

GIANLUCA CAMENZULI

Web Development | Graphic Design 5.1A | Task 1

WEB ACCESSIBILITY

Web Accessibility means that a website is accessible to everyone, where people with disabilities would be able to use the website easily. This includes people with visual, hearing, immobility and problems with understanding. A standard like WCAG (Web Content Accessibility Guidelines) could be used to make it inclusive for all users.

The 4 principles of web accessibility follow the POUR framework. The first one is Perceivable. This means that users must be presented with the information in ways they can perceive. Users should be able to either see or hear content. For the best result, make use of alt text for images so screen readers can describe them, use captions for videos, use clear colour contrasts and allow users to zoom in text without breaking the design. Avoid using text embedded into images since screen readers cannot read them.

The second one is Operable, meaning users should interact with the website even if they don't use mouse or touchscreen. To implement this, make sure all features work using only keyboard buttons (Tab, Enter, Spacebar), provide skip to content links for screen readers, avoid flashing animations past 3 seconds to avoid seizures and label all fields properly for clear navigation. Avoid auto-playing videos without a pause and complex menus that trap keyboard users.

Then there is Understandable, meaning a website is clear and easy to use. Make use of simple language with legible fonts, keep consistent and predictable layouts and put helpful error messages where they provide you with the next steps to take. Guide users by prefilling fields and provide examples.

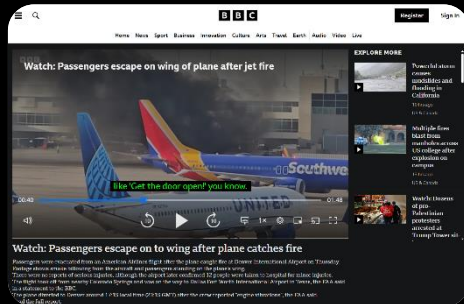
The final principle is Robust. This means the website should be compatible with all browsers, devices and assistive tools. In a website, use proper HTML tags, use code that helps assistive tech understand interactive elements (aria-label="Close Menu"), check if the website works with screen readers and ensure that the site adapts with different screen sizes. Avoid using custom HTML elements that break accessibility (using <div> instead of <button>) and avoid relying on one input method so users can interact using keyboard, touch or assistive devices.



EXISTING WEBSITES

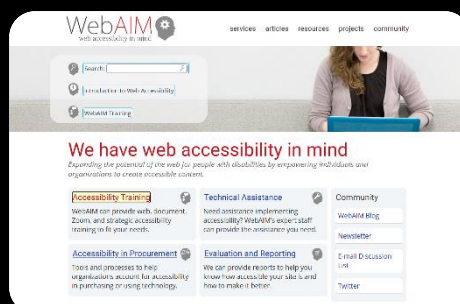
BBC i Perceivable

It has a high contrast, makes use of alt text and uses captions for videos. It allows users to adjust text size without breaking the design.



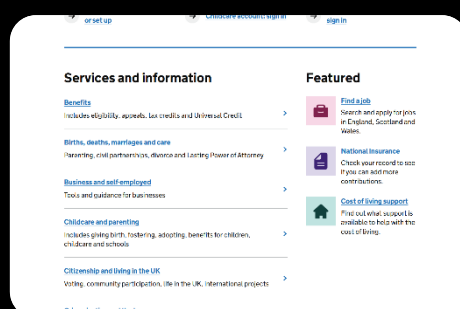
WebAIM i Operable

You can switch between content using the tab and enter button. Forms are properly labelled and makes use of skips links.



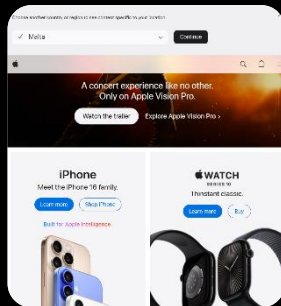
GOV.UK i Understandable

It makes use of clear and simple language, has consistent navigation across all pages, provide helpful error messages and has clear headings.



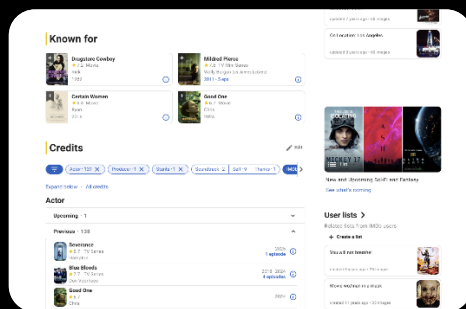
Apple ĩ Robus

The website is mobile-friendly and adjusts to different screen sizes. It supports multiple inputs, works well with screen readers and makes use of proper HTML tags (<h1>, <nav>, <button>).



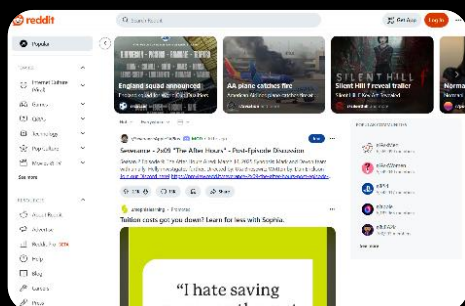
IMDb ĩ Perceivable Failure

The website has a lack of alt text, has a low contrast and small text making it harder for visually impaired users to read and lacks captions in some videos.



Reddit ĩ Operable Failure

Its infinite scrolling makes it difficult for keyboard users to navigate efficiently. Some buttons and menus aren't fully keyboard accessible and certain flashing animations cannot be turned off.



Post's Award Animations

MY PROJECT

Some Web Accessibility features I will implement are:

- The use of simple language that would help navigate through the website.
- Use of legible fonts and clear contrasts.
- Predictable layouts that would not confuse the users and distract them from the content.
- Alt text to read out for screen readers and eliminate the use of flashing animations.
- Exits buttons will be used so keyboard users will not be trapped inside pages or pop ups.
- While building my code, I will use proper tags (<h1>, <h2>, <p>, <footer>, etc.) to not break accessibility.

WEBSITES USED

BBC <https://www.bbc.com/news>

WebAIM <https://webaim.org/>

GOV.UK <https://www.gov.uk/>

Apple <https://www.apple.com/>

IMDb https://www.imdb.com/?ref_=nv_home

Reddit <https://www.reddit.com/>