

Prototype Usability Testing

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Preface

This is a usability test for the prototype of a textbook app. The following tasks will be completed by two different participants, and the results will be provided by the moderator (myself) accordingly. Act as though you already have a large library of books in your digital possession. Both Users, Erin and Vivi have consented to being recorded.

Scenario

You are a student who is using this textbook app to read and organize the textbooks you have purchased for class.

User 1

*Will be referred to as “**Erin.**” Erin has some limited experience with web design.*

User 2

*Will be referred to as “**Vivi.**” Vivi has little to no experience with web design.*

Tasks and Results

Task 1 - Change the sorting algorithm for your books using the “sort by” dropdown menu.

Vivi - Completed the task with ease. Feedback: “I like all the options I have.”

Erin - Completed the task with ease. Feedback: “Okay, big problem here that doesn’t have to do with the task. You have the search and sorting stuff down for the user’s *already purchased* library. How do I buy a new book, though?” (Moderator: “I didn’t think of that. Any recommendations?”) “You need an interface for that--make it, like, similar to this main area, for consistency. A ‘buy a new book’ button and that takes you to a new but similar interface would do. Keep the same sorting and search things, but change it to be like, you’re buying a book.”

Task 2 - Create a folder and rename it.

Vivi - Completed the task with ease. Feedback: "You forgot to include the 'add to folder' thing like in iBooks so you can actually add books in your library to the folder."

Erin - Completed the task with ease. Feedback: "Straightforward and thoughtful. Keep it."

Task 3 - Open a book and bookmark the page.

Vivi - Completed the task with ease. Feedback: "I can change the font size--I see the buttons for it. That's cool, maybe you could add more customization stuff." (Moderator: "Like what?") "Like in iBooks, you know there's an option to change the background and text colors, like dark, light, or sepia?" (Moderator: "I do. And maybe I can add a way to change font styles. Thanks!")

Erin - Completed the task with ease. Feedback: "You have a recents section, which is cool, but in the final app, you should make a section for *just* bookmarked books, too."

Moderator Notes

Changes:

1. Extend the prototype to include the ability to purchase a book.
2. "Add to folder" button inside of a folder with all the appropriate functions included.
3. Add an option to, while inside of a book, change the background colors, font colors, font style, and add a 'highlighter/erase highlights' function.
4. Add a section on the main library page underneath "recents" called "bookmarked" that has only bookmarked books (make it extendable in case they have lots of bookmarked books).

Keeps:

1. All of the 'sort by' functions.
2. The 'search' functions.
3. The 'create folder' and 'rename folder' functions.
4. The 'change font size' function.
5. The 'recents' section on the main page.

