

## The VLC Badge System

Digital badges are indicators of accomplishment and skill that can be earned in a digital learning environment.

On the Virtual Linguistics Campus (VLC), the following badges are available:

Badge						
Name	No badge	<i>Rookie</i>	<i>Junior</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Expert</i>	<i>Genius</i>
Score (%)	< 60	60 to 69	70 to 79	80 to 89	90 to 99	100

Fig. 1: Badges in VLC Classes (Badge Symbols as Thumbnails)

The VLC Badges are based on the achievements in the Mastery Worksheets of a class, one for each unit.<sup>1</sup> They have two functions:

- a. a class-related function (final)
- b. a unit-related function (momentary)

The class-related final badge exhibits the achievements based on all worksheets submitted on class end and can be used for certification or grading. For example, to pass a pMOOC participants have to reach at least the "Rookie" Stage on class end ("Statement of Accomplishment").

The unit-related momentary badge, by contrast, is a snapshot of a class participant's progress at a particular time. Thus it is not only an indicator of one's own progress but at the same time a measure for the class instructor (on the VLC referred to as 'coach') to find out how well-prepared class participants are at a particular moment in time.<sup>2</sup> Fig. 2 exhibits a snapshot of the Admin-View of a fragment of class.

No.	Total	Badge	Title	Last Name	First Name
...					
10	43% (7/13)		Ms.	Linnemann	Sabine
11	58% (8/13)		Ms.	Müller	Meike
12	None		Mr.	Land	Stefan
13	64% (9/13)		Ms.	Johann	Toni
14	52% (7/13)		Mr.	Klaus	Tom
...					

Fig. 2: Badges – The Admin-View; names anonymized

### Accessing the Badge (Students)

On the class start site, class participants can access their badge-status via the link "My Worksheets" (framed red):

<sup>1</sup> For details about the VLC Mastery Worksheets see references: Video1 [V1] and Handke (2013).

<sup>2</sup> In Inverted Classroom Scenarios, the momentary badge score is among the indicators of the so-called 'Mastery Level', i.e. the individual preparation state prior to an in-class meeting.

Fig. 3: The class start site “Introduction to Linguistics for BA Students of English”

The class shown in Fig. 3 involves 13 content units and thus 13 Mastery Worksheets. The current unit in focus (marked red) is unit 10 (“Pragmatics”), thus, the momentary badge is based on the worksheet scores of units 1 to 9.

A simple click on “My Worksheets” opens an overlay with all personal worksheet submission details.

Worksheet Submissions						
Introduction to Linguistics for BA Students of English - (WT 2018)						
No.	Unit Title	Exercise Name	Passed	Your Score	Highscore	Submission Date
1	Language and Linguistics	Questions about Linguistics	Yes	90 %	100 %	2018-10-17 15:06:56
2	Phonetics - An Overview	Questions about Phonetics	Yes	80 %	100 %	2018-10-23 17:48:42
3	Phonology - An Overview	Questions about Phonology	Yes	100 %	100 %	2018-10-30 18:52:48
4	Basic Concepts in Morphology	Morphological Analysis	Yes	90 %	100 %	2018-11-14 12:37:22
5	Building Words	Determine the Morphological Process!	Yes	100 %	100 %	2018-11-27 22:30:13
6	Approaches Towards Grammar	Grammar	Yes	100 %	100 %	2018-12-02 16:58:25
7	Basic Concepts in Syntax - Form	Determine the Word-Class!	Yes	90 %	100 %	2018-12-02 18:19:07
8	Elements of Clause Structure	Identify the Syntactic Function!	Yes	100 %	100 %	2018-12-07 14:32:01
My Overall Worksheet Score (8 out of 13 done):					58 %	2019-01-05 08:51:55

Fig. 4: Worksheet Submissions (Student-View, name erased)

In the “Worksheet Submissions” overlay, the badge status is shown as a thumbnail in the top right corner. A click on the thumbnail downloads the larger version of the badge ready for printout:

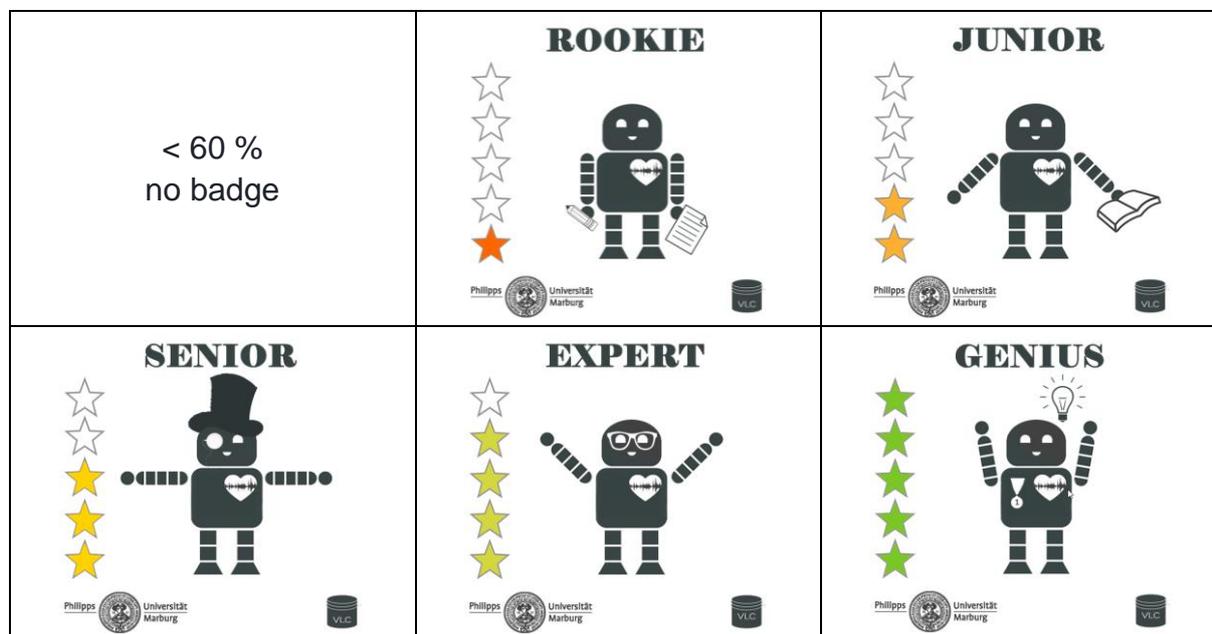


Fig. 5: The VLC Badges for printout (original size 600 x 600 pixels)

### Calculating the Badge Value

The momentary badge status is calculated as follows (see Fig. 4): After nine units, the score of the Mastery Worksheets submitted (column “Your Score” = 750 points) is divided by 900 (the current maximum score), resulting in 83%, i.e. the “Senior” badge state. Note that the student whose results are shown in Fig. 4 has only submitted eight out of possible nine Mastery Worksheets.

The current class percentage (framed red in Fig. 4) is displayed as "My Overall Worksheet Score". Again, it is calculated using the Mastery Worksheets that have been submitted (column “Your Score” = 750 points) but is now divided by the maximum Mastery Worksheet value (here: 1,300 points). The resulting value, i.e. currently 58%, is not meaningful at this point in time but will define the final badge on class end.

### References

V1: E-Assessment on the VLC; 6:27 <https://youtu.be/qtCf0ra6SeU>

V2: Studying Online on the VLC; 8:51 <https://youtu.be/Zxv8cECxEH8>

Handke, Jürgen. 2013. *Beyond a Simple ICM*. In: Jürgen Handke, Natalie Kiesler, Leonie Wiemeyer (Hrsg.). *The Inverted Classroom Model*. Konferenzband zur 2. ICM Fachtagung in Marburg 2013. München: Oldenbourg Verlag: 15-20.