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Flip vs. Moodle's Video Assessment Tool for Performance Practice and Assessment

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Flip is a mobile phone application that for many years was an easy-to-use way for students to exchange and comment on self-made videos. It was a powerful tool for self and peer assessment, which benefits student learning. However, in 2018, Flip was sold to Microsoft, lost many educational features, and eventually discontinued. This unfortunate commercial change drove a switch to an open-source Moodle tool, called 'Video Assessment Module', which excels at adding rubric assessment for self, peers, and teachers to video recordings of performances. Video assessment in Moodle has matured so that server load can be managed, even with large classes of students uploading videos from mobile phones using university WiFi.

In this report, Flip and Moodle's Video Assessment Module (VAM) were used as speaking activity replacements in an on-demand EFL course in the 2024-25 school year. Mixed methods research found that students were generally satisfied with the course, but some issues were identified by the researchers and the participants. The biggest issue with the on-demand course was that Flip abruptly lost support and so Moodle's VAM Tool was implemented for the remainder of the semester. The two speaking tools will be compared in this presentation, along with a critical perspective on speaking assessment without video recordings.

With these perspectives, the developers of the Video Assessment Module aim to completely rebuild the user interface so that video recordings in class of speaking practice or formal presentations can be easy-to-use, adopting some principles of the former Flipgrid application.

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