



# Preparing students for their research viva: a new approach

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## Why bother?

- Postgrad students perceive the Viva process as a 'black box' – impact on anxiety and nerves.
- Students do not know how to prepare.
- Limited supervisor time and resources.
- Students may not anticipate the broader 'helicopter' questions.

## What Viva offers?

- General over-arching questions
- Flexible and unlimited practice.
- Self and/or peer assessment.
- Onscreen feedback.
- A process for preparation.
- Potential use with supervisors.



## What users think?

- 'saved my life'.
- 'would not have known where to start without it'.
- 'gave me a process to plan my preparation'.
- 'boosted my confidence'.