Accessibility in design of learning resources

Adam Warren

Institute for Learning Innovation and Development

Jane Warren
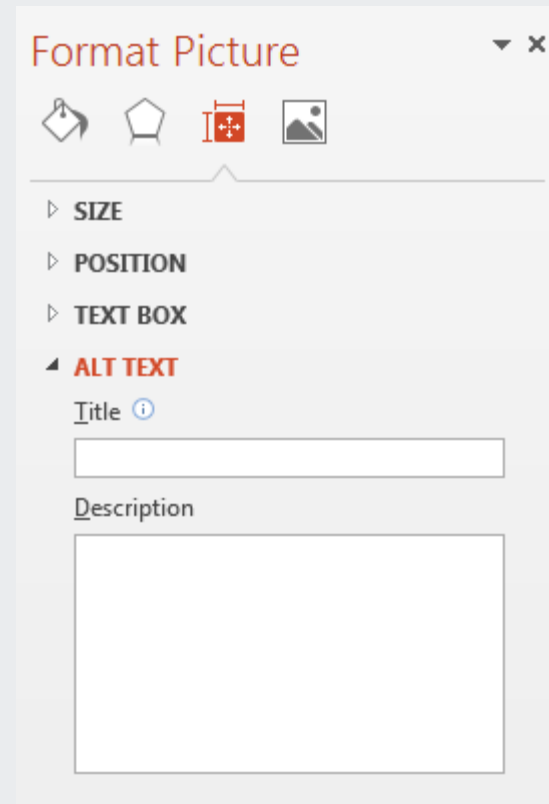
Southampton Education School

THE GRANNIES' SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED EGG SUCKING

Adding ALT text to images

- Right click on image

- Choose Format Picture

- Size & Properties

- Fill in Description
  + Title if long description

- How much description?

- Quick Access Toolbar

Institutional context

- The Equality Act 2010

- The Disabled Students' Allowances (DSA)

- Institutional obligations and duties

- Disabilities and specific learning difficulties

- International students (EAL)

Making documents readable

- Signposting and scanning

- Structure and space

- Headings (Styles)
  - bullet lists

- Formatting
  - **bold** instead of <u>underline</u>
  - avoid ALL CAPS

- Charts, diagrams and graphs
  - ALT text

File formats

- Word, PPT, PDF

- Apple (or Linux) friendly?

- Mobile (iOS and Android) friendly?

The right type?

Times New Roman

Palatino

Georgia

Serif

Arial

Verdana

Calibri

Sans Serif

Comic Sans

Papyrus

Viner Hand

Display

The right type?

I quickly explained that many **big jobs** involve *few hazards*. 1234567890

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How (not) to do it

The Great Communication Guide (2006)

Open Dyslexic

Accessibility

We have tried to ensure that we have followed our own advice! The printed version of this guide, kindly donated by Lightning Source, is printed on off-white paper, which is low glare. During testing, visually impaired readers preferred off-white paper to cream.

We have used two new dyslexia friendly fonts, Genius and Word. These were developed by the Hidden Differences Group, with the help of two young designers from Zeta Commerce, Henry and Rowena, who both happen to be dyslexic!

OpenDyslexic is a new open source font created to increase readability for readers with dyslexia. The typeface includes regular, bold, italic, and bold-italic styles. It is being updated continually and improved based on input from dyslexic users. OpenDyslexic is free for Commercial and Personal use.

Recommendations

- Font: Sans Serif (or Serif)

- Body text: at least 11 point

- Align left, ragged right margin

- Line spacing: 2 points

- Paragraph spacing: 6 points

- Page margins: at least 20mm

Take Me Seriously.

Lectures

CC Image: Duke University 1940s

Lectures

- Slides and lecture notes

- Visual aids
  - Structure and space
  - Colours and contrast
  - Accessible templates: http://www.edshare.soton.ac.uk/3081/

- Thinking time

- Students with hearing impairments

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Timing

- In advance

- Overviews?

- Skeleton notes?

- Impact on attendance?

Lecture capture

- Students recording lectures

- Student demand

- Pros and cons

- When is it the answer?

- Policies

1400 student responses

Did students want all of their

lectures to be recorded?

YES = 95% of students

97% of international students

What is possible?

- Screen + audio

- Video: lecturer, whiteboard, webcam

- Upload video file (e.g. from phone)

- Simple editing

- Viewers:
  - Navigation
  - Speed control
  - Transcript (Synote)

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Assistive technologies

- AT bar – [a quick demo](#)

- Other student-facing tools:
    - Dragon Naturally Speaking (speech > text)
    - ClaroRead (text > speech)
    - Mind-mapping tools
    - Online dictionary
    - Adobe Reader (text > speech)

University of Southampton

What three actions **will you take** to improve accessibility?

Further reading/links

- JISC initiatives
  - https://www.jisc.ac.uk/guides/getting-started-with-accessibility-and-inclusion
  - https://elevator.jisc.ac.uk/e/accessiblebydesign
  - http://www.lexdis.org.uk/