Website evaluation

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A evaluation in compability of one seemingly bad and one seemingly good website. We have chosen agderavisen.com (bad) and aftenposten.no (good).

Description	Should be/do	Agderavisen.com	Aftenposten.no
Page title	Adequately and briefly describe the content of the page. Title should be different from other pages on the website, and adequately distinguishes the page from other web pages.	The title is describing the name of the page, which is good. Furthermore, the main page says "AGDERAVISEN - READ NEWS HERE", which is descriptive, but not exactly brief, and also written in uppercase. The sub-pages (i.e. each article) has title of the format "AGDERAVISEN - article name", which is also descriptive, but still not very brief, and may lead to long and unreadable titles. It does however distinguish each page from each other. The name of the page is still written in uppercase.	The title of the main page is "Forsiden - Aftenposten", which is a good title. It describes where you are at the page, and also gives the name of the page. The sub-pages either got the format "Subpage - Aftenposten", or the format "ArticleTitle - Aftenposten". These titles are very distinguishable and describes the content very well. The titles with article titles in them might be a bit long in some cases.
Image text alternatives	If an image conveys information useful for interacting with or understanding the web page content, then it needs alternative text. If an image is just decorative and people don't need to know about the image, then it should have null alt (alt="").	Most of the images that are displayed in the different articles are missing the alternative text (the attribute isn't specified at all). The logo of the page has the alternative text "Axonz Banner", which isn't very descriptive. The page doesn't contain decorative images.	All the images on the frontpage either have alt=" " or no alt specified. The same goes for the images in all the articles we checked. Some of them contains meaningless alternative text, for example "urban-2lfqwqTfEB.jpg". The page doesn't contain decorative images.
Headings	The page has a heading. In almost all pages there should	The page features several headings.	Yes, every page contains at least one heading.

be at least one heading.

All text that looks like a heading is marked up as a heading.

All text that is marked up as a heading is really a conceptual section heading.

The heading hierarchy is meaningful. Ideally the page starts with an "h1" — which is usually similar to the page title — and does not skip levels; however, these are not absolute requirements.

No, there is little consistency in regards to the styling of the headings. For instance, the h1-tags on each article-page is differently styled (black text, smaller font-size) than the ones on the frontpage. Intellectually though, each heading is wrapped inside a heading-tag.

The frontpage skips the h2-tag and generally has no logical hierarchy. To illustrate:

h1-tag-count on the frontpage:
document.querySelectorAll('h1').l
ength = 25

h2-tag-count on the frontpage:
document.querySelectorAll('h2').l

ength = 0
h3tag-count on the frontpage:
document.querySelectorAll('h3').1

ength = **111**

Judging solely by the headings, each article-page is missing any form for hierarchy, other than featuring one h1-tag as the title.

Compared to Aftenposten, no article-page marks subtitles as h[2-6]-tags.

On the frontpage, each article is marked correctly as a heading. Furthermore, each article-page contains an h1-tag describing the title of the artice.

Due to the nature of the website - a news site - the headings do not follow a hierarchy on the frontpage.

However, each article-page consists of one h1-tag (title) followed by h2-tags (subtitles).

Contrast ratio

Contrast ratio should be at least **4.5:1** in all cases.

Foregr.	Backgr.	Ratio
#717D84	#E7ECDF	3.51:1
White	#AE542A	5.12:1
	White	21:1
#AE542A	#E7ECDF	4.25:1

This website has some content which passes the contrast ratio test, but also two contrasts which does not. The key point

Foregr.	Backgr.	Ratio
	White	21:1
White		16.5:1
White	#8BC15 B	2.13:1
	#F9F9F9	19.95:1

In 95% of the cases, the contrast ratio is just fine. All actual content is readable.

		here is that the two constrasts that are too low are displaying the main content of the page - the article content and the large side menu. This is not tolerable.	The articles and menues are displaying a proper cotrast ratio. However, on the two buttons to save the articles in a "reading list", the contrast ratio is too low.
Text Resizing	When you zoom in, this should happen:	When zooming in, this happens:	When zooming in, this happens:
	All text gets larger. Text doesn't disappear or get cut off. Text, images, and other content do not overlap. All buttons, form fields, and other controls are visible and usable. Horizontal scrolling is not required to read sentences or "blocks of text". It is best practice that when text size is increased, all the text in a sentence is visible. It is acceptable to have to scroll horizontally to get to different sections of a page.	All text gets larger. Text does get cut off, but is reached by scrolling. Text and images and other content do not overlap. All buttons, form fields are visible and usable (if you scroll.) Horizontal scrolling is needed. Not all tests passed.	All text gets larger. Text does not disappear or get cut off. Text and images and other content do not overlap. All controls and form fields are visible. Horizontal scrolling is not required. All tests passed.
Keyboard access and visual focus	Keyboard focus should be visible and should follow a logical order through the page elements. Visible keyboard focus could be a border or highlight. Keyboard focus should be visible and should follow a logical order through the page elements. You don't need the mouse to activate actions, options,	Each element gets focused when you tab through them. The elements are focused by displaying a yellow border. The order is illogical due to the site structure: The entire page is essentially a table with columns which forces the user to go from top-to-bottom before going left-to-right. On the frontpage there's a livestream which is built with	The elements do not focus when you try to tab through the elements, which makes it impossible to navigate the page without a mouse. There is no way of telling if the order is logical or not. Due to the page failing on basic accessibiliity criterias,

	visible changes, and other functionality.	Flash. There is no focus being done to the element when you attempt to tab to it, instead it just skips it. This is especially bad because the video autoplays with volume turned on, which makes it impossible for those without a mouse to turn it off.	you are completely dependent on using the mouse to navigate the page.
Forms, labels and errors	All form controls should be keyboard accessible by following the keyboard access checks above, including checking that you can get to all items in any drop-down lists. Every form control should have a label associated with it using 'label', 'for', and 'id'. Labels should be positioned correctly. Fields that are required/mandatory should be clearly indicated Instructions for completing the form should be displayed before they are needed.	Forms and items in drop-down lists are keyboard accessible. When an user is signing in, every form control have label associated with it. This is not the case when creating a new user, neither at the advanced search page. The labels are positioned ok, but the length between the label and the input-box is too far at the page where you register a new user. Fields that are mandatory are not clearly indicated. Instructions for completing the form are displayed before they are needed. Errors give clear and specific guidance to help people understand and fix the error.	Forms and items in drop-down lists are keyboard accessible. All the user handling is outsourced to SPiD which is flawless. Alot of the forms are as earlier said, outsourced to SPiD. Although, the search function have a label associated with it. The labels are also positioned correctly. It was hard to find forms where it would make sense to indicate mandatory fields when SPiD handles the user system. Although there is a feedback service that you have to register for at "http://leserpanel.aftenposten.no/". At this form, mandatory fields are not clearly indicated. Instructions for completing the form are displayed before they are needed. Errors give clear and specific guidance to help people understand and fix the error.
Multimedia alternatives	Video Should not auto-start.	Agderavisen.com has a video stream in the left menu.	Aftenposten has some articles with video.

If it does, however, it should do one of these:

- * Stop after 3 max seconds
- * Have a stop/pause button
- * Have volume/mute control

Captions

- The captions should seem in sync with the spoken content.
- The people who are speaking are identified when they speak.
- Important sound other than dialogue is included.

It does auto start, and has sound. This is not very polite.

It does not stop after max 3 seconds.

However, it does have controls for stopping, pausing and adjusting the volume.

The video has no captions at all.

This video does not auto start, which is great.

It does also have controls for starting, stopping and adjusting volume.

The video has no captions.

Basic structure check

The information makes sense when read in the order it is shown; for example, headings are right above the information they apply to.

Check that blocks of information have clear headings. When navigation, main content, and other sections have good headings, it's easier for people to find their way around the information.

The information does make sense in general, and is in the right order. The headings is on top, and the content comes beneath. However, due to small heading sizes, it is somewhat difficult to distinguish the headers from the content. It is not always easy to know what is headings and what is not.

The images does not have proper alt-tags, so it is not easy to know what the images actually contain when not shown.

The look of the site is not exactly pleasing to the eye. The whole site structure is a table, and each menu and content is a cell in this table. This is an outdated way of designing web-pages.

The information on the different articles makes sense. The headers on the front page are sometimes placed under the article's image, while it's other times placed on the side. However there is a spacing between the elements on the site that makes it easy to understand.

The structure in the articles with headers above blocks of text makes the page easy to understand and navigate.

Our overall impression of the site is good. It has a modern design, it's easy to navigate, and most importantly, everything works the way it's supposed to.

Our Project

A real-time news agreggator

 The primary goal of the website is to deliver fresh news from your chosen sources in real-time in one single place.

As with all websites that serve dynamic content, our project can be generalized into two different categories: Front- and backend.

Frontend

We are going to have 10 pages in our website (route, name):

/ Front page/domestic Domestic news/international International news

/technologyTechnology news

o /sports Sports news

/economyEconomy news

/about About us/sitemap/archive/searchAbout usSitemapArchiveSearch

- Our potential audience is everyone who is interested in news. We focus mainly on residents in Norway. We are merely aggregating news, so we will not display full articles (due to copy rights, the law etc.), so making the actual news content accesible is not our concern. However, the experience the audience will have on our site will matter a lot, and we will have a high standard of accessibility. We will display a introductionary information of each news article, which mainly consists of title, header image, author and introduction.
 - To deal with different screen resolutions, we will implement a responsive design, so
 the page looks good on all screen sizes. The result of this is that you get a mobile
 experience on a mobile phone, and a good desktop experience when you browse at
 a desktop.
 - We will support the following browsers and all newer versions of them:

- Internet Explorer 8+
- Chrome 20+
- Opera 11+
- Firefox 6+
- Regarding multi-media content, we will include text and images. We will not include any
 videos on our site, we only link to videos on other news pages. We will make sure the text is
 readable with a proper size and good contrast ratio.
- Our goal is to have a dynamic website which loads new articles by itself, and adjusts the
 design accordingly to content and screen size. We will use CSS3 animations when these
 actions happen.
- Our content will be cached from several online news websites, e.g.:
 - o vg.no
 - o aftenposten.no
 - o db.no
 - o tek.no
 - o itavisen.no
 - o dinside.no
 - theverge.com
 - o nrk.no
 - o tv2.no
- When reviewing the similar sites, we learned that you should always put content first, and
 make sure your design makes it accessible. We learned that you should put great attention
 to things like contrast ratio, dead links, behaviour when zooming, input validation and site
 structure.

Backend

To achieve the real-time aggregation our backend will push events to the frontend by using
the WebSocket API. WebSockets is a relatively new form of asynchronous communication
which enables the client and the server to exchange data over a single TCP socket,
eliminating the need for using repeated Ajax (xmlhttprequests) requests.

- The news-sites we listed above all feature RSS feeds. Our service will piggyback off of those feeds, store the entries in a database and emit events (push) to the client whenever there's any change(s) detected.
- Due to the synchronous nature of the HTTP-protocol, the backend will have av internal event-loop which parses each feed in a set interval.
- The backend will be built with on top off Node (V8 Javascript-engine with bindings) with Sails.js as our framework. Sails have socket.io built into its core (a WebSocket library), this greatly simplifies the implementation of realtime events. In addition to the asynchronous pros of using Node, we also get to use the same language on both the frontend and the backend.
- To store the entries of each feed we are going to use MongoDB with Mongoose (object modeling).