

# Inclusive Language Checker + Chrome Extension

Team Name: **THE CODE BREAKERS**

Team Members:

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## 1. Overview

Our project is a Chrome extension called **Inclusive Language Checker**. Its main job is to help users write in a way that is welcoming to everyone. When you browse the web, read emails, or view social media posts, this tool scans the text to find words that might not be inclusive. For example, it looks for terms like "chairman" or "policeman" that may leave some people out. Once these words are detected, the extension can either highlight them or automatically change them to gender-neutral alternatives. It's like having a personal language editor that works in real time, making sure your communication is fair and respectful.

## 2. Problem

### ☐ Gender-Specific Terms:

Many common words (like "chairman" or "policeman") are gender-specific, which means they imply that only one gender fits a particular role.

### ☐ Exclusion of Non-Binary Individuals:

Using gendered language can leave out non-binary or gender-nonconforming people, making them feel excluded.

### ☐ Reinforcement of Stereotypes:

Gendered terms often support old and limiting ideas about what roles are suitable for men or women, which can hold back progress toward equality.

### ☐ Impact on Communication:

In everyday writing—whether in emails, social media, or on websites—gendered language can unintentionally make communication less welcoming and less inclusive.

### ☐ Lack of Awareness:

Many people might not even notice that they are using non-inclusive language, which means the problem continues without intervention.

There is a need for a tool that helps users spot and change these words easily.

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### 3. Our Solution

Our solution is simple and user-friendly. We built a Chrome extension that automatically checks text for gendered language as you browse. We propose to build a Chrome extension that :

- **Real-Time Scanning:** As you read or write online, the extension checks for words that might be considered non-inclusive.
- **Two Modes:**
  - In **highlight-only mode**, it marks these words with a visual highlight so you can see them and decide what to do.
  - In **auto-replace mode**, it immediately changes those words to more neutral alternatives.
- **Customization:** Users can add their own words and preferred replacements to the extension. This means you can tailor the tool to match your own style or workplace guidelines.
- **Easy Feedback:** The tool shows a simple count of how many words were found and changed, and it even sends small notifications to keep you informed.

This makes the process of writing inclusively almost automatic, saving time and ensuring that your language is always respectful and modern.

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### 4. How It Works

1. **User Interaction:**
    - After installing the extension, users can click on its popup.
    - They can paste text or let the extension scan the active webpage.
    - Users can choose between “highlight only” or “auto-replace” modes using simple toggle buttons.
  2. **Processing the Text:**
    - The extension scans the text for gendered words using a preset list (with an option to add custom words).
    - If it finds a word, it will either highlight it or replace it with a gender-neutral alternative.
    - It updates counters that show how many words were changed.
  3. **Live Demo and Feedback:**
    - During the hackathon, we will run a live demo to show how the extension works in real time.
    - The demo will include changing a sample text and showing the before and after results.
  4. **Data Storage:**
    - User settings and statistics are saved locally using Chrome’s storage. This means your choices and the count of changes remain available in future sessions.
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## 5. Technical Details

- **Languages Used:** HTML-5, CSS-3, and JavaScript.
  - **Chrome Extension Setup:**
    - The extension uses a popup for the user interface.
    - A content script checks the text on web pages.
    - A background script handles communication between the popup and content scripts.
  - **Storage:** Uses Chrome's local storage for saving settings and usage data.
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## 6. Hackathon Day Plan

Since this is a one-day hackathon, our plan is simple:

- **Morning:**
    - Set up the project and review our idea.
    - Quickly build and test the core functions.
  - **Afternoon:**
    - Finalize the user interface and add the custom word feature.
    - Test the extension on a few websites.
  - **Before the Demo:**
    - Run a live demo showing how the extension highlights or replaces gendered words.
    - Prepare a short presentation explaining the idea, problem, and solution.
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## 7. Conclusion

In conclusion, our **Inclusive Language Checker Chrome Extension** is a practical tool that helps everyone use language that is more inclusive. By catching and correcting gendered words in real time, it supports fair communication and helps break down old stereotypes. The extension is easy to use, works automatically in your browser, and even allows you to customize it for your own needs. With a simple click, you can make your online communication more welcoming for all, making a big impact with a small change in your words.

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