Comments Block

The *Comments* block is a quick way to obtain feedback from learners about specific sections or activities in a course. In addition, both learners and instructors can comment back and forth directly on a course page being discussed. The text editor toolbar is not displayed, so comments can be posted only in text format; however; their simplicity and availability may work better than discussion forums in some contexts. (Users with an understanding of HTML can insert basic HTML code into posts in the *Comments* block.)

By default, 15 comments are displayed in this block. Instructors can delete comments. The person who posted the comment can also remove his or her own comment.

Exemplar

An example of a *Comments* block is found in the Stage 2/3 Exemplar course. It has been configured to appear on all course pages.
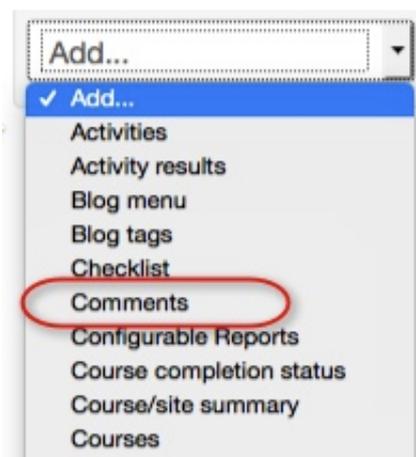
Adding a Comments block to a Course

1. Click the *Turn editing on* button on the course home page.
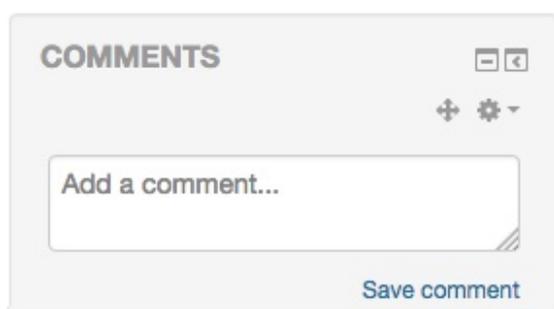

2. Locate the *Add a block* heading and click *Add...* in the drop-down menu.

3. Click *Comments.*

The new block appears at the bottom of the left column.

Configuring the Comments block

The default setting places the *Comments* block on any type of course main page. To place this block on all course pages:

1. Click the *Configure* icon ✳ in the new block.
   The *Configuring a Comments block* page appears.

2. Select *Any course page* in the *Display on page types* drop-down menu.

3. Select *Right* for the in the *Default region* drop-down menu to move the *Comments* block to the right column.

4. The block can be moved up and down the page using the *Default weight* setting. (-10 sets the default to the top of the column; 10 sets it at the bottom.)

5. Click the *Save changes* button.

To move the block to a more specific location, use drag and drop to override these settings.

Using the Comments block

Posting a comment is very simple and it *may* be a suitable way for learners at lower benchmark levels to collaborate in a course. To post a comment:

1. Type a message in the *Add a comment* text box.

2. Click *Save comment.*
   (Clicking the *Delete* icon ✖ will remove the comment.)