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INTRODUCTION TO WEB DEVELOPMENT

PORTFOLIO

TASK 1

Research Document

Web Accessibility Research (KU3)

Before starting any work related to the website itself, conduct some research into the topic of Web Accessibility. To better understand this topic, you are required to visit a number of existing websites and pinpoint where these principles are applied or where they are skipped, leading to accessibility issues.

In not less than **500 words**, make sure to explain what Web Accessibility is, detailing some of its principles with examples from existing website, and giving some examples of what aspects of Web Accessibility you intend to implement in your own project.

What is Web Accessibility ?

Web accessibility ensures websites are usable by all, including people with disabilities. It involves providing text alternatives, keyboard navigation, clear structure, and compatibility with assistive technologies. Following guidelines like **WCAG** (Web Content Accessibility Guidelines) ensures inclusivity for users with visual, hearing, motor, or cognitive impairments.

P O U R

The WCAG consists of **POUR** principles, which are (Perceivable, Operable, Understandable, Robust),guide these practices, promoting a seamless experience across devices and technologies.
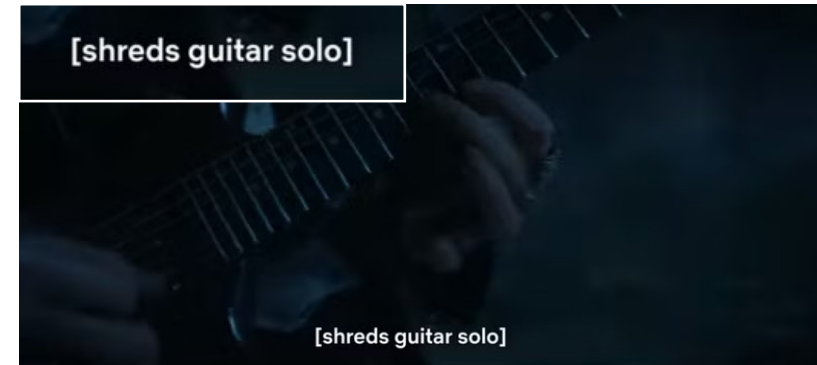
NETFLIX – Accessibility Practices

Netflix is one of the most popular streaming services globally, and it has made significant strides in providing accessibility features for users with disabilities. The platform provides a variety of options to ensure that content is accessible to a broader audience, including people with visual, hearing, and motor impairments.

Perceivable: Netflix does a great job providing alternatives for visual content. Most of its videos offer captions and subtitles, making it accessible to users with hearing impairments. It also offers audio descriptions for visually impaired users, describing what's happening on screen (ex: "car honk"). However, Netflix could improve by providing better text customization options, such as allowing users to adjust subtitle size, color, and background for greater readability.
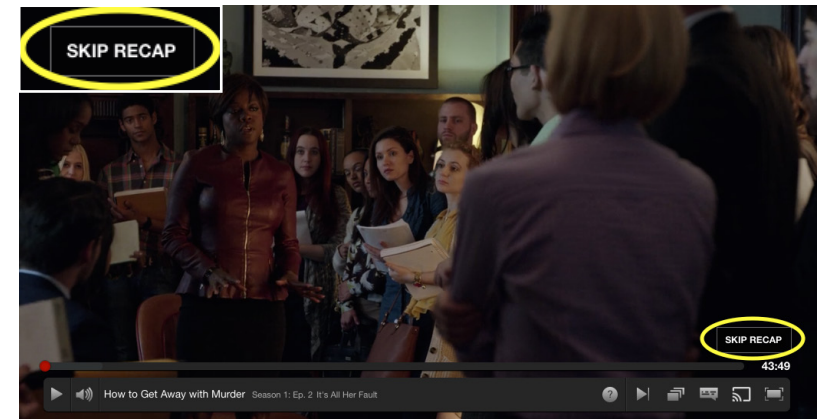
Operable: Netflix supports full keyboard navigation on web browsers. Users can easily navigate between rows, play videos, pause, and skip episodes without needing a mouse. The Skip Intro and Skip Recap buttons are prominently displayed and can be activated with a remote, keyboard, or screen reader, enabling users to skip repetitive content easily. This feature improves the overall operability by allowing users to control their viewing experience.

Understandable: Netflix's interface is intuitive and easy to navigate, which is beneficial for users with cognitive disabilities. The layout is simple, with large, easily identifiable icons for categories, movies, and TV shows. This straightforward design helps users quickly understand where to go and what actions they can take, the font size is consistent and legible across the platform, which improves readability.
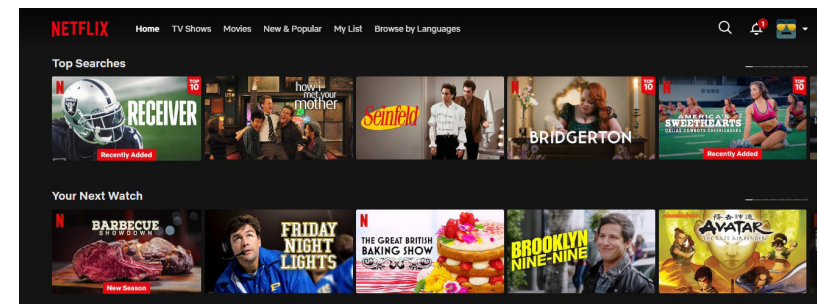
Robust: Netflix is designed to work on a wide range of devices, from smart TVs to smartphones, tablets, laptops, and game consoles. Netflix also uses semantic HTML in its web app, which is essential for making the content understandable by assistive technologies. The proper use of HTML elements like headings, buttons, and links ensures that screen readers can interpret the content correctly, providing a better experience for users with disabilities. Netflix uses CDNs (Content Delivery Networks) to ensure a stable and reliable streaming experience. This helps maintain performance across regions and ensures users with varying internet speeds and conditions can still access the content without loading issues.

Netflix's Stranger Things Subtitles.

Skip Recap Button.

Netflix Home Screen.

References:

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2. *Katz, A. (2021, December 7). Accessibility and usability: a case study with Netflix. Medium. https://medium.com/@adina.katzy/accessibility-and-usability-a-case-study-with-netflix-b99da47173f8*
3. *CaptioningStar, & CaptioningStar. (2023, July 18). Accessibility Features on Netflix - Blog | CaptioningStar. CaptioningStar - Captioning & Subtitling Services. https://www.captioningstar.com/blog/accessibility-features-on-netflix/*

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