

Essay / Long Answer Question Type

An Essay question is an open-text field used to gather longer open-text responses.

By default, the Essay question does not have a word/character limit. You can determine the response length by setting the maximum number of words or characters that the respondent can input. To learn more check out our [Min/Max Word and Character Count Tutorial](#).

You can also set the width and the height of the Essay input box.

When To Use It

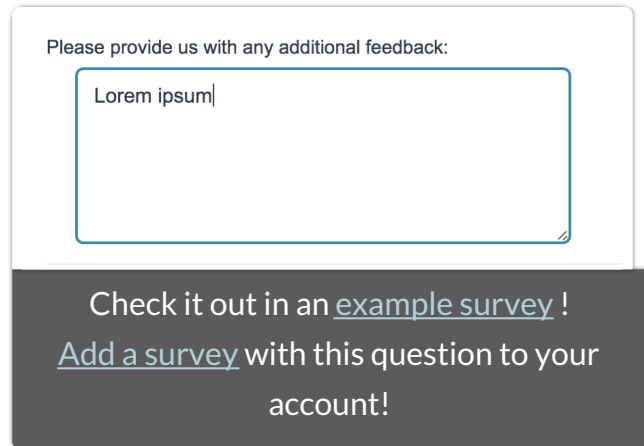
Use Essay Questions to collect a paragraph or two of text. For example, ask respondents to provide additional feedback in their own words. Still not sure which text field to select? Check out our tutorial on [Textboxes vs. Essay](#).

Min/Max Character & Word Counts

Use the **Validation** tab to specify:

- Min & Max *Character* Count*
- Min & Max *Word* Count

*Spaces are counted towards the character count.



Please provide us with any additional feedback:

Lorem ipsum |

Check it out in an [example survey](#) !
[Add a survey](#) with this question to your account!

Open Text

Min Character Count

Max Character Count

Min Word Count

Max Word Count

Adjust Essay Box Size

The Essay question textbox has a default size of 40 x 5 (width x height in pixels). Use the **Layout** tab to adjust the sizing if needed. Input different pixel values or use the up/down arrows to increment the sizing up/down by one.

Sizing

Text Box Width

Text Box Height

Survey Taking

On a desktop and most laptops, the Essay question type looks like so.

Please provide us with any additional feedback:

Lorem ipsum|

When optimized for mobile devices the Essay question type looks very similar.

By default, survey questions show one at a time on mobile devices to prevent the need for scrolling on smaller screens. You can turn off this [one-at-a-time interaction](#) if you wish.

Survey

Please provide us with any additional feedback:

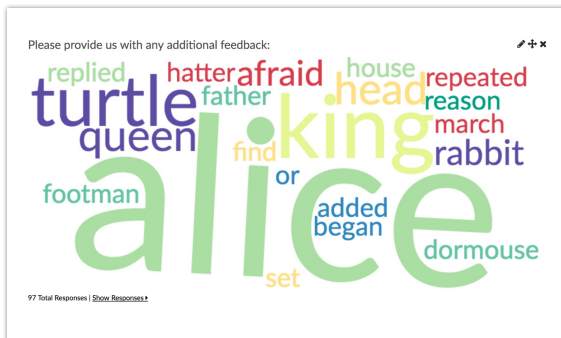
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Reporting

In a Standard Report, Essay questions report as a Word Cloud, by default, with a list of the responses below. In the list of responses the initial display of each response is limited to 1500 characters. There will be a **Read More** link at the end of the 1500 characters available to display the full text.

[Learn about your customization options for the Word Cloud element.](#)



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Exporting

In the CSV/Excel export, the data is displayed in a single column within the spreadsheet.

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