

VM Assignment

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OS Install and Setup

Introduction to Computer Systems (ACCA4021)

Temitope Oshodi

05/2026

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2 Introduction

In this assignment, I worked on installing Windows 11 inside Oracle VirtualBox and then setting up the system, so it was properly configured. I followed the steps for creating the virtual machine, choosing the right settings, installing the operating system, and then partitioning the virtual hard drive. After that, I checked the drivers to make sure the network, sound, and display devices were working correctly. I also installed LibreOffice as the required office suite. Throughout the process, I took screenshots to show each stage and to help explain what I did and why I made certain choices. Doing this helped me understand how virtual machines work and why system configuration matters.

3 Part 1 – Installing Windows 11 in VirtualBox

3.1 Creating the Virtual Machine

I started by opening VirtualBox and creating a new virtual machine for Windows 11.

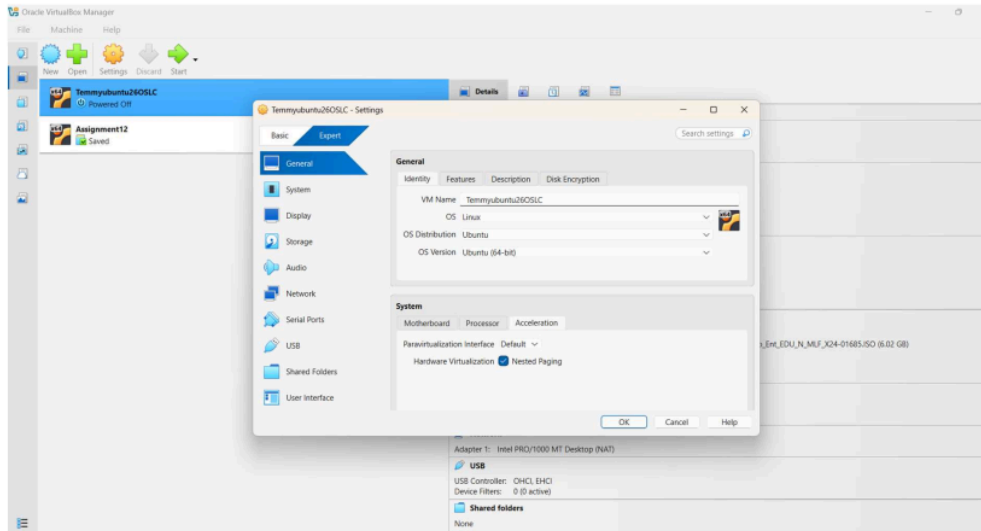


Figure 1: VirtualBox Manager showing my VMs.

I selected the Windows 11 ISO file and named the VM “Windows11” VirtualBox automatically detected the operating system type and version, which made the setup easier. At this point, the VM was created but still needed proper configuration before installation.

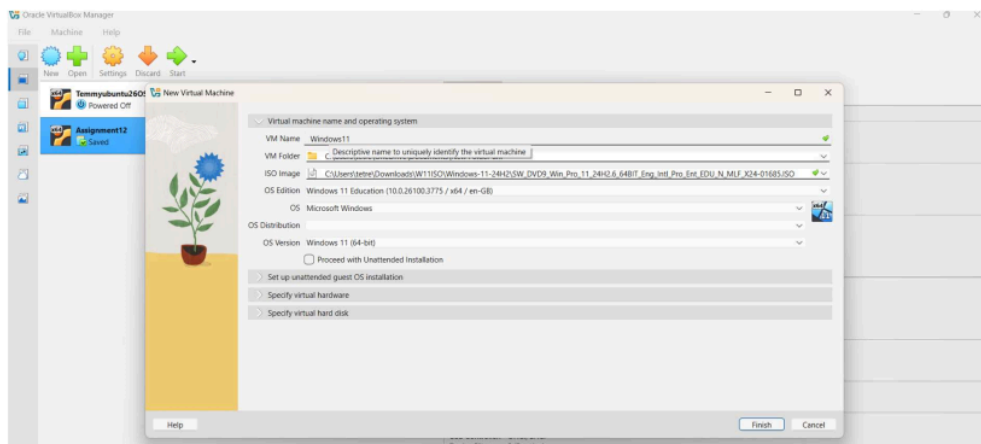


Figure 2: *New VM creation with ISO selected.*

3.2 Choosing the Setup Parameters

For the hardware settings, I set the RAM to **4096 MB** and the CPU to **2 cores**. I chose these values because Windows 11 needs at least 4GB of RAM to run smoothly [2], but I also needed to leave enough memory for my host computer so it wouldn't slow down. Two CPU cores were enough for basic tasks inside the VM without overloading my real system.

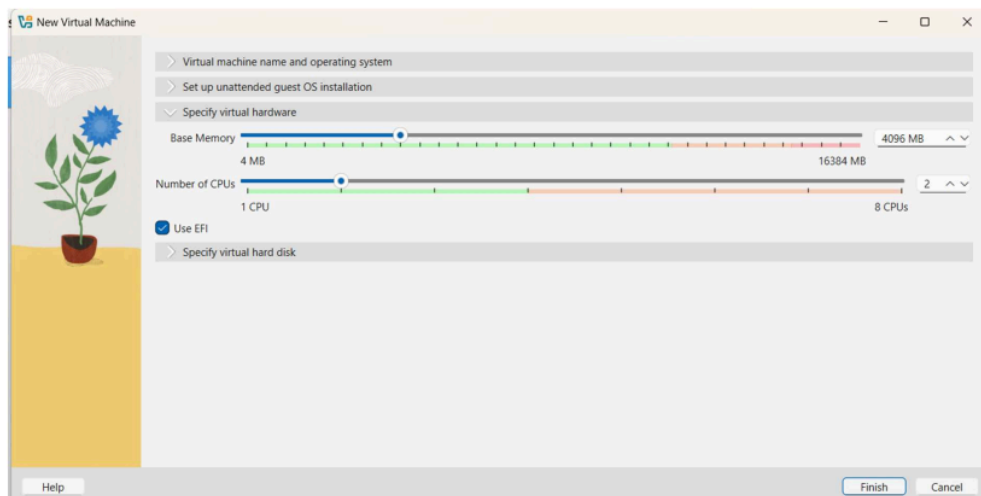


Figure 3: RAM and CPU settings.

For storage, I created a **60GB VDI (VirtualBox Disk Image)**. I kept it as **dynamically allocated**, which means it only uses real disk space as needed instead of taking the full 60GB immediately. This helps save space on the host machine.

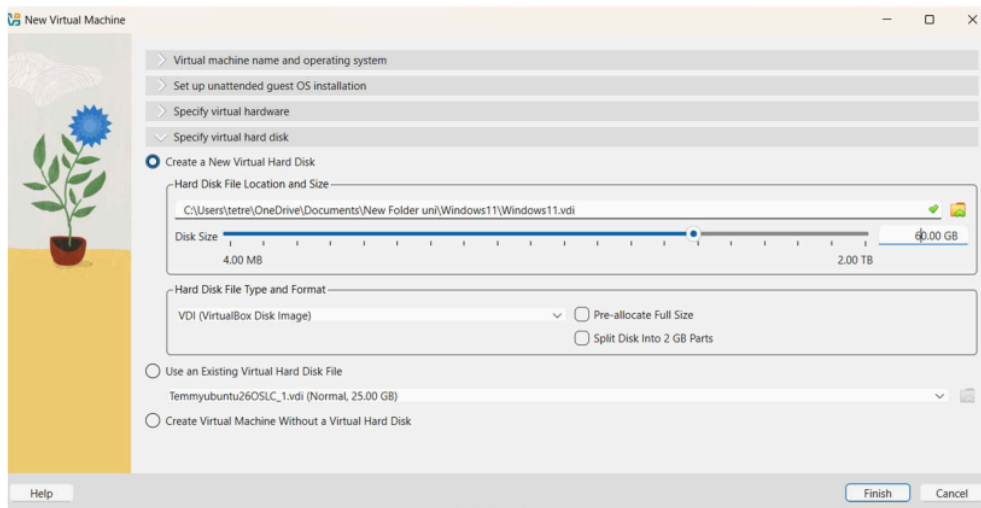


Figure 4: Virtual hard disk creation (60GB VDI).

I also checked the display and storage settings to make sure the ISO was attached correctly.

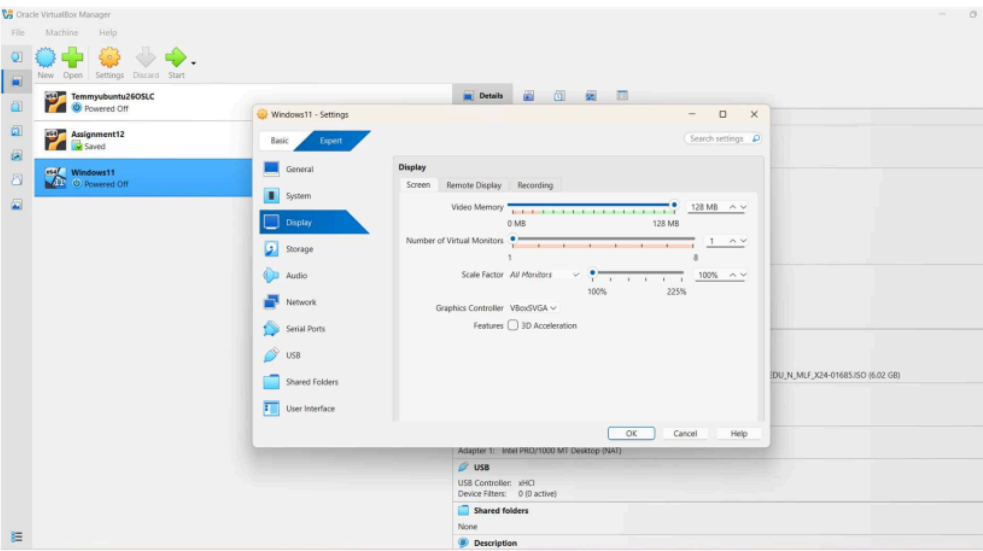


Figure 5: Display settings

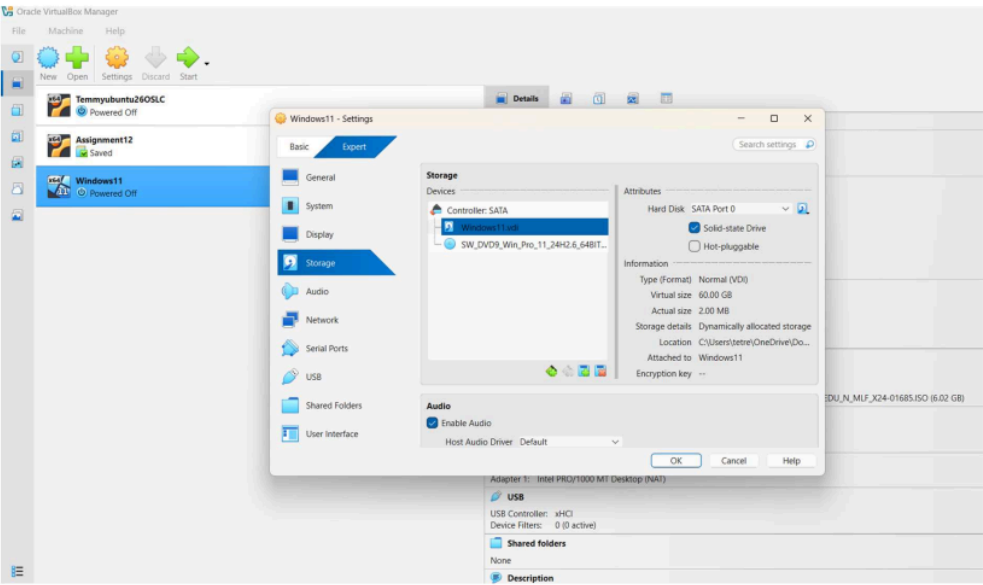


Figure 6: Storage settings.

3.3 Installing Windows 11

Once I started the VM, the Windows installer loaded.

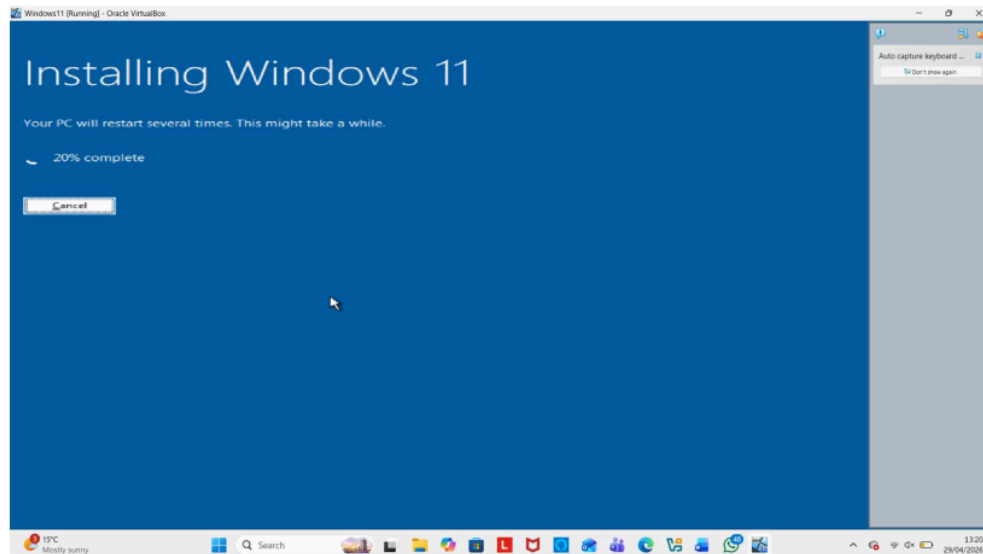


Figure 7: *Windows installation progress.*

I went through the setup steps like choosing the keyboard layout and naming the device.

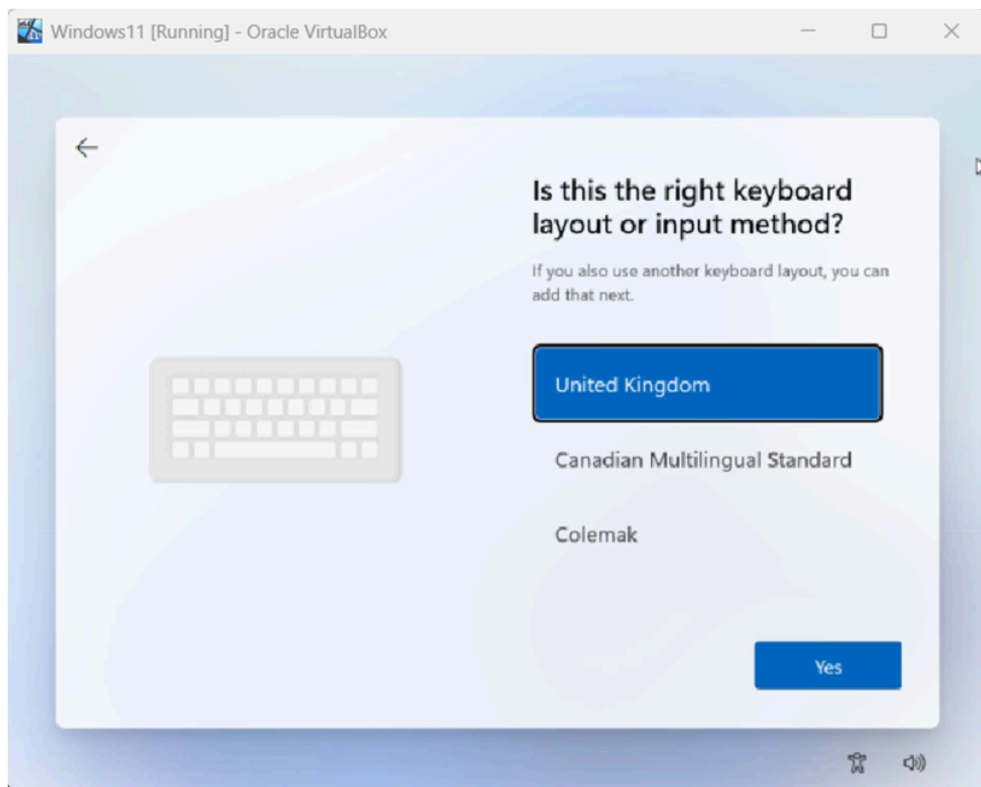


Figure 8: *Keyboard layout selection.*

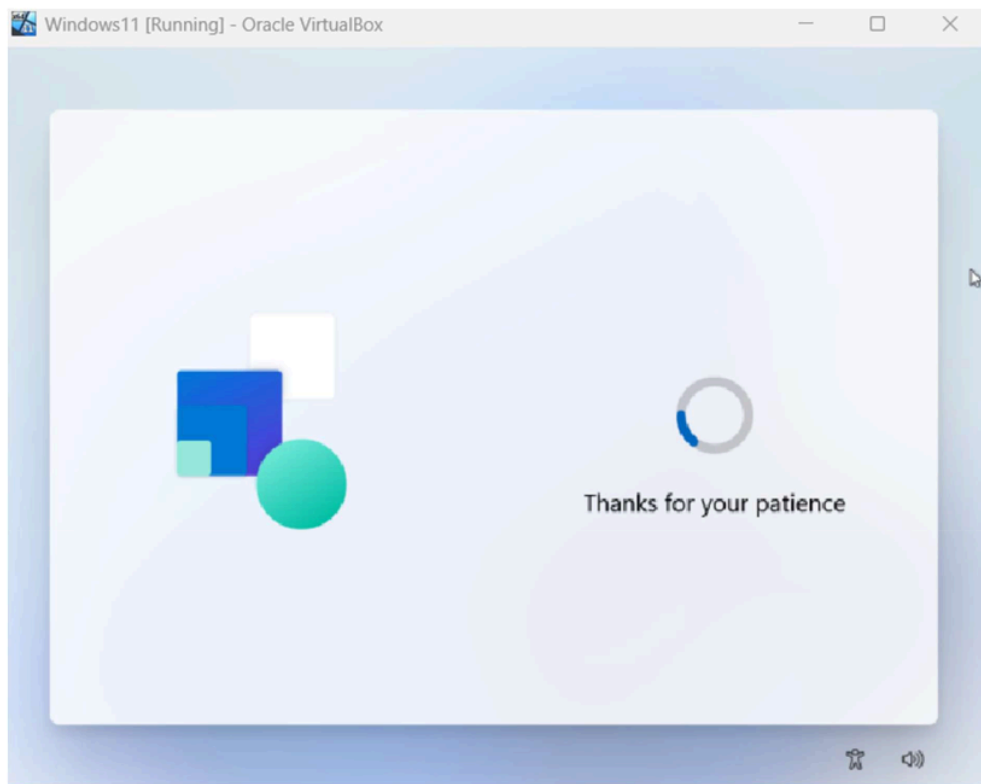


Figure 9: Additional keyboard layout screen and **Figure 10:** Setup loading screen.

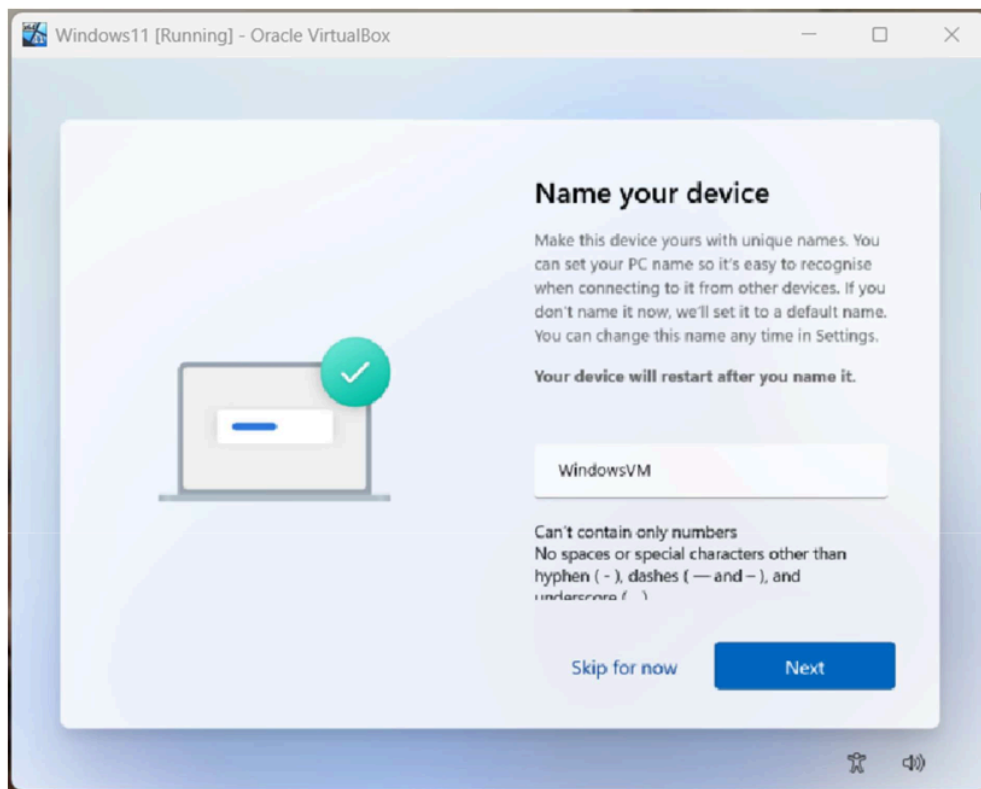


Figure 11: *Device naming screen.*

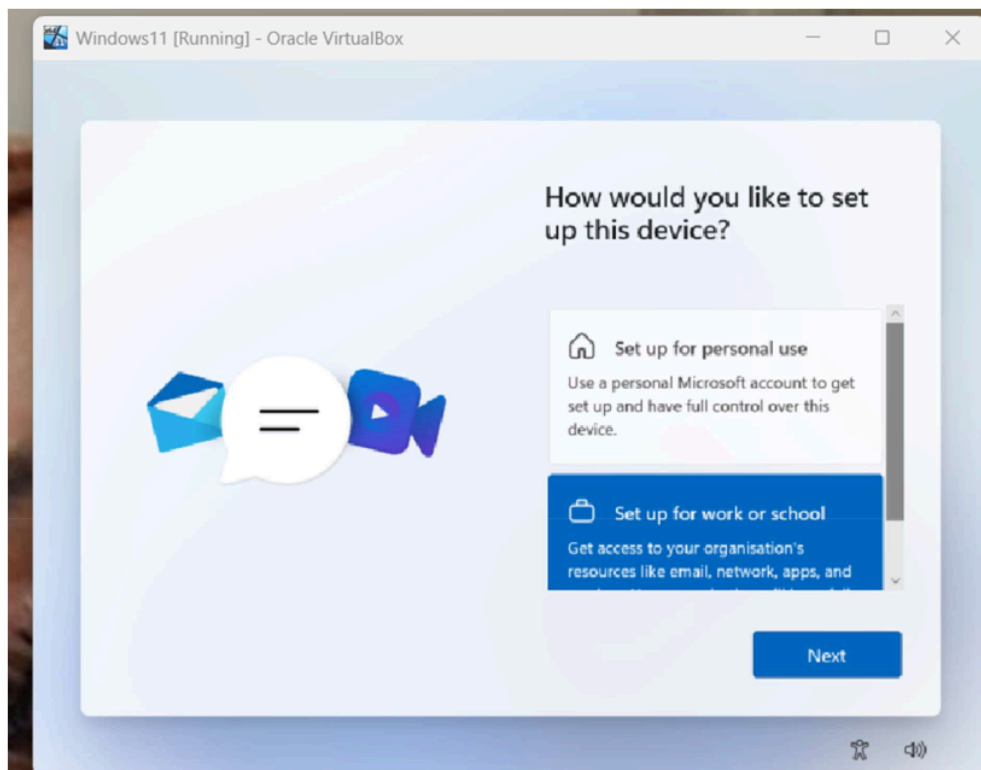


Figure 12: *Setup for personal/work use.*

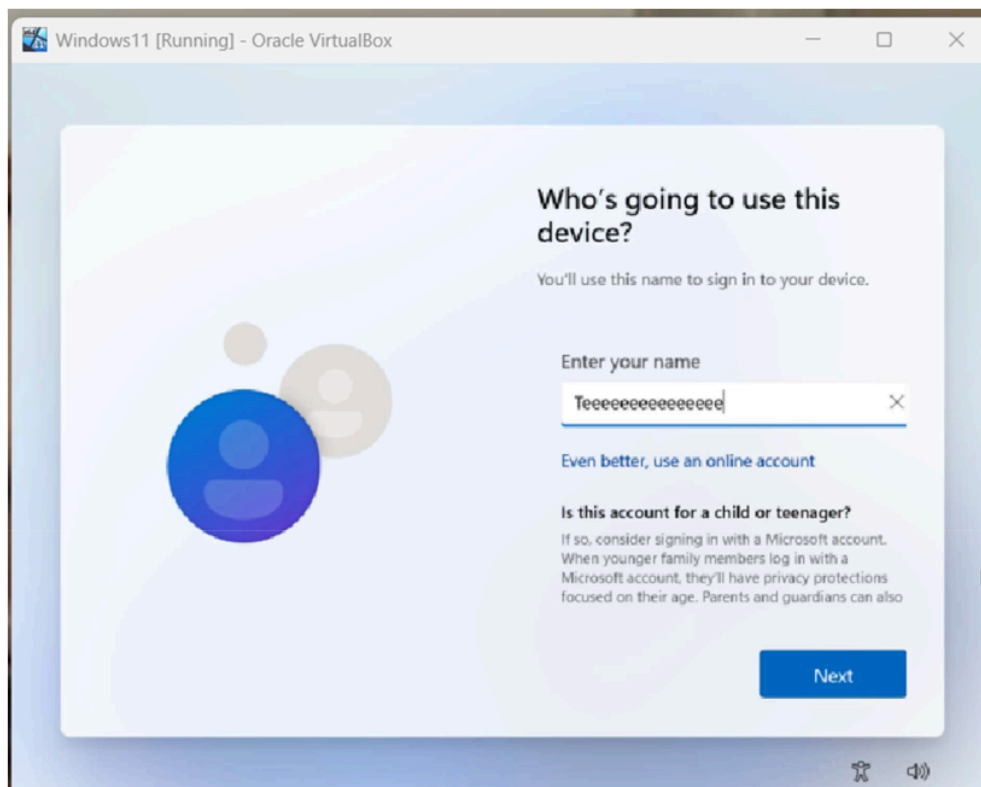


Figure 13: *User account creation.*

After the installation finished, I reached the Windows 11 desktop.

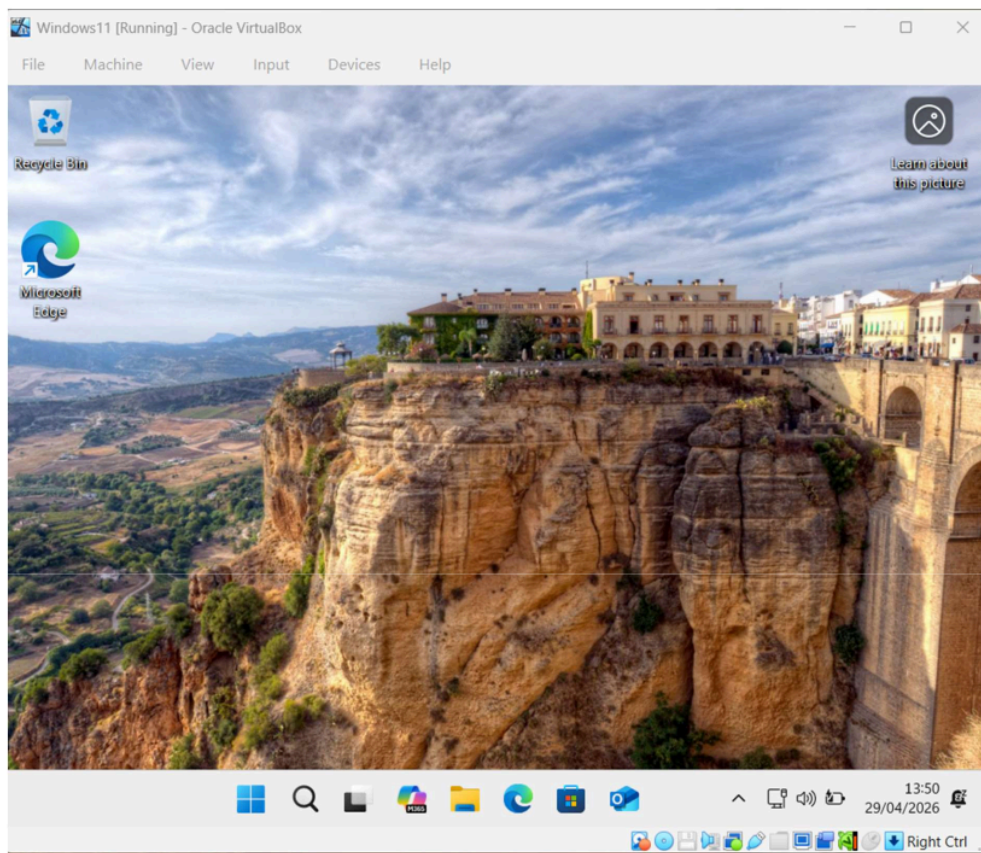


Figure 14: *Windows 11 desktop after installation.*

3.4 Partitioning the Virtual Hard Drive

After installation, I opened File Explorer and saw that only the **C:** drive existed. Before partitioning, I installed **VirtualBox Guest Additions** improves performance and enables better graphics, mouse integration, and driver support [4].

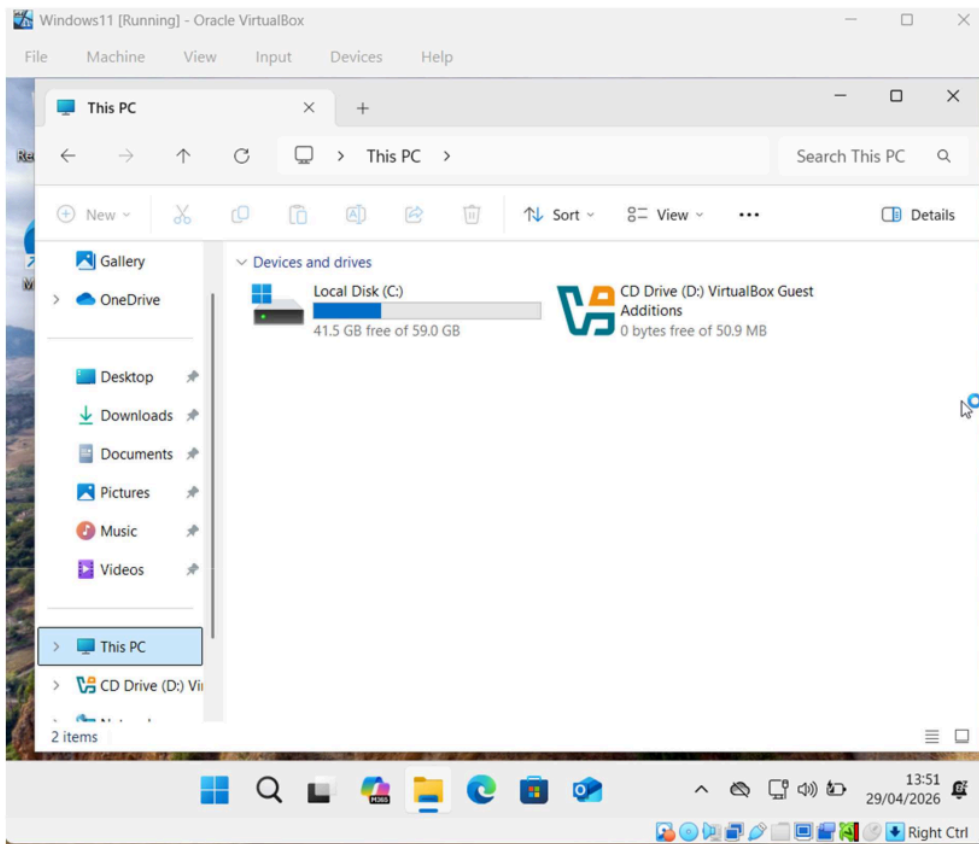


Figure 15: File Explorer showing C: drive and VirtualBox Guest Additions

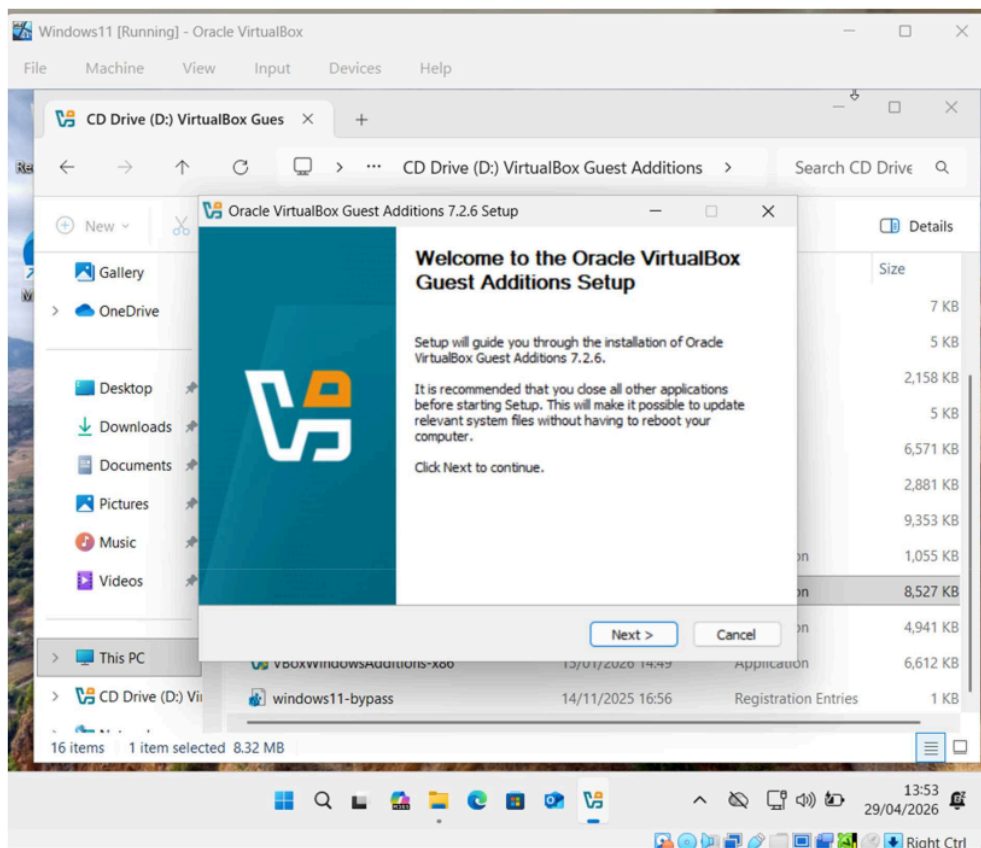


Figure 16: VirtualBox *Guest Additions* setup start.

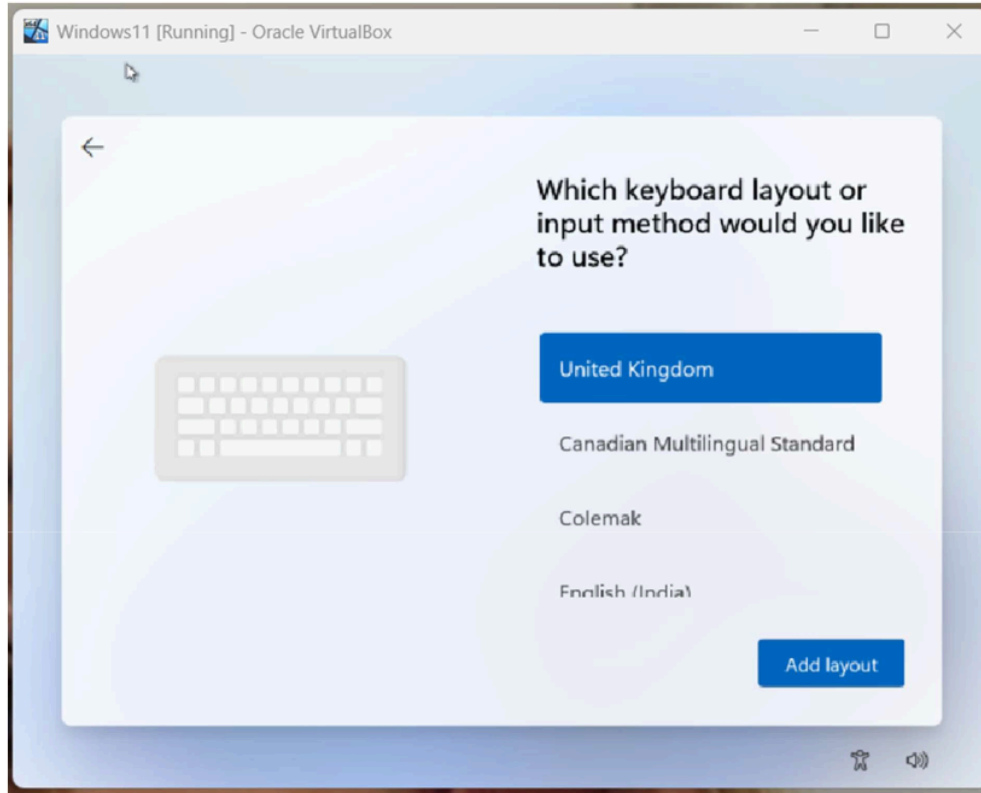
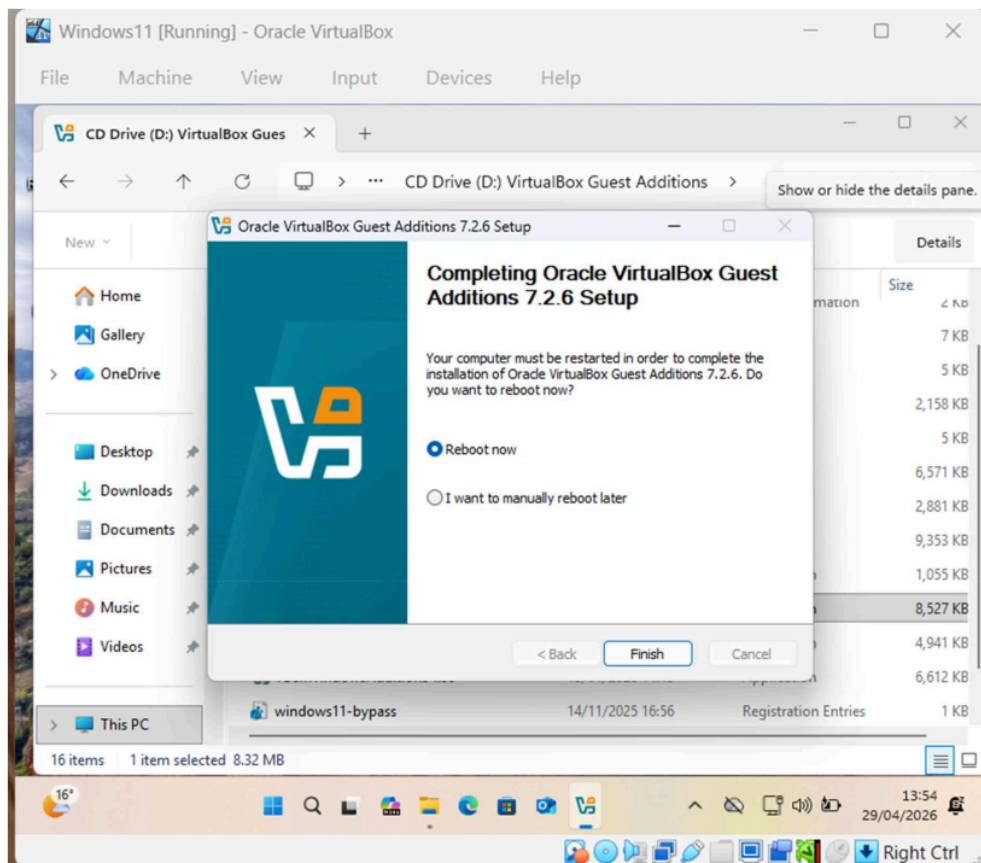


Figure 17: VirtualBox *Guest Additions* installation complete.

After rebooting, I used Disk Management to split the main drive into two partitions (C: and E:) [3]



This is useful because it separates system files from personal data, which makes backups easier and reduces the risk of losing everything if Windows breaks.

4 Part 2 – Driver Setup and Office Suite Installation

4.1 Checking Device Drivers

To check the drivers, I opened **Device Manager** to check all the important drivers were correctly installed.

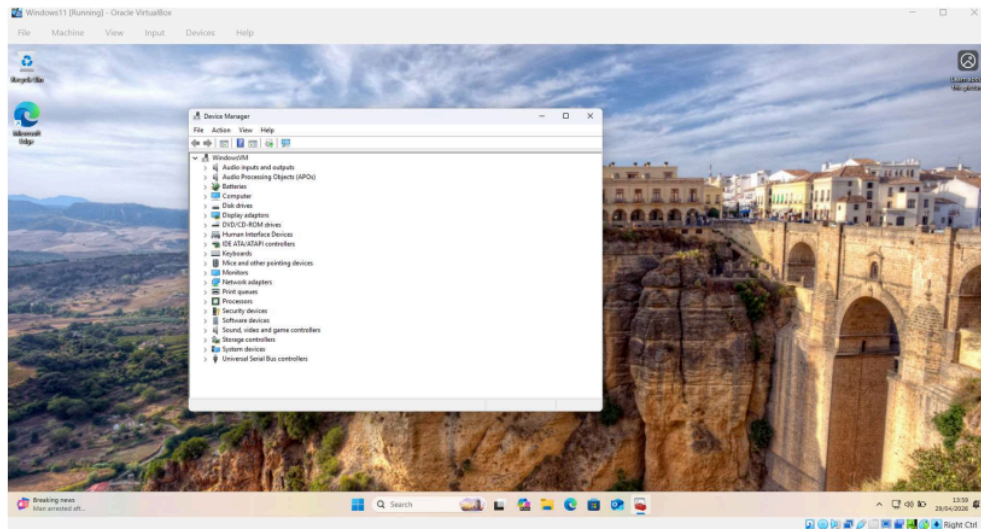


Figure 18: *Device Manager showing hardware list.*

Everything was installed correctly after Guest Additions, including:

Display adapter (VirtualBox Graphics Adapter)

Network adapter (Intel PRO/1000 MT Desktop)

Audio device (Intel HD Audio / VirtualBox audio driver)

These drivers are essential because without them the VM would have limited functionality. For example, without the network driver, there would be no internet connection, and without the graphics driver, the display would be slow and laggy.

4.2 Installing LibreOffice

To install an office suite, I downloaded LibreOffice from the official website.

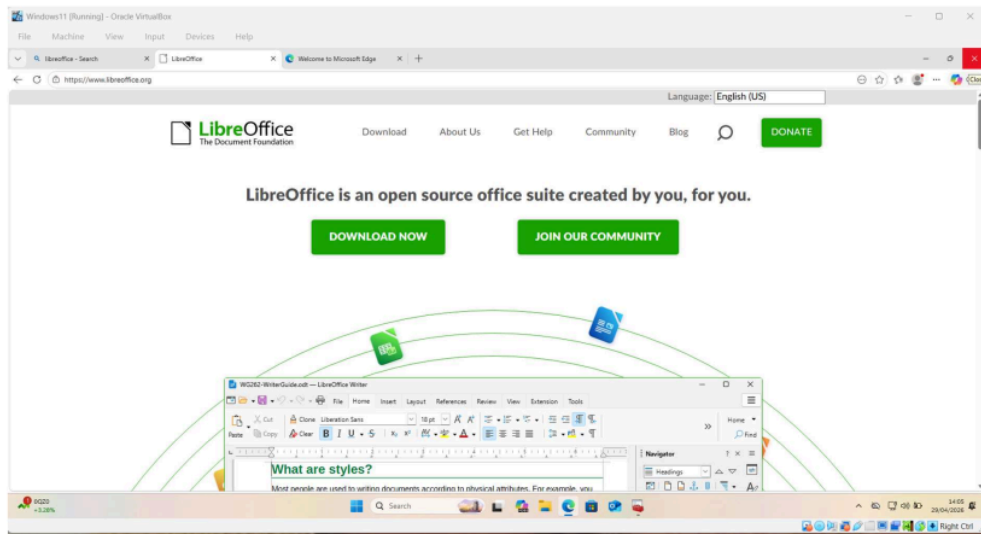


Figure 19: LibreOffice website open in Edge.

I ran the installer and followed the setup steps until the installation was complete.

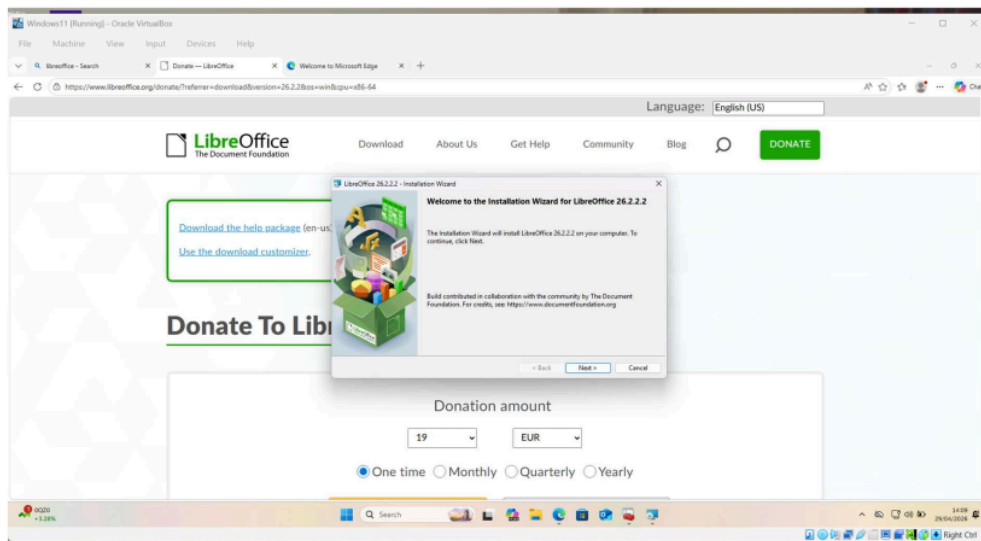


Figure 20: LibreOffice installation wizard starts.

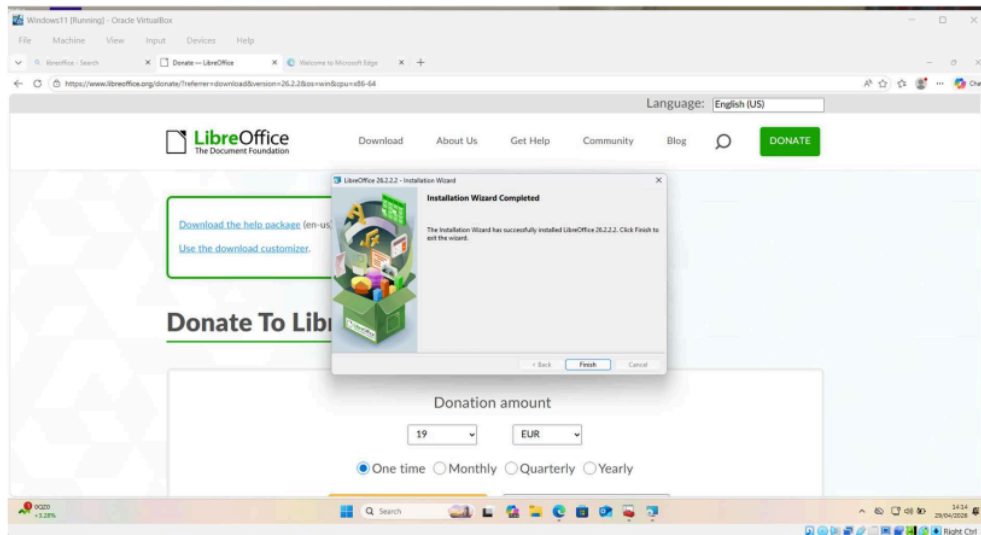


Figure 21: LibreOffice installation complete.

After installation, I opened LibreOffice Writer to confirm it was working properly.

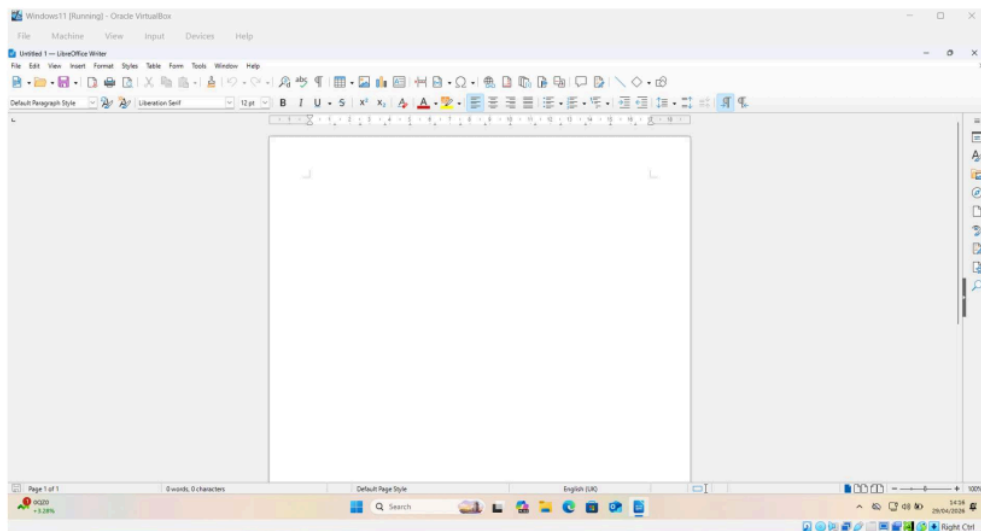


Figure 22: LibreOffice Writer open.

I saved the installer and the test document inside the E: drive (my new partition), so that my files were stored separately from the system drive. This also helped me test that the new partition was working correctly.

5 Conclusion

Completing this assignment helped me understand how to install and configure an operating system inside a virtual machine. I learned how to choose the right hardware settings, how to install Windows 11, and how to manage storage by creating a second partition. I also gained experience checking drivers and installing extra software like LibreOffice. Overall, this task improved my confidence in using VirtualBox and gave me a better understanding of how operating systems and virtual environments work in practice.

6 References

[1] Oracle Corporation, “Installing VirtualBox and Creating Virtual Machines,” VirtualBox Documentation. <https://www.virtualbox.org/manual/ch01.html>.

[2] Microsoft, “Windows 11 Minimum System Requirements,” Microsoft, 2024.
<https://www.microsoft.com/windows/windows-11-specifications>.

[3] Microsoft, “Create and Format Hard Disk Partitions,” Microsoft Support, 2023.
<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/create-and-format-a-hard-disk-partition-3f6ae0f0-2c0c-4e4f-8f7a-3e5b6b7a3b5a>.

[4] Oracle Corporation, “Guest Additions: Features and Installation,” VirtualBox User Manual, 2024. <https://www.virtualbox.org/manual/ch04.html>.

[5] The Document Foundation, “How to Install LibreOffice,” LibreOffice Documentation, 2024.
<https://documentation.libreoffice.org/en/english-documentation/>.

VM Assignment

GRADEMARK REPORT

FINAL GRADE

53/100

GENERAL COMMENTS

Engagement with Literature Skills

5 Tier 1 sources - all official documentation from Oracle, Microsoft, and The Document Foundation. [2], [3], [4] cited in body; [1] and [5] uncited. Every entry missing access date; [1] missing year; URLs for [2], [3], [5] split to separate paragraph.

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Knowledge and Understanding Skills

RAM justified against Windows 11 requirements with citation and host machine balance considered; dynamic VDI correctly explained; partitioning rationale (backup safety, file separation) is clear; driver importance explained with specific consequences. NAT mode, display memory, and audio parameters not addressed.

12/25

Practical Application Skills

VM creation and Windows 11 installation are well-evidenced across 13 screenshots from wizard through OOBE to desktop; Guest Additions and LibreOffice installation (download, wizard, complete, Writer open) also confirmed. No Disk Management screenshot exists - the E: partition is entirely unevidenced; image15 shows only C: and the Guest Additions disc. The Device Manager screenshot (Figure 18) is too small to identify any driver by name. No file location evidence provided.

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Transferable Skills for Life and Professional Practice

Title page, numbered ToC (sections 2-6 with subsections 3.1-3.4 and 4.1-4.2), and inline figure labels (Figure 1-22) are all present. First person runs

through every section including the introduction and conclusion. No table of figures despite 22 images. VM, RAM, CPU, and OS used without first-use expansion; no table of abbreviations.

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Total: 53/100

What Could Have Been Done Better

References: The five sources are all high-quality official documentation - the right instinct. Marks were lost on formatting: access dates are missing from every entry, URLs for [2], [3], and [5] are in a separate paragraph rather than within the reference, and [1] and [5] have no in-text citation.

Adding [Accessed: DD Mon. YYYY] to each entry, keeping URLs inline, and citing [1] when VirtualBox is first mentioned and [5] when LibreOffice is introduced would have moved this into the 'Very Good' range without adding any sources.

Report structure and register: Academic reports are written in the third person or passive voice because the focus is the work, not the person who did it. When a report says "I installed VirtualBox", the reader's attention shifts to the author rather than the installation. Writing "VirtualBox was installed on the host machine" keeps focus on what was done and why - which is what the assessor needs to evaluate. This is a convention used across technical reports, research papers, and professional documentation.

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