**Website report**

This report will look at how the TraveltoPalermo website was built and what design, layout techniques and HTML tags were used to make the content accessible and usable.

**Usability and accessibility**

When designing the website, the aim was to find the best colours, fonts and layouts to make the information accessible and usable to a wide range of age groups with visual or colour impairment.

In order to achieve this, strong or complementary colours were avoided (eg. red and green) and colours were checked on webaim.org to pass contrast tests. The design settled on different shades of grey, dark red, purple and black. Colours occur predominantly in the photographs and the neutral background looks to emphasize them.

Long column widths were avoided to facilitate reading. The current number of characters does not exceed 75, which is in line with current module guidelines. Text font size is predominantly 1rem (16px) and the layout is designed to accommodate larger fonts if the user requires it. In the same way, media queries were used to make the website layout accessible on smaller devices.

The fonts used are from the sans-serif family, which is the easiest to read and most accessible font family. From this range, Google fonts ‘Nunito’ and ‘Nanum Gothic’ are specified throughout with the sans-serif backup for older browsers.

Navigation elements and <a> tags have been used in the code to highlight intra-site links (eg. menu bar), external inter-site links (eg. mappery.com) or in the page anchor links (eg. Back to the top). These links use the same format throughout the website (the same colour, highlights, fonts) to enable the user to easily identify them and keep track of where the information is located.

**Semantic elements (Semantic HTML)**

The website uses semantic elements to create templates for lying out and to classifying information within the HTML page.

While semantic HTML is not relevant to the user who is visiting website, it is very useful to other programmers looking to edit the code or to other software and web browsers that are looking to read and classify the information contained on the website. For example, TravelToPalermo is more likely to appear in a search if the browser’s crawler can read that <h1> is the title (“Palermo”) and <p> is a paragraph (“About Palermo”).

In HTML pages, semantic elements have a conventional order (<header>, <nav>, <main>, <footer>) and are useful to keep a constant layout throughout multiple HTML pages and understand code written by someone else.

This is also present in the current website design. What changes from page to page is the <main> content which uses <div> as containers and <sections>, <articles> with <headers>, <figure>,<p> and <footer> elements inside. This order creates a template for paragraphs and is consistent throughout the website.

Semantic elements are also useful in targeting specific elements for styling.

**Layout techniques**

The layout design of the website aims to display a lot of information on a page but without appearing crowded or hard to read. Where possible, scrolling down the page was reduced in order to make the individual pages easier to navigate.

A combination of single and multiple columns was used throughout the website as per the design requirements for this module.

**Inline navigation lists** are easy to construct and manipulate if the list content is one or 2 words. They are useful to create menu bars at the top of the page to guide the user to the different areas of the webpage. The menu bar used in the website also highlights which page the user is currently on.

**Flexbox** row and columnsettings were used the most frequently to lay out the pages, mainly because of the ease of creating multiple equal width columns,with equal spacing between them, or creating columns within columns.

**Hover images** allowed for less scrolling down while still giving the user the option to view the details in the pictures.

The Transport Page required a secondary navigation menu. This dictated the construction of the whole page using **<div> tags with float properties**. This kind of layout is very useful if the webpage has 2 columns which are uneven and can also be used to create columns within columns.

**Conclusion**

Overall the TraveltoPalermo website aims for the best kind of accessibility, readability and design using the currently taught methods. In the future, the website could benefit from more advanced layout techniques that could reduce scrolling down (for example: sliding images or sliding drop down text sections using tick-box methods).