Transparent approaches to Assessment and Feedback

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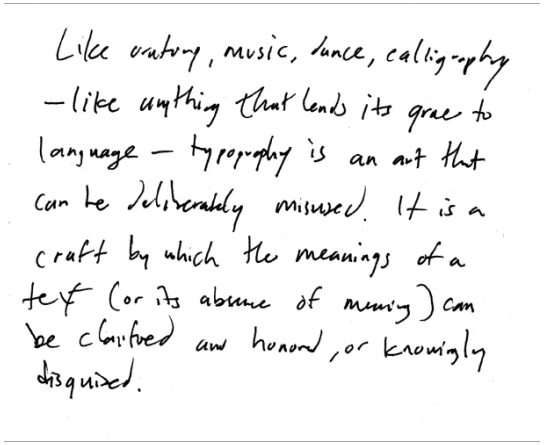
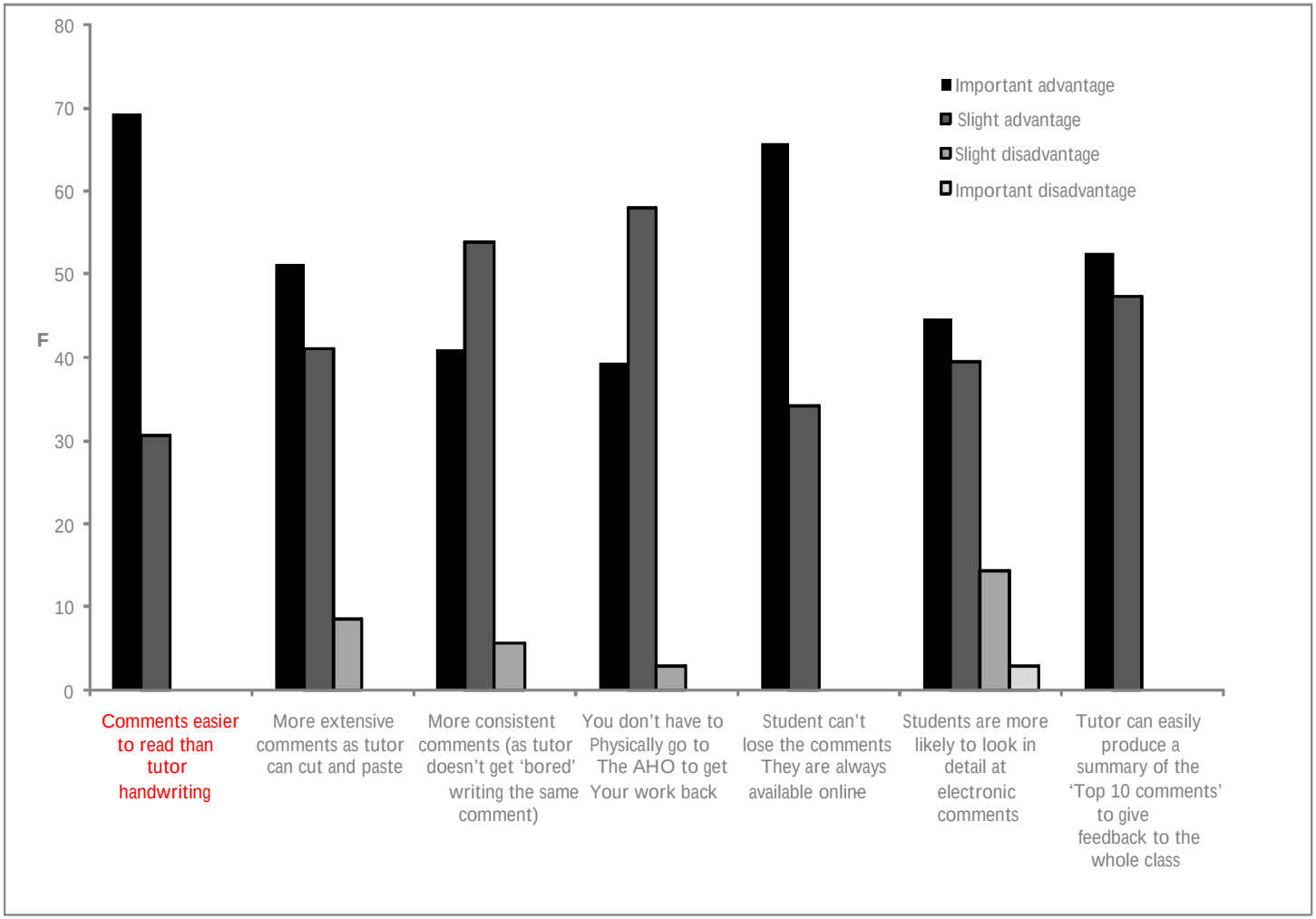
Is the assignment brief clear?

Title, task, contribution to overall grade, relationship of task to unit, guidance on completing the task...

Handwriting and legibility


Like oratory, music, dance, calligraphy
— like anything that lends its grace to
language — typography is an art that
can be deliberately misused. It is a
craft by which the meanings of a
text (or its absence of meaning) can
be clarified and honored, or knowingly
disguised.

...ours!


80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
F
Important advantage
Slight advantage
Slight disadvantage
Important disadvantage
Comments easier to read than tutor handwriting
More extensive comments as tutor can cut and paste
More consistent comments (as tutor doesn't get 'bored' writing the same comment)
You don't have to Physically go to The AHO to get Your work back
Student can't lose the comments They are always available online
Students are more likely to look in detail at electronic comments
Tutor can easily produce a summary of the 'Top 10 comments' to give feedback to the whole class

Inclusion of assessment criteria

...enables flagging of areas where this happens- by the student

Is the language register appropriate?

...the ambient sausage roll

Details of support and guidance available to the student

...writing support, library support, technical support...

Word limit

- consistency across modules, units, courses or programmes

Time limit

...and what happens if you don’t make it – non completion and the HEFCE penalties

Opportunities for self assessment

...and the ability of students to talk themselves out of a good grade!

Where and how is the work submitted?

...are arrangements clear, can systems handle the requirements of the submission?

Timely feedback

...what is useful and appropriate?

Deadline and date for the return of assessed work

...a very scary chart

What form will feedback take?

...lecture, pod cast, written, group, audio, text...

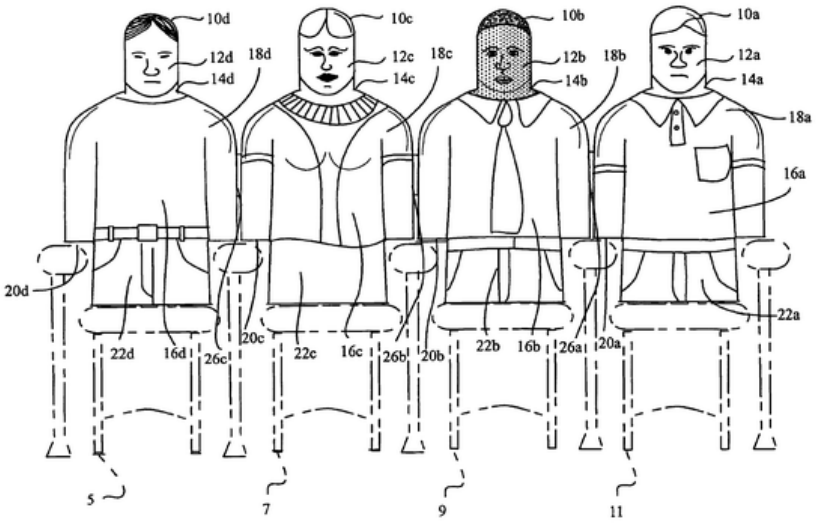
Badging feedback

Recognising feedback as feedback

Is feedback the right word?

...feed forward

Dealing with large numbers

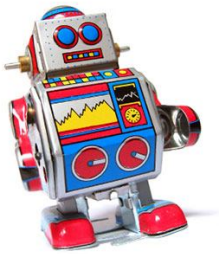


Feedback on work in progress

...draft assignments, interim assessment, critiques, feedback lectures...

stop, start, continue...

For discussion...



How do we move our students away from the focus on the grade to a focus on feedback?

For discussion...

How can we be sure that students understand and believe that feedback can improve their work?

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