Redmine - Feature #41294

Partial quoting feature for Issues and Forums

2024-09-22 13:00 - Katsuya HIDAKA

Status:	Closed	**Start date:**	
Priority:	Normal	**Due date:**	
Assignee:	Go MAEDA	**% Done:**	0%
Category:	UI	**Estimated time:**	0.00 hour
Target version:	6.0.0		
Resolution:	Fixed		

Description

Background/Purpose

Currently, Redmine allows quoting entire messages in issues and forums. However, it is inconvenient when users want to quote only a portion of a long message

This patch introduces the ability to quote only selected parts of messages, improving usability when handling long texts.

Features

Quoting selected text

- When the user selects the text they want to quote and clicks the quote button, only the selected portion will be inserted into the comment field as a quote. **If no text is selected, the entire message will be quoted, just like the current behavior**.
- If multiple parts of the message are selected (currently supported only in Firefox as of 2024), only the first selected part is quoted.

Preserving original message format in CommonMark Markdown only

- The original message format will be preserved during quoting only if the text format is set to CommonMark Markdown. For other text formats, the message will be quoted as plain text without retaining its original formatting.
- Some formats will not be fully supported:
    - Table formatting will be quoted as plain text.
    - Redmine-specific link formatting will be quoted as standard Markdown links. For example, #12 becomes [#12](/issues/12)

screenshot1-1.png
screenshot1-2.png

Implementation

This feature is implemented as follows.

- When the quote button is pressed, the HTML of the selected text is retrieved and converted into CommonMark Markdown.
- The conversion from HTML to CommonMark Markdown is done using the turndown library (MIT license).
- Use only JavaScript APIs that are widely supported by browsers wherever possible.
- Since turndown does not offer a minified version of its source code, I compressed it using uglify v3.19.3.

```
uglify --compress --mangle --output=app/assets/javascripts/turndown-7.2.0.min.js -- turndown.js
```

Testing

This patch was tested on the Redmine trunk using the following browsers:

- Chrome (macOS, Ubuntu)
- Firefox (macOS, Ubuntu)
- Safari
- MSEdge (macOS)

Additional notes

When reviewing, it will be easier to understand if you check the commits (patches) in order. The commits are split to help clarify how the feature was implemented. Please combine them into one commit when merging this feature.

Screenshots

When using CommonMark Markdown, the original message format is almost preserved:
screenshot2-1.png

screenshot2-2.png
When using Textile, the original message format is not preserved:
screenshot3-1.png

screenshot3-2.png

Related issues:	
Has duplicate Redmine - Feature #23316: Quote issue description selection	**Closed**

Associated revisions

Revision 23107 - 2024-10-09 23:51 - Go MAEDA

Partial quoting feature for Issues and Forums (#41294).

Patch by Katsuya HIDAKA (user:hidakatsuya).

Revision 23162 - 2024-10-26 04:29 - Go MAEDA

Fix tests for the partial quoting feature that randomly fail (#41294).

Patch by Katsuya HIDAKA (user:hidakatsuya).

History

#1 - 2024-09-22 13:02 - Katsuya HIDAKA

- File 0001-Add-system-tests-for-the-current-behavior.patch added

- File 0002-Implement-and-use-JS-function-to-handle-quote-reply.patch added

- File 0003-Add-the-ability-to-quote-partial-text.patch added

- File 0004-Separate-the-quote-reply-implementation-into-quote_reply.js.patch added

- File 0005-Separate-helpers-for-the-quote-reply-into-the-Redmine-QuoteReply.patch added

- File 0006-Separate-the-implementation-for-building-a-quote-into-Redmine-QuoteReply.patch added

- File 0007-Allow-replying-qith-quotes-in-CommonMark-format.patch added

I attached the patch files for this feature.

#2 - 2024-09-22 19:34 - Katsuya HIDAKA

- File 0008-Modified-to-simpler-implementation-and-improved-code-comments.patch added

I have added a patch file to simplify the implementation and improve some code comments.

#3 - 2024-09-23 07:39 - Katsuya HIDAKA

- File Partial-quoting-feature-for-Issues-and-Forums.patch added

To make it easier to try and test this feature in your environment, I have added the patch file that combines all patch files (0001...0008-*.patch).

#4 - 2024-09-28 08:11 - Katsuya HIDAKA

- File screencast-in-commonmark-short.gif added

Below is a short screencast demonstrating the functionality: Text formatting is set to CommonMark Markdown.

screencast-in-commonmark-short.gif
Also, this patch adds new functionality to the existing quote reply feature but does not change its current behavior, so even after this patch is integrated, the current quote reply functionality that quotes the entire message will continue to work as before.

Please let me know your thoughts on this feature. Any feedback is greatly appreciated.

#5 - 2024-10-04 04:00 - Go MAEDA

- Category set to UI

- Target version set to Candidate for next major release

I have been using Redmine for user support for long years, and I have always wanted the ability to partially quote issue descprion or notes. After trying this patch, I found that it works exactly I expected. Additionally, it is especially great when the text formatter is CommonMark Markdown, as the markup is preserved in the quoted text.

Redmine 6.0.0 will introduce several UI improvements such as [#23980](), [#41321](), and [#41298](), and I belive this partial quoting feature would be a great addition to those improvements.

#6 - 2024-10-07 12:07 - Go MAEDA

- Target version changed from Candidate for next major release to 6.0.0

Setting the target version to 6.0.0.

#7 - 2024-10-09 23:52 - Go MAEDA

- Status changed from New to Closed

- Assignee set to Go MAEDA

- Resolution set to Fixed

Committed the patch in [r23107]().
Thank you for your contribution.

#8 - 2024-10-25 13:07 - Katsuya HIDAKA

- File Fixed-tests-for-the-partial-quoting-feature-that-randomly-fail.patch added

I found that some tests for this feature have been failing randomly, so I have attached a patch to fix it. Please review and commit the patch.

#9 - 2024-10-26 04:29 - Go MAEDA

Katsuya HIDAKA wrote in [#note-8]():

> I found that some tests for this feature have been failing randomly, so I have attached a patch to fix it. Please review and commit the patch.

Committed the fix in [r23162](). Thank you.

#10 - 2024-11-25 10:55 - Go MAEDA

- Has duplicate Feature #23316: Quote issue description selection added

Files

screenshot1-1.png	20.9 KB	2024-09-22	Katsuya HIDAKA
screenshot1-2.png	21.9 KB	2024-09-22	Katsuya HIDAKA
screenshot3-2.png	21.9 KB	2024-09-22	Katsuya HIDAKA
screenshot2-2.png	71.3 KB	2024-09-22	Katsuya HIDAKA
screenshot3-1.png	20.8 KB	2024-09-22	Katsuya HIDAKA
screenshot2-1.png	64.5 KB	2024-09-22	Katsuya HIDAKA
0001-Add-system-tests-for-the-current-behavior.patch	4.5 KB	2024-09-22	Katsuya HIDAKA
0002-Implement-and-use-JS-function-to-handle-quote-reply.patch	6.93 KB	2024-09-22	Katsuya HIDAKA
0003-Add-the-ability-to-quote-partial-text.patch	14.3 KB	2024-09-22	Katsuya HIDAKA
0004-Separate-the-quote-reply-implementation-into-quote_reply.js.patch	4.98 KB	2024-09-22	Katsuya HIDAKA
0005-Separate-helpers-for-the-quote-reply-into-the-Redmine-QuoteReply.patch	9.4 KB	2024-09-22	Katsuya HIDAKA
0006-Separate-the-implementation-for-building-a-quote-into-Redmine-QuoteReply.patch	4.94 KB	2024-09-22	Katsuya HIDAKA
0007-Allow-replying-qith-quotes-in-CommonMark-format.patch	32.9 KB	2024-09-22	Katsuya HIDAKA
0008-Modified-to-simpler-implementation-and-improved-code-comments.patch	2.21 KB	2024-09-22	Katsuya HIDAKA
Partial-quoting-feature-for-Issues-and-Forums.patch	47.8 KB	2024-09-23	Katsuya HIDAKA
screencast-in-commonmark-short.gif	580 KB	2024-09-28	Katsuya HIDAKA
Fixed-tests-for-the-partial-quoting-feature-that-randomly-fail.patch	2.39 KB	2024-10-25	Katsuya HIDAKA