Student’s self-reflection on feedback: encouraging engagement with markers comments

Dr Briony Pulford & Dr Tessa Webb  
School of Psychology
Module setting

- Year 1 2nd semester prerequisite module: Practical Psychology
- Return dates timed so feedback can be used when writing next assignment
- GTA markers of 1st yr work trained in ‘feed-forward’ comments
The challenge: increasing student engagement with feedback

- Feedback provides information that can be used to improve and enhance performance
- ‘Feedforward’ techniques in feedback produce significant and substantial learning gains (Hounsell et al, 2007)

.......IF students engage with that feedback!
The idea

• Be clear that feedback on an assignment should be used to improve the subsequent assignment
  ➢ Invite students to demonstrate how they’ve engaged with that feedback

• Include this invitation with the standard feedback sheet
  ➢ Demonstrating how previous feedback has been used therefore becomes part of the feedback process for subsequent assignments
The idea cont’d.

- Self reflection on feedback also addresses staff concerns that students do not act on feedback
  - If staff feel feedback is used they will be more encouraged to give good feedback
Feedback Sheet
School of Psychology
First Year Practical Report

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE STUDENT:

Student ID: ____________________

Date submitted: ________________

Module/Practical Number: __PS1004__ 2 / 3

Word Count: (including Appendices & Reference section)

Topic/Lecturer: ____________________

Submission of this work is acknowledged, regulated, and penalties for academic data work electronically via Turnitin by the

Marker's ID number: ________________

Basis of Marking:
A practical report is essentially a report, why this was done (rationale findings mean (in themselves and in the three the mark given reflects the overall star for a poor section). Please see the mark

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE STUDENT:

Using the feedback from your last assignment describe how you used it to improve this new piece of work. You can also add specific comments to your marker here, e.g. "I wasn't sure how to structure an abstract and would appreciate feedback focusing on this aspect".

Self Reflection on feedback from previous assignments:

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE STUDENT:

Using the feedback from your last assignment you can also add specific comments to and would appreciate feedback focusing on the self reflection on feedback from previous assignments.
Evaluation of self-reflection element: student perspective

- MC reviewed all completed self-reflection sections:
  - Indications were students had read feedback
  - Students had engaged with feedback: clear indications that students attempted to use it to improve the subsequent report.
  - Students made use of opportunity to ask marker for comments on specific areas of writing / report
# Self-reflection on Feedback

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE STUDENT:**
Using the feedback from your last assignment describe how you used it to improve this new piece of work. You can also add specific comments to your marker here, e.g. “I wasn’t sure how to structure an abstract and would appreciate feedback focusing on this aspect”.

**Self Reflection on feedback from previous assignments:**

| I tried to tailor my introduction so that it got more specific and lead well into my rationale. |
| I adjusted my methods section as told to in my previous report so the variables and data analysis were more accurate. |
| My references are also in italics—something I forgot last time. |
Self-reflection on Feedback

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Using the feedback from your last assignment describe how you used it to improve this new piece of work. You can also add specific comments to your marker here, e.g. “I wasn’t sure how to structure an abstract and would appreciate feedback focusing on this aspect”.

Self Reflection on feedback from previous assignments:

Have I set out and interpreted the results correctly? And is there anything I could do to improve the data analysis and the discussion? I would appreciate feedback focusing on these aspects, thank you.

Include brief description of what statistics you will use.
Evaluation of self-reflection element: marker perspective

• MC gained feedback from markers
  • Positive step for markers: increased perceived efficacy of role
  • Provided a focus for comments (+ good to know comments made would be used)
  • Reported sense of a ‘conversation’ between marker and student
### Self-reflection on Feedback

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Self Reflection on feedback from previous assignments:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Hypotheses accurate ✓ <strong>VERY CLEAR</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Results section ✓ <strong>EXEMPLARY RESULTS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Writing in a scientific style</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ <strong>MAINTAINED THROUGHOUT USING 3RD PERSON, PAST TENSE</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Moving forward

• Adapt system for online marking

• Increase ‘conversation’ between students and markers
  – Year 1: 1st Coursework submission
  – ‘Self-reflection on assignment’: describe how you used the marking criteria to write your work, also add specific comments to your marker, e.g. ‘I tried to include critical evaluation points so would like comments on how successfully I did this’.

• Currently encourages a ‘linear’ process.
  – Consider patterns across multiple assignments