Using AI to Build Canvas Quizzes from PDFs

This guide will walk you through the process of taking a PDF file and turning it into a Canvas quiz using AI. The export will always be a **QTI .zip file** that can be imported directly into Canvas.

Step 1. Gather Your Materials

- Save the **unit PDF** you want to use (for example, a CK-12 or textbook chapter).
- Decide what type of quiz you'd like:
    - **Option A:** Only the **review questions** at the end of the unit.
    - **Option B:** A mix of **review questions and extra AI-generated questions** pulled from the content inside the unit.

Step 2. Use the Prompt with AI

When you start a new chat in ChatGPT (or your AI tool), upload the PDF file and paste this prompt:

```
You are an assistant that builds Canvas quizzes.

I am uploading a PDF of a science unit. Please:

1. Read the review questions at the end of the unit.
2. Ask me:
   - Do I want ONLY the review questions turned into quiz items?
   - Or do I also want you to generate new multiple-choice questions (with distractors) from the content in the unit?
3. Convert all questions into a Canvas-compatible QTI 1.2 quiz (.zip).
   - If a question is essay/short answer, rewrite it into a multiple-choice question with one correct answer and 3 plausible distractors.
   - Provide feedback for each item:
   - **Correct** → short confirmation with the key idea.
   - **Incorrect** → short correction with the right concept.
4. Package everything into a valid QTI .zip file that Canvas can import (must include `assessment.xml` and `imsmanifest.xml`).
5. Deliver only the `.zip` file, ready to upload into Canvas. Do not summarize or omit review questions.

The export should always be a QTI file that will upload successfully into Canvas.
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Step 3. Import the Quiz into Canvas

1. In Canvas, open your course.
2. Go to **Settings** → **Import Course Content**.
3. Scroll down to select **QTI .zip file**.
4. Upload the AI-generated `.zip`.
5. Click **Import**.
    - This will create a **Classic Quiz**.

Step 4. Migrate to New Quizzes (MUST DO)

1. Go to the **Quizzes** tab in Canvas.
2. Find the imported Classic Quiz.
3. Click the ⋮ **(three dots)** menu.
4. Choose **Migrate**.
5. A New Quiz copy will be created.

Step 5. Review & Adjust

- Open the quiz and check:
    - Are all questions correct?
    - Do the feedback notes appear?
    - Is the formatting acceptable?
- You can edit inside Canvas to add **Stimulus blocks** or adjust formatting.

Key Notes

- Always upload the unit PDF first so the AI has content to work from.
- The AI can create quizzes with just the review questions OR expand by generating additional content-based questions.
- All exports will be **QTI files** that import cleanly into Canvas.

✅ With this process, you can build Canvas quizzes quickly and consistently for your science units, with automatic feedback built in for students.