

Using the SECTIONS Model to Evaluate a Tool – Sam Gennidakis

Tool: Anki (<https://apps.ankiweb.net/>) - intelligent flashcard design and studying

Responses to H5P:

<https://h5p.org/node/100161>

Enter your "Students" response:

Yes. It is downloadable and free and there is both a downloadable program and a web based version. Students are meant to use the software on their own and can download to their own personal devices but can seek support from their professor who is aware of the program and there are multiple guides and tips and tricks sites online to assist. Students must be able to navigate and open menus and settings controls, type in text to create flashcards, use buttons as menus both in creation and self assessment, and can use tools to snapshot images to create new flashcards as needed

Enter your "Ease of Use" response

The technology is stable but has a unique interface and there is a need for students to understand the organization of flashcards into decks but the main controls are in the top part of the screen in the centre which is good for ease of finding. The organization is primarily by decks (with subdecks as desired) of flashcards. Otherwise, there are simple buttons: Add (add decks) Browse (search decks for cards) Statistics (your progress in study) Sync (synchronize your cards to Anki web so you can use on APP). Generally, it is intuitive once you are aware of the menu options and how to enter cards. There are individual settings options for individual decks, and you can customize and share them via export. There are also individual settings to set in relation to learning (how frequent to see a card) and graduated learning (how many days to learn flashcards over). It can be easy to maintain and organize given it's categorized. Students have option for alternate card types and to place pictures and slides from their lecture notes to be associated with the cards being made. They may need to understand a bit of code but there are tool buttons to assist with flashcard design and examples in the manual to assist. Student can upload cards to Anki web which can have them stored on a digital platform and for APP use so they don't loose created cards and they can export cards as needed. There is a manual and videos on how to create and style cards. There are user forums for help and App support pages.

Enter your "Cost" response

It is free to the public and takes time for the student to setup, but students can get started easily once they understand the menus and settings. This is solely an app meant for students for studying purposes, but instructors can help students by using the software and helping to create decks for students if desired to assist but students will retain learning best if they create and review. They can also work in groups of students to design and share the cards which could be helpful and save time if they choose to use group study. There are ANKI web tutorials on YouTube and the manual on the website (<https://docs.ankiweb.net/>) which can help students with the technology and it's available in some other languages as well.

Your Teaching and Pedagogical Considerations response:

Yes...it's a tool to assist students to help with memorization and retention that they can use on their own or work with others. It provides a technology to help with studying and self-assessment as well as preparation for test taking. If it is used appropriately and students build its use into their study schedule and return, it can be a valuable tool for test preparation and retention in a variety of courses. In terms of my use, it would be an introduction of the program as a study tool for students, provide links as resource, and to support as requested or desired. A community can be created for students to share cards but it's best that this occurs amongst the students themselves given the potential for errors in content based on student understanding. Guidance can be

given to student if they seek support on content accuracy.

Your "Interaction" response:

The element of sharing the cards allows for group work and assignment options in support of student preparation. Students can work together to design slide decks based on topics and share them with fellow classmates. In the context of use of this software, it is primarily in relation to student comprehension and skills development and does not require instructor interaction, but an instructor can choose to promote and support the software, incorporate it as a study tool for the class, or in tutorials, or have students work on cards that can be shared.

Your "Organisational Issues" response:

Again, this is a free software and would not require support from the school however, it can be supported by instructors if they choose to use it as assignments/ work for students based on their own learning of the program. Time is allocated in workload for preparation so that time can be used to consider design and incorporation strategies within the curriculum if desired. There are standard LMS platforms and programs typically used in my institution but there is openness and flexibility into the discovery and use of alternate applications. We can always consult with our centre for learning for discussion of utility and concerns.

Your "Networking" response:

The sharing of decks or the ability of students to work together on decks allows for networking and can help encourage group studying and support which can be helpful for knowledge retention and understanding if desired by the student. The program allows for networking opportunities if desired as well. There doesn't appear to be direct social media sharing but students can share cards between each other.

Your Security and Privacy response:

Given these are study flashcards, there is minimal privacy and security issues. The only issue that comes to mind is that students can take pictures of lecture slides and create cards with them and share them publicly so there may be concerns with copyright of institutional material and other educational materials used, so slides should have appropriate referencing in case they are used, or students should be promoted to put referencing on cards if they are sharing. Privacy issues can be discussed with the centre for learning if the program is to be incorporated as an assignment for use. This program can be used universally by students in other courses as well and so it does not need to be limited to my course alone.