

Common Accessibility Issues and How to Fix Them

The Issue for Students	The Cause of the Issue	How to Fix It
Students using assistive technology (AT) aren't getting the key information from an image.	An image is missing alt text.	Add succinct and descriptive alt text.
	The alt text is just the file name of the image.	Rewrite the alt text to be succinct and descriptive of the image.
Students using AT have a disrupted flow of information on the page.	Heading levels are skipped.	Move down only one heading level at a time.
	Heading styles are imitated but not actually used.	Use Canvas' heading styles, don't just use bolding or text size to make your own headings.
	Tables are used to format the layout of the page.	Ask your ID to set the table to "presentation" or use another way to structure the layout of the page.
	Entire URLs are pasted on the page.	Link URLs to short, descriptive, and unique phrases in the text.
Students who are deaf or hard-of-hearing aren't getting the key information from a video.	A video doesn't contain closed captioning or a transcription.	Replace the video with one containing manually created captions or a transcription.
Students using AT can't distinguish links when searching through them.	Links only contain phrases like "Click here."	Link URLs to short, descriptive, and unique phrases in the text.
Students with trouble seeing, colorblindness, and/or who use assistive technology are having difficulty reading the text.	Text color is used to emphasize text.	Only use bold or italics to emphasize text.
	The text color doesn't contrast enough with the background color.	Use a color contrast checker to find a color combination with a contrast of 4.5:1 or higher. Avoid color combinations inaccessible to students with colorblindness .