

PROPOSAL FOR A ROLE TECH REVIEW OF H5P

My review of H5P would provide a detailed explanation of what it is and what it can do, the nuanced examination of the differences between H5P.com and H5P.org and how each might be useful for a writing center, and a critical assessment of its accessibility and privacy features. I would then describe a selection of the eLearning objects that writing center staff might be particularly interested in and provide suggestions for implementation in tutor education courses/professional development modules and OWLs/OWCs. Ideally, I would also provide a screencast component to the review and/or a demo of a customized H5P eLearning item. H5P offers a way for writing centers to include pedagogically sound, customizable interactive content that can engage students and peer tutors alike. The fact that it is less expensive and more user-friendly than many similar programs makes it even more appealing for use by individuals who are not expert instructional designers but want some interactive content to keep their writing center resources and trainings fresh and exciting.

H5P is a program for creating interactive eLearning content, with dozens of options that include quizzes, interactive lessons, and games. According to their website, “H5P empowers everyone to create rich and interactive web experiences more efficiently - all you need is a web browser and a web site with an H5P plugin” (H5P.org). For writing centers looking to provide interactive elements to their resources or training materials, H5P offers exciting opportunities. The variety of eLearning content that can be created through H5P is impressive, and it could be useful for writing centers both for developing online professional development/training

modules for tutor education and for creating interactive content for students using an Online Writing Lab (OWL) or Online Writing Center (OWC). For example, one of H5P's newest features is a branching scenario that presents a scenario step-by-step, allowing the viewer to make decisions at various points and responding with different outcomes based on each decision. That could potentially be used to help new tutors think through the questions that might come up during a tutoring session before they meet with their first tutee.

There are two versions of H5P: the open source, free H5P.org that requires users to host their own content and the premium, fee-based H5P.com that provides all of the support and hosting a customer could need. The free version of H5P is considered the testing version of the paid version, so while they are almost identical, H5P.org will often have features that are still in beta form and have not be released on H5P.com yet. Additionally, H5P.org does not allow the users to keep content private, so it is a better option for getting familiar with the app and deciding if it would be a good solution before deciding to invest in H5P.com, unless privacy is not a concern. For example, if a writing center wanted to make interactive mini lessons for their OWL, and were not concerned who could access it since it would already be publicly available, H5P.org could work. Conversely, if the writing center wanted a private, unsearchable option for training materials, they would want to use H5P.com.

References

H5P. (n.d.) H5P.org. <https://h5p.org/>