| Software | Adobe Captivate | iSpring | Smart Sparrow |
|----------|---|--|--|
| Pros | Can use action scripts to create more interactivity Can integrate quizzing, hot spots, YouTube videos Has the ability to add web objects Works using a timeline so can set durations to actions more precisely Can import PowerPoint slides Can create branching scenarios UNSW has a licence so cost is less Can do screen recordings Can publish to HTML 5 Mobile | Easy to use and learn It is a PowerPoint plug-in Can create quizzing easily Can integrate theBox and YouTube videos Has the ability to add web objects Can publish to HTML5 mobile Can create very simple branching Can record audio and webcam for presentations | Has very strong analytic features Has a web interface so can add collaborators to a project Integrates YouTube videos Can create actions and quizzing Can provide multiple levels of feedback with branched outcomes Is sent out to students via a web link or through Moodle integration Has a good image annotation tool built in |
| Cons | Does not have theBox video integration Hover overs limited to shape objects Action scripting not easy to set up, requires a bit more programing than other software If student doesn't have high speed internet, it can lag and cause viewing issues Files can be very large to upload to Moodle | Don't have as much flexibility over the design (uses PowerPoint Capabilities and pre-designed templates in iSpring Can't do much customization to the quiz layout or formatting Can't create hover over buttons Has had some issues with publishing to Mobile devices Need to be careful with file formatting and name changing not to lose assets folder Does not have the ability to create more complex actions where data is to be remembered Does not work on a timelines so can't time things to exactly how you want it to appear and disappear | Does not have a strong ability to add audio narration Can't easily create hover states to objects or buttons (would need to pay Smart Sparrow or get a programmer to do this) Does not work on a timeline so can't time things to exactly how you want it to appear and disappear Can only hyperlink text, not images Very much a read and click interaction with some video watching Does not integrate Box videos Layout options limited in terms of design elements You must edit all your images before bringing them into the software as only has resizing option Housed on SmartSparrow platform Risk that if SmartSparrow is no longer a company, then will lose all your content |
| Comments | We has issues using Captivate in one of our course projects as when it is in Moodle, sometimes it stalls and cannot open properly. We had a lot of technical issues. We had to create a low res version for it to work on home internet speed. | This is an easy first level software that is often used by Subject Matter experts to develop online content. For an eLearning developer this may be too simplistic as you would want to have more control over the build. | This is great for creating activities and assessment activities where you want to see detailed results |