

Run an Item Analysis

Overview

This tutorial will show you how to run an **Item Analysis**. After deploying a Test, you can run an Item Analysis to examine Test data and determine your questions' reliability and validity. The Item Analysis can help you identify questions that many students found difficult, perhaps due to poor wording or inadequate coverage, making it a useful tool when grading.

Quick Steps

Control Panel > Grade Center > Contextual Menu > Item Analysis > Run > Available Analysis

Step 1

To perform an Item Analysis, you will need to locate the Test you would like to analyze. The Test must be deployed, and there must be student responses to the Test; otherwise, the Item Analysis will have no data to compile.

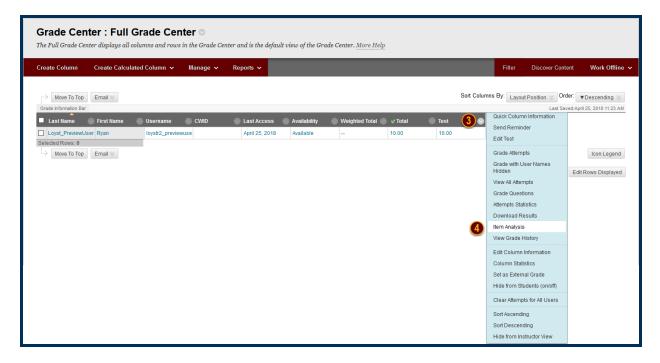
There are three ways to access the Item Analysis option for a Test:

Option 1

One way requires opening the Full Grade Center. The Full Grade Center can be found in the *Course Management* navigation pane beneath the *Control Panel* section. Click on *Grade Center* [1], and then click on the "Full Grade Center" option [2].



Next, locate the desired Test's column in the Grade Center and click on the grey, drop-down arrow that follows the Test's title to open the Item Options menu [3]. Then, select the "Item Analysis" option [4].

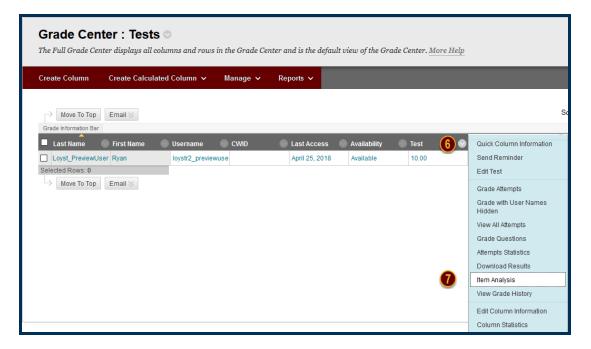


Option 2

An alternative approach is to access the Tests Grade Center. This option is helpful if you have many assignments and have trouble locating the Test you wish to analyze. In the *Course Management* navigation pane, beneath the *Control Panel* section, click on *Grade Center*. Now, click on the "Tests" option [5].

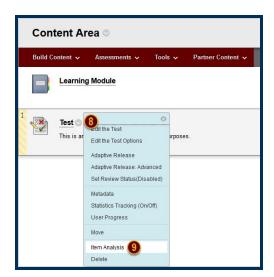


Locate the desired Test's column in the Grade Center and click on the grey, drop-down arrow that follows the Test's title to open the Item Options menu [6]. Then, select the "Item Analysis" option [7].



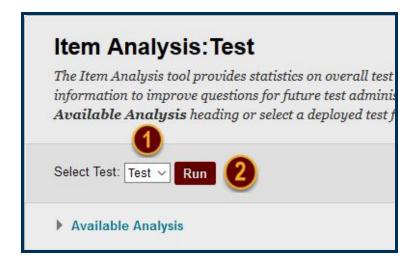
Option 3

A third alternative is to find the Test you wish to analyze by navigating to its location within a Content Area or Learning Module. Once you have located the Test, click on the grey, drop-down arrow that follows the Test's title to open the Item Options menu [8]. Then, select the "Item Analysis" option [9].



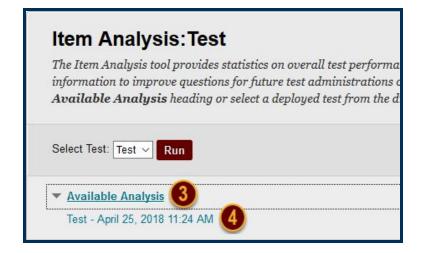
Step 2

The Item Analysis:Test page should appear on your screen. Use the drop-down list that follows the Select Test field [1] to choose the Test you will analyze, and then click the *Run* button [2].



Step 3

When the Item Analysis is complete, the report will appear under the *Available Analysis* section. You may need to click on *Available Analysis* to expand the section [3]. The report will be listed with the Test's title, the date the report was run, and the time it was created [4].





Running an Item Analysis can take some time, especially for long Tests or for large sections of a course. If the Item Analysis does not appear right away, don't worry! You will receive an email when the report is complete [5].



Step 4

When viewing the Item Analysis, you will notice that many new statistics have become available.

The *Test Summary* [6] lists the Test's data, including possible points, possible questions, in progress attempts, average score, and average time spent taking the Test. The *Discrimination* table [7] lists questions that Blackboard has deemed good, fair, or poor, and the *Difficulty* table [8] lists questions that Blackboard considers easy, medium, or hard, based upon student responses.

For a more detailed analysis, you can use the *Filter Questions* [9] grid to examine questions in greater depth, and the Legend will guide you on identifying questions that may need additional review.

