

MOOC: Video experience and user controls

What is the aim of the video session?

My first thought is to transfer knowledge from the course coordinator and or trainer to the course attendee.

After viewing the SQL Fundamentals videos I feel I have to comment on the following:

1. The content sometimes transitions to the next page without providing adequate time for the attendee to absorb the material.
2. Links are referred to on some page views and that is it, it is left up in the air.
3. Audio levels are sometimes too soft and the system volumes are maxed out in an attempt to hear what the trainer is trying to say.
4. Homework questions do not provide clues as to what the course coordinator has in mind. e.g the expected outcome/output layout.
5. Quiz pages contain a lot of information and obviously need to.

I feel courses like these are very useful not only to beginners, intermediate levels but also serves to remind the experienced of what they have forgotten. The pace of change in technology is accelerating and even the experienced are humbled by the fact that one must start somewhere to keep up-to-date.

Possible improvements:

1. Allow the candidate to dictate the pace at which they want to move from one page to another. The video should play the audio for a page then stop and display a link to page over to the next page etc.
2. The video reference material must be available to all candidates. Empty references lead to nowhere!
3. Audio Quality and sound levels should be uniform across all videos. One should not have to set the PC sound system above 50%. I had to turn the PC to 100% and the amplifier to the same and on one particular video I struggled to hear properly. No I don't have hearing aids but one must take into account that from end to end across the net data losses will occur.
4. Provide either clues or sample output layouts as a clue on Homework assignments.
5. It is a pity that the Quiz page could not have two sections, one with the table layouts or views and the outcome. and another section that is scroll-able with the remainder of the details.