Heading heuristics

Heuristic principle

Pass / Fail

Notes

Concise

3 words or less wherever possible

Descriptive

Can I tell what will be in this section from the heading? Marketing phrases should not be used as headings as they are inspirational, not descriptive

Logical

Headings should have a logical flow and make sense even without their supporting content

Active

Use active, positive and personal language. For example, 'Account area' is passive. But 'View your account' is active and personal.

