
[done] Identifying groups of respondents

Posted by Walter Vos - 2008/04/24 14:48

Hey guys,

I've got a bit of a problem I can't get my head around with Limesurvey. A friend of mine wants to test two different direct mailing letters with some people. She wants one half of the group to read letter 1 and the other half to read letter 2. How can we keep track of who's read what letter and possibly automate the whole process? Please note that the letter needs to be a word or pdf document since it contains formatting.

Is this what token attributes are for? If so, how do I use them. Preferrably I would like the respondents to be able to download the letter from the survey screen and have limesurvey pick the right letter and register what letter the respondents read.:blink:

Any thoughts? Help would be greatly appreciated!:)

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Re:Identifying groups of respondents

Posted by Mazi - 2008/04/24 16:08

The easiest way is to create a survey where you ask "Do you want to be group a or b? Then use conditions (see manual) to direct the users to the questions. The following question should contains somethin like "You have chosen to be in group x. Therefore please download this document because the following question refer to it.

Please read the manual, everything is explained there.

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Re:Identifying groups of respondents

Posted by Walter Vos - 2008/04/24 16:13

Mazi wrote:

The easiest way is to create a survey where you ask "Do you want to be group a or b? Then use conditions (see manual) to direct the users to the questions. The following question should contains somethin like "You have chosen to be in group x. Therefore please download this document because the following question refer to it.

Please read the manual, everything is explained there.

Thanks for your response.

Hmm, that's sort of what I'm looking for. Isn't it possible to do this with token attributes though? (if attribute1 = x: do this, else: do that) We need two groups of equal size and with this method you're never sure beforehand.

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Re:Identifying groups of respondents

Posted by Mazi - 2008/04/24 16:25

As far as I know it is not possible to use conditions on token attributes.

If you have got some coding skills there are several other ways to do this. E.g. you could read out a timestamp and if the actual minute is an even number auto-redirect to group 1, else redirect to group 2.

Otherwise you could create two surveys (creat one completely first, then use export/import to edit the second on). Might even be easier to evaluate the results.

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Re:Identifying groups of respondents

Posted by ITed - 2008/04/24 18:14

You could use quotas to limit how many could choose either option?

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Re:Identifying groups of respondents

Posted by ITEd - 2008/04/24 18:56

You *might* be on to something with your idea of using the token attributes. The manual is very cryptic at this point, but in regard to the 3rd table of token field descriptions it suggests that the token fields could be used "if your survey is NOT anonymous". Try creating one token with ATTRIBUTE_1 value of eg. 'letter1' and one with 'letter2'. Then create a boilerplate question to use that value, eg. "You shall read {TOKEN:ATTRIBUTE_1} before answering the questions". If the placeholder is replaced by the respective ATTRIBUTE_1 values for the two respondents, you may be halfway there.

I'm not much good with Javascript, so I'd test the next step with a variation of the Alternate exit workaround:

In an 'entry filter' survey, I'd try redirecting respondents to letter1 or letter2 surveys depending on the attribute, something like

```
if ("{"TOKEN:ATTRIBUTE_1}" == "letter1")
{
  window.location="http://your.domain/limesurvey/index.php?sid=letter1-sid";
}
```

If that too works (or nearly so, with the value accessible to the script), then you might be able to use the following workaround section for a Custom OnLoad function that does things more elegantly. But I'm out of my depth there - more expert people might have good ideas how to proceed from there.

Regards.

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Re:Identifying groups of respondents

Posted by Mazi - 2008/04/28 09:59

Sounds good!

Walter, if you succeed please post your solution here because it might be very useful for other users.

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Re:[done (?)] Identifying groups of respondents

Posted by Walter Vos - 2008/04/28 13:55

Hey guys,

I'm sorry to disappoint you but I went with the easy way. I could have done something with ITEd's suggestion (great one), but the invitations needed to be sent quickly so I decided 'no'. I simply created two identical (different names) surveys, uploaded the two letters and put a link the invitation e-mail (letter1 for the first group, letter2 for the second). Another solution would be to put the link to the document in the survey description as that gets displayed on the first page of the survey (right?). Thanks for the help guys!

Kind regards,

Walter

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Re:[done (?)] Identifying groups of respondents

Posted by ITEd - 2008/05/06 04:36

Glad you found a way that works - simple is often best.

I just wanted to report that I did a quick and dirty, successful test of the suggestion to use javascript to perform certain actions according to the value of a token field: Token field data IS accessible to scripts in question text via the replaceable field names in the form of {TOKEN:ATTRIBUTE_1}.

So one can evaluate token field data in scripts. Just not in anonymous surveys because then the token is isolated to preserve anonymity.

Regards.

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Re:[done (?)] Identifying groups of respondents

Posted by Mazi - 2008/05/06 09:49

Thanks for your feedback!

Maybe you can add your helpful advice to the workaround section in the manual?!

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Re:[done (?)] Identifying groups of respondents

Posted by ITed - 2008/05/06 19:24

Mazi, my Javascript isn't really up to a good demonstration to solve this very particular and unusual need. It would be more useful IMHO to elaborate the principle in the tokens section of the manual a little, eg.

If your survey is NOT anonymous, the following field names are available to insert token data in survey text and Javascript:

For example, if Attribute 1 contains either 'worker' or 'boss', one could personalise a question:
Hello {TOKEN:FIRSTNAME}, what do you as a {TOKEN:ATTRIBUTE_1} think about your if {TOKEN:ATTRIBUTE_1}='worker' then write 'bosses' else write 'workers'?

In an anonymous survey these field names are not available because the tokens table is dissociated from the survey. (Changes in bold.)

If this is a useful explanation how one might use these fieldnames, then people can come up with all sorts of creative ways to exploit them. What do you think? Feel free to improve ...

Regards.

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Re:[done (?)] Identifying groups of respondents

Posted by Mazi - 2008/05/07 10:49

Sounds great. You are absolutely right: we need some more documentation on tokens and what can be done by using placeholders. Your instructions are great, can you add this to the wiki?!

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Re:[done (?)] Identifying groups of respondents

Posted by ITed - 2008/05/14 20:48

By chance I found that some explanation was in the Adding a Question section of the manual. On the Tokens page I

added a mention of script use and a link to examples in the Adding A Question page (but couldn't figure out how to link to the proper page section), where I added a rough scripting example.

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