

Inspection Methods

Heuristic Evaluation

- **Objective**

The main purpose of this heuristic evaluation is to examine the design of a user interface in order to evaluate the product and look for potential problems. Also, train project team members to recognize potential usability issues so they can be eliminated prior to the interface design process. The result of this evaluation will be to provide recommendations to improve the usability of the interface and guarantee a better user experience.

- **Protocol**

1. Selection of testers: Select a group of testers who have experience in user interface design.
2. Preparation of evaluation criteria: Define a set of evaluation criteria that will be used to evaluate the user interface of the software.
3. Interface evaluation: Each evaluator must carry out an individual evaluation of the software interface, using previously defined evaluation criteria.
4. Analysis of the results: Once the testers have completed their evaluation, the results should be analyzed to identify the most common usability problems.
5. Issue prioritization: Prioritize identified usability issues based on their severity and their impact on the user experience.
6. Presentation of the results: Present the results of the heuristic evaluation to the software design and development team, together with specific recommendations to correct the identified problems.

7. Design iteration: The software design and development team should review and correct usability issues identified in the heuristic evaluation.

- **Justification**

We employ this inspection method as an effective and efficient technique to identify usability issues early in a user interface design, allowing designers to fix issues before the system is implemented and delivered to end users. .

On the other hand, heuristic evaluation seemed to us the most suitable method because it is useful in different phases of development such as requirements, conceptual design, detailed design and implementation. In addition, the participants in the heuristic evaluation process can be interface designers, end users, stakeholders and other relevant experts, which is a wide range of team selection.

- **Evaluation:**

HEURISTIC EVALUATION				
Evaluator: Ricardo Morales Hernández.				
Website: www.hcitdh.com				
Heuristic	Rating			Comments
	Yes	No	N/A	
1.Visibility of System Status:				
Does the web page have a clear and descriptive title?		X		The acronym used as the name of the site does not provide any information or idea of the page.
Are the size and placement of the buttons and elements on the screen intuitive and easy to understand?	✓			
2. Match between system and the real world:				

Is the content of the website relevant and useful for teachers working with children with ADHD?	✓			
Does the organization of the content follow the logic and sequence that teachers would expect?		X		Regarding this section, I think the most logical thing is that the "register" button is the first in the sequence.
3. User control and freedom				
¿Can users access and exit the website easily?	✓			The back, forward, home and close buttons are omitted from the images, but I suppose it is not necessary to add them to the images since all browsers bring them by default.
Are there options to undo or cancel actions on the website?		X		At least in the images provided, it is not possible to see buttons or options that allow you to cancel certain actions.
4.Consistency and standards:				
Are the same colors, fonts, and styles used throughout the web page?	✓			
Does the website use a consistent and uniform design on all pages?		X		At least in the images, it is possible to appreciate that the space between buttons/options is not symmetrical. Also some parts are not well aligned.
5.Error prevention:				
Does the web page use clear and useful error messages for users?			-	
Does the website ask for confirmation before taking critical or irreversible actions?			-	
6.Recognition rather than recall				

Does the website use clear icons and labels for buttons and actions?		X		It does use clear labels but icons are missing, there is practically no icon.
Does the website use terminology and language that teachers can easily understand?	✓			
7.Flexibility and efficiency of use				
Does the website allow users to customize their user experience, for example by changing the size of the text or adjusting the accessibility settings?		X		
Does the website allow users to switch between different views or modes to suit different situations?		X		
8.Aesthetic and minimalist design				
Does the website have a clean, minimalist design that doesn't distract the user from important information?	✓			The design is very minimalist, I think it is necessary to add images or icons.
Does the website use a consistent and attractive color palette that is not distracting to the user?	✓			
9.Help users recognize, diagnose, and recover from errors				
Does the website provide a clear description of the errors that occur and the possible causes of the errors?			-	
Does the website provide a troubleshooting guide or help center for users to find answers to their questions?		X		I think it would not be bad to add a help button or to report a problem on the page.
10.Help and documentation				
Does the website provide enough information and guidance for users?	✓			At first glance it seems to contain the necessary information and it is possible to understand how each section would work.

Does the page offer a search system that allows users to quickly find the information they need?		X		In the images it is not possible to appreciate any section or search bar.
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- **Analysis of results:**

Collecting Problems in the heuristic evaluation		
Problem/Problem Location	Heuristic	Severity
The lack of icons and images on the website is a big problem.	6.Recognition rather than recall. 8.Aesthetic and minimalist design.	High
Button spacing is not symmetrical and therefore not easy on the eye. Likewise, some parts are not well aligned.	4.Consistency and standards.	Moderate

- **Change Suggestions:**

The main suggestions are those mentioned above. The use of icons and images helps a lot to know what such a thing is about and makes a page or application more pleasing to the eye. I also consider it important that the buttons and all the components of the page keep a certain symmetry, since some people cause us a little anxiety that things are not well distributed or are not the same size. Finally, I think it would be good to change the order of the options offered by the website, since the most logical thing would be for the first available option to be "register student" and then the other options appear.

References:

- Chauncey Wilson (Auth.) - User Interface Inspection Methods. A User-Centered Design Method-Morgan Kaufmann (2013).
- <https://www.nngroup.com/articles/summary-of-usability-inspection-methods/>
- <https://www.nngroup.com/articles/ten-usability-heuristics/>