Comparison Inspera vs Canvas

Key considerations		Inspera	Canvas Quiz / Assessment			
General student experience						
Access to the exam	Accessing the exam	Students will sign on through Canvas with single sign on to access Inspera.	Students will log into Canvas and access.			
	Need to download / test software	Safe Exam browser needs to be downloaded if a student is using their own device. Noting offshore/remote students will not be using safe exam browser.	Not required.			
General exam question / answer upload and download	Ability for student to download an editable PDF/word doc and then upload completed exam	No – Questions are loaded and completed in Inspera.	Yes – Noting that some students had issues uploading in Semester 2.			
	Ability to upload files	Yes – Multiple uploads are allowed. Answers can be uploaded against a specific question.	Yes one upload only – One upload is allowed so students will need to collate into one combined file before uploading.			
	Uploads will continue after exam end	Yes - Uploads can continue after the exam end time as long as the upload was started before the end time.	No - Canvas will cut off the upload and students will be required to submit late through an alternative process.			
Accessibility	Ability to enlarge text	Yes – Students able to enable this themselves.	No - Text can be Zoomed in with Chrome.			
	Access to spell-check	Yes – Spell check is an option that can be set up on any exam.	No - Spell-check can be enabled in Chrome or if students have Grammarly.			
Special conditions	Additional time for individual students	Yes	Yes			
	Text to speech	Yes	Yes			
	Screen contrast	Yes	Yes			
Timers and exam times	Allowance for extra time for selected students	Yes	Yes			

	Countdown clock	Yes	Yes – In Canvas quiz only.
	Late submission window	Yes	Yes – But the layout does make this slightly confusing for students.
Exam start experience	Prescheduling of publishing	Yes - Publishing takes place automatically as per scheduled times, so a preset experience could be communicated to students.	Yes – The transfer and publishing process is done 1-2 days before to limit visibility of the exam to staff in the course.
Requirement for being online and saving	Only required to be online to access the exam and submit	Yes	Yes
	Exam saves automatically	Yes – Every 7 seconds and will save locally if you are offline. An encrypted version can also be saved locally.	Yes with Canvas quiz – Every 7 seconds and will save locally if you are offline.
Exam scripts	Access to students completed exam script	Yes - Students can log directly into their Inspera dashboard.	Yes - Students can view their exam in Canvas once graded.
Compatibility	What devices can students use	Recommended browser is Chrome.	Recommended browser is Chrome.
		Students can BYOD or use university computer. Tablets and Chromebook (iPad or android) cannot be used as safe exam browser can only be installed on laptop.	Computer with stable Internet.
Examiners / Cou	urse coordinators experience – authoria		
Preparing online option	Process for uploading exam and ease of setup	One process if using Inspera for oncampus, offshore and online backup.	Paper based process & canvas online process will need to be completed.
	Multiple exam versions e.g. onshore and offshore versions	Yes - Can create multiple question sets.	Yes - If question bank is used in Quizzes.
	Exporting complete exam scripts	Yes – Can download PDF if wanting to mark offline.	Yes but not easy - Not easy to export exam scripts from Quizzes. But it's easy to export submissions from Canvas assignments.
	Randomising questions and answers	Yes – Although randomization of questions is not recommended due to challenges in exam support.	No

		Randomising answers for multi-choice questions is an option.	
Exam security	Limited access to exams	Yes - The exam author sets up the question sets and the planner will add contributor access to the exam.	Yes – Through setup of shell course can limit access and transfer to live course 1-2 days before and all staff involved in course can view and change.
	Control of changes to confirmed exams	Yes – Only the author can update an exam question and a planner update the exam.	No – Exams are not locked so instructors can change at any time.
Managing misconduct during exam	Locking access to other online material	Yes but will not be in place for offshore/online exams - Safe exam browser locks down access to any other online sites that are not pre-approved.	No - No native lockdown browser.
	Digital invigilation	No - Inspera Remote Exam (Digital invigilation) will not be used for summer school for any exams.	No
Marking / grading	Grading tool options / shared marking	Yes - Inspera grading has the ability to allocate questions to specific graders and has a dashboard to track and manage the overall cycle.	Yes - Can use speed grader or rubric grading by question for multiple markers.
	Making changes to markers	Yes - Changes can be made by the exam author at any time.	
	Auto-marking	Yes - 24 types of questions and 15 of these can be auto marked.	Yes some - Multi-choice can be automarked.
	Ability to use Turnitin	TBC – Inspera has an option to link to Turnitin which is being reviewed and tested by the team.	Yes Canvas Assignment - Turnitin can be enabled for assignments but not for quiz.
	Grades into Canvas	Yes – The planner will import the grades and in future this will be imported automatically.	N/A
Monitoring function	Ability to monitor student test status e.g. online/offline/submitted	Yes	Yes for canvas quiz only

	Announcements	Yes – Messages to group or individuals are available and will pop onto the students screen in the context of the exam.	Limited – Announcements are only at course level and do not pop up on the students screen.
Support of speci	ific exam types		
Text based exams	Ability to format text and easily make changes to text answers	Yes - Some toolbar options available and students could complete in word and paste if this is a preference.	Yes - Text can be formatted in Rich Content Editor (RCE). Or students have the option to complete and paste from word.
	Options for viewing supporting text / questions e.g. download / split screen	Yes - Can download but a split screen is recommended for student experience. There are options of on top or beside and the ability to resize.	Yes - Downloadable PDF can be added to RCE.
	Text box auto-expanding	Yes - Default size will be set and the text box will auto-expand as student types.	Yes Canvas quiz – Text box will expand.
	Word limits	Yes - Can set hard word count limits for a question which cannot be exceeded. Students will see their word count.	No word limit – A word limit warning can be provided but students can still exceed this.
	Ability to highlight text in the question	Yes – This is a feature the author can set up.	No - No highlighting available.
Foreign language exams	Ability to use foreign language keyboard	Yes – This can be used but safe exam browser could not be enabled.	Yes
Computer science exams	Ability to write code	Yes - There is a question type that will allow answers in a number of programming languages.	
	Ability to incorporate code-runner into the exam	ТВС	
Complex answers e.g. drawing, formulas	Ability to upload drawn answers	Yes – Inspera offers the benefit of multiple file uploads and uploading a file against a specific question.	Yes - By uploading a scanned PDF.
Audio options	Options for exams with listening sections	Yes	Yes - Audio files can be added to RCE.