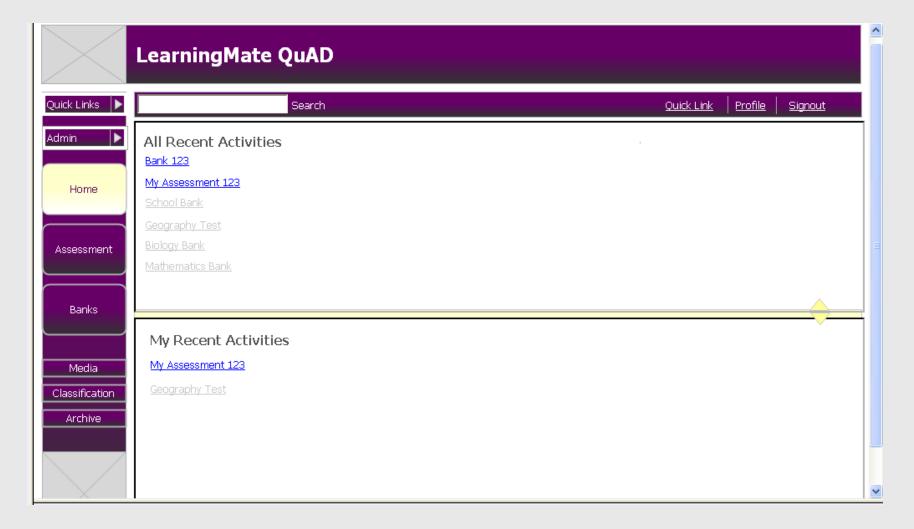


New layout proposed

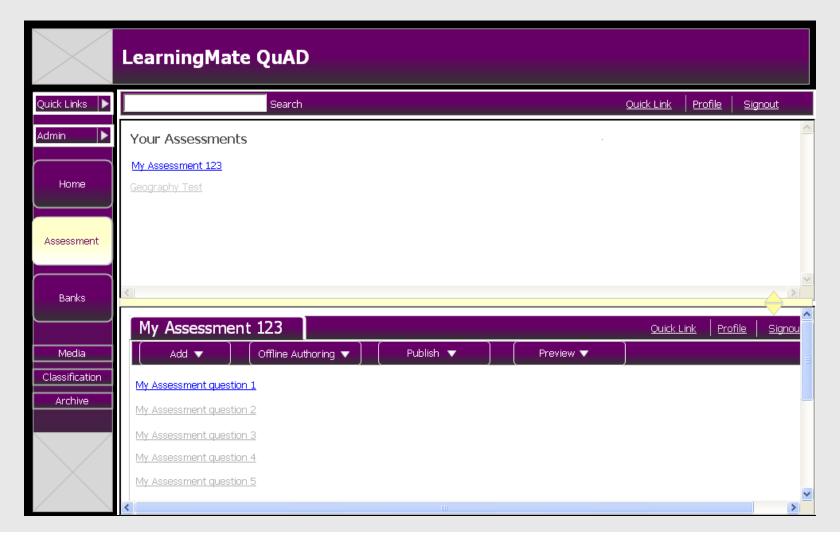
A new layout for QuAD is proposed based on the following

- Heuristic Results
- Navigation problems
- Missing Links

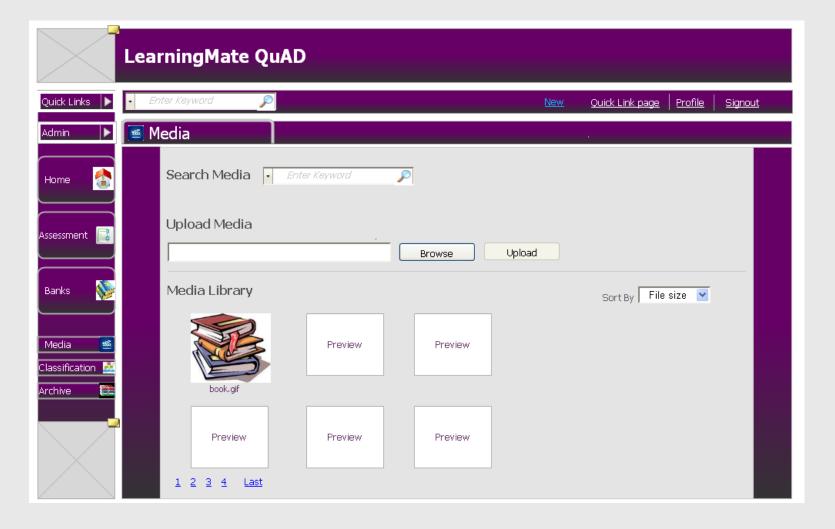
New layout - Screenshots



New layout - Screenshots



New layout - Screenshots



New Layout Benefits over the old

- An upfront access to all the functions that QuAD supports.
- Preview on the same screen
- Bookmarking
- Proper grouping of Information
- Provision of instructional text
- Consideration for First time Users
- Changes in the Media Screen
- Global Search
- Missing Links rectified

Learning from the Organization

- Organizational Culture
- An experience in the field of e-Learning
- Significance of Team Work
- Respect for other's viewpoints
- Practical application of my work

My Experience

- A Learning Experience
- A Fun experience Excellent Work Culture
- Icing on the top warm people
- Helped me realize my strengths and weaknesses



I take this opportunity to thank everyone @ LearningMate and all at IDC, for helping me and making my experience a memorable one.....

Thank You!