Providing alternative uncluttered text version of articles: context and overview

WIKIMEDIA

ACCESSIBILITY

What is it
Why it matters
How to make things go forward

2030 strategy

Knowledge equity: As a social movement, we will focus our efforts on the knowledge and communities that have been **left out by structures of power and privilege**. We will welcome people from every background to build strong and **diverse** communities. We will **break down the social, political, and technical barriers** preventing people from **accessing and contributing** to free knowledge.
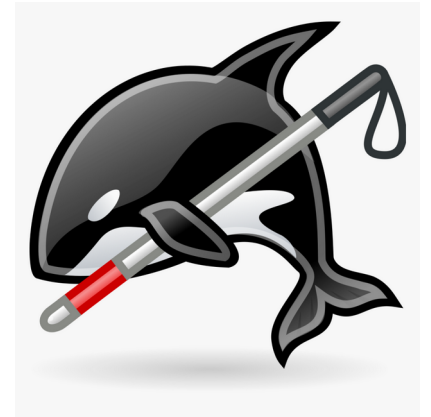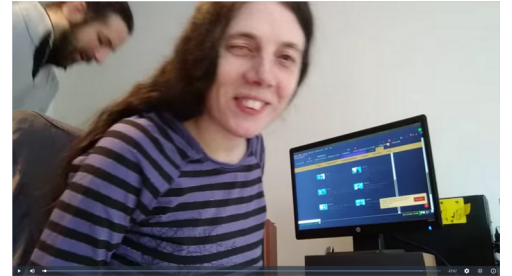
Computer accessibility

accessibility of a computer system to all people, regardless of disability type or severity of impairment. The term accessibility is most often used in reference to specialized hardware or software, or a combination of both, designed to enable the use of a computer by a person with a disability or impairment. Computer accessibility often has direct positive effects on people with disabilities

A morning with Irina

- Nothing About Us Without Us: understanding what it means in practice with people who have a practical daily experience of the topic

- Test session of Wikipedia using Orca Text to speech in March 2021

- Outcomes

  - Report on Meta

  - Hackathon session

  - Other seeds for improvements, including the statement:

    […] it would be great to have an easily accessible version of articles that withdraws all links and footnotes references and keep only the "raw text", as one would read in a straightforward manner.

    Or in brief: uncluttered text version of articles…

Wikimedia Accessibility User Group

- Created during Wikimedia Hackathon 2021 in May
- 7 people registered members on Meta
- 50 people in our Telegram group
- 1k+ exchanged messages
- 8 main scopes already stated
- 6 topics currently highlighted

WIKIMEDIA
ACCESSIBILITY

Current focus

- Registration process

- Wikispeech

- Sign languages

- Reading experience compliant with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

- Alternative text to images

- Providing alternative uncluttered text version of articles

Some concrete example:
An extract of the "Dactyle (lune)" article

Dactyle, désigné 1993 (243) 1[5,7,N 1] à titre provisoire, a été nommé par l'Union astronomique internationale en 1994[7], d'après les créatures appelées Dactyles qui vivaient sur le mont Ida en Crète selon la mythologie grecque[8,N 2].

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Possible implementation roads

- Module
- Gadget
- Extension

Thanks and beyond

- People that made this session possible:
  - Wikimania staff
  - Members of the Wikimedia Accessibility user Group
  - Wikimedia Community at large for all related contributions
- Your attention
- Your future help will be more than welcome
  - Join us on Telegram: https://t.me/wikimedia_accessibility
  - Any feedback welcome
  - If you are already a skilled Mediawiki hacker…

Credits

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Question?