

EXSM 3929 Assignment 1: Screen Reader Research

Student: ccid, last name, first name

Due: May 14, 2023

Description

The purpose of this assignment is to gain practice using a desktop screen reader. We will install a screen reader and test it on a few of your favourite websites or web applications. The focus of this exercise is on using the screen reader as an experience. We will use the screen reader to test a website or web application later in the course.

The three most popular screen readers for desktop computers are: NVDA, VoiceOver, and Jaws. VoiceOver is preinstalled on MacOS and Narrator is built into Windows. Visit the following website links and choose a desktop screen reader that is compatible with your system..

- [NVDA \(Windows\) — free](#)
- [JAWS \(Windows\) — paid, free trial](#)
- [Vox \(Chrome browser\) — free](#)
- [VoiceOver \(MacOS\) — pre installed](#)
- [Narrator \(Windows\) — pre installed](#)

Note: This assignment focuses on the screen reader and not the operating system, search engine, website, or other.

Instructions

Make a **copy** of this document, **edit, export** as a **PDF** and **submit** on **eClass**. Please keep this cover page.

DESCRIPTION	VALUE	MARK
Document is submitted with proper ccid, name, and date	2	
Document is complete with talking points relevant to the course	8	

Assignment

Part 1 — Expectations

1. Which **screen reader** did you choose, and why?
 - ...answer here
2. As a new user, what are **three questions** you have about screen readers?
 - a. ...
 - b. ...
 - c. ...
3. As a new user, what is **one expectation** (at least) you have about how the screen reader should work?
 - a. ...answer here

Part 2 — Specific Instructions

1. Complete the following steps
 - ☐ Install a compatible screen reader
 - ☐ Activate the screen reading software (turn on)
 - ☐ Turn the screen reader off
 - ☐ Turn the screen reader on (keep on)
 - ☐ Investigate the settings and options
 - ☐ Navigate to a favourite search engine
 - ☐ Search for your favourite website or application
 - ☐ Access your chosen website from the search engine
 - ☐ Use the screen reader with the website or web application
 - ☐ Turn the screen reader off
 - ☐ Note your greatest frustration or source of enjoyment with the screen reader
 - ☐ Find the screen reader's official documentation
 - ☐ Research your previous issue in the documentation
 - ☐ Turn the screen reader on
 - ☐ Continue on the web page or application where you paused
 - ☐ Turn the screen reader off

Part 3 — Reflection

Section A

1. How easy was it to get started?

- ☐ 1 (not easy) ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 (very easy)

2. How easy was it to turn on/off the screen reader?

- ☐ 1 (not easy) ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 (very easy)

3. Did you find the screen reader allowed for customization?

- ☐ 1 (no) ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 (yes)

4. Was the documentation simple and helpful?

- ☐ 1 (no) ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 (yes)

5. Overall, did the screen reader meet your expectations?

- ☐ 1 (no) ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 (yes)

Section B

1. In the previous steps there is a mention of “greatest frustration or source of enjoyment.” Describe your experience with the screen reader and specifically mention this issue. (use at least three sentences)

- ...answer here

2. If you were to recommend using a screen reader to someone what advice or warnings might you offer in advance? (use at least three sentences)

- ...answer here

3. From your experience so far could you use this screen reader every day and still be as effective in your online activities? Why or why not? (use at least three sentences)

- ...answer here

Section C

1. Choose a second screen reader. Which did you choose and why?

- ...answer here

2. Repeat the process for the second screen reader.

☐ Done

3. Comment on which screen reader you personally prefer and why (use at least three sentences).

- ...answer here