Blackboard Ally (refresh)
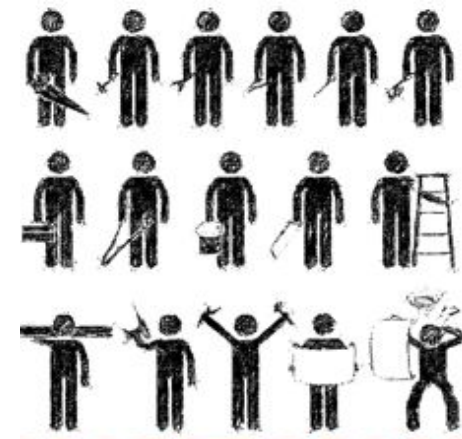
Available to all students and teachers @ CSU

with   Lachlan Kalache
Sandra Boyd

Charles Sturt University

Welcome

Who are you and why is accessibility on your radar?

Introductions:

Lachlan Kalache   Digital Innovations Lead (DLT)

Sandra Boyd   Assistive Technology Advisor (AIS)

Needs help!

A little better

Almost there
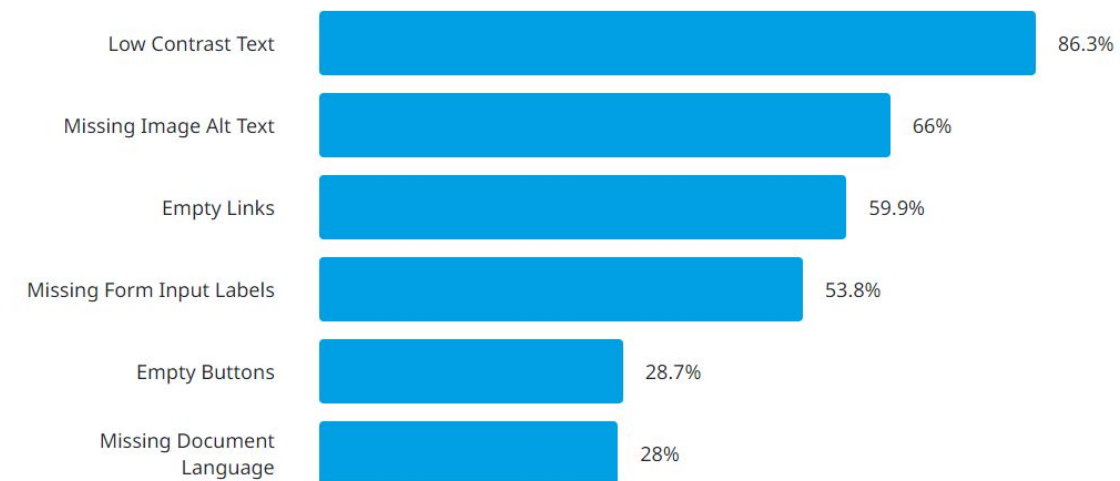
Perfect!

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What is GAAD?

Global Accessibility Awareness Day - 18/05/23

GAAD homepage - https://accessibility.day/

- Over 1 billion people worldwide with disabilities / impairments

- GAAD is about lifting + joining the conversation

- Every person has the right to experience digital content with the same successful outcomes

Causes of Most Common Accessibility Failures (% of Home Pages)

Cause	%
Low Contrast Text	86.3%
Missing Image Alt Text	66%
Empty Links	59.9%
Missing Form Input Labels	53.8%
Empty Buttons	28.7%
Missing Document Language	28%

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What is AllY?

Accessibility tool | Interact2 | Student / Teacher-facing

Blackboard ALLY provides a student and teacher-facing toolset to address

course content through the following lenses:

- *Usability*

- *Accessibility*

- *Quality*

- *Compliance*

Two Main Approaches to Address Barriers

Focus is supporting the one	Focus is supporting all
• Compliance	• Access
• Accessibility	• Inclusive subject Design
• 1:1 accommodations	• Universal Design for Learning (UDL)

Needs help!

A little better

Almost there
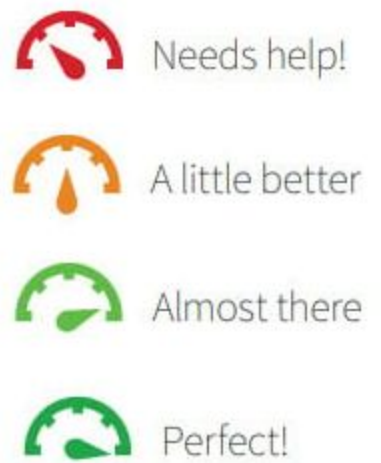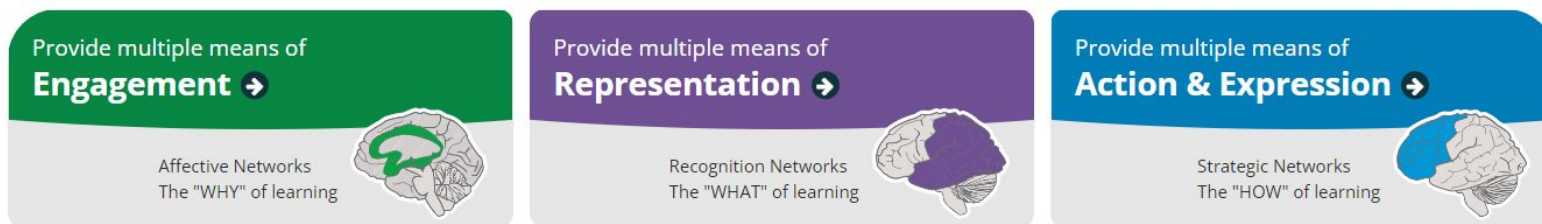
Perfect!

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Why ALLY?

Accessibility tool | Interact2 | Student / Teacher-facing

Blackboard Ally helps institutions build a more inclusive learning environment and improve the student experience by helping them take clear control of course content with usability, accessibility and quality in mind.

Elements:

- Universal Design for Learning

- Accessibility for all students

- Understanding and meeting our institutional obligations

Universal Design for Learning Guidelines

Provide multiple means of **Engagement** →	Provide multiple means of **Representation** →	Provide multiple means of **Action & Expression** →
Affective Networks The "WHY" of learning	Recognition Networks The "WHAT" of learning	Strategic Networks The "HOW" of learning

Needs help!

A little better

Almost there

Perfect!

AllY for Students

Can I get this module in a size 14 please?

Alternative Formats - portable, accessible, usable

Improve the overall student experience with alternative formats that provide students with the choice and added flexibility that comes with a more personalised approach

Content items currently available in:

- ePub
- BRF
- MP3
- BeeLine Reader
- Immersive Reader
- Translated version

*file attachments have several more options (.pdf and .html versions)

For an entertaining look at alt-formats, check out this Uni Southhamption YouTube clip

---

Download alternative formats ▾   ✕

Selected item:

🗎	`<span style="display: none;">read</span>`

- **ePub**
  For reading as an e-book on an iPad and other e-book readers

- **Electronic braille**
  BRF version for consumption on electronic braille displays

- **Audio**
  MP3 version for listening

- **BeeLine Reader**
  Enhanced version for easier and faster on-screen reading

- **Immersive Reader** `NEW`
  Aid reading comprehension and grammar skills. Internet required.

- **Translated version**
  A machine translated version of the original document

❓ Help

By downloading an alternative format, you agree with the Terms of Use

Cancel   A↓ Download

Tool Walkthrough

https://interact2qa.csu.edu.au environment

- Instructor / full staff view

- Student view

- Subject Accessibility Report

For the curious - Blackboard AllY FAQ link

Needs help!
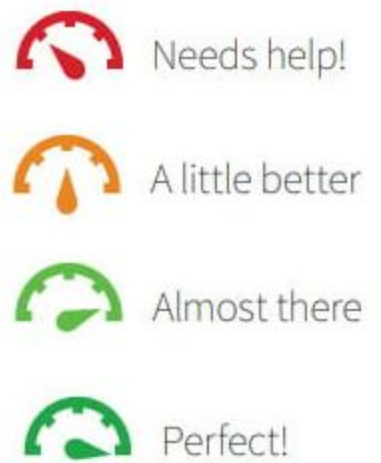
A little better

Almost there

Perfect!

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AllY for Teachers

Edit mode must be ON

- AllY options (formats / score) only available for I2 **content items**

- Edit mode on → AllY score and potential adjustments required (if <100%) are located to the top-right of the editor

- Clicking on the score will open a version of the editor, with AllY score information on the right hand side.

Needs help!

A little better

Almost there

Perfect!

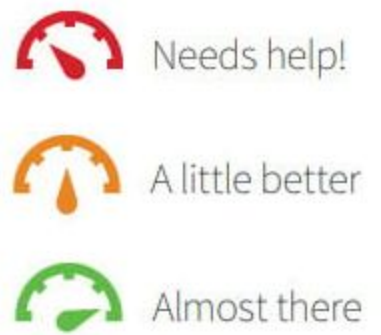**Charles Sturt University**

Accessibility score: ✕

100%

Perfect!

This item has a perfect accessibility score, although further improvements may still be possible. Keep up the good work!

Close

WARNING: AllY % and headings

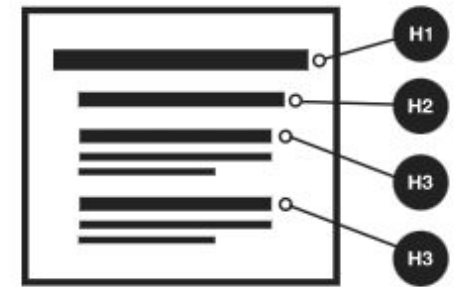*Green = good | Be aware of our LMS 'skin' legacy*

- Warnings about headings may be problematic with our Blackboard instance (particularly within templated content)

- Take heading-related warnings with a grain of salt - don't just click fix, be sure before clicking 'submit'.

- Aim for a 'green' score as your baseline, not necessarily 100% for all items.

97% ✕

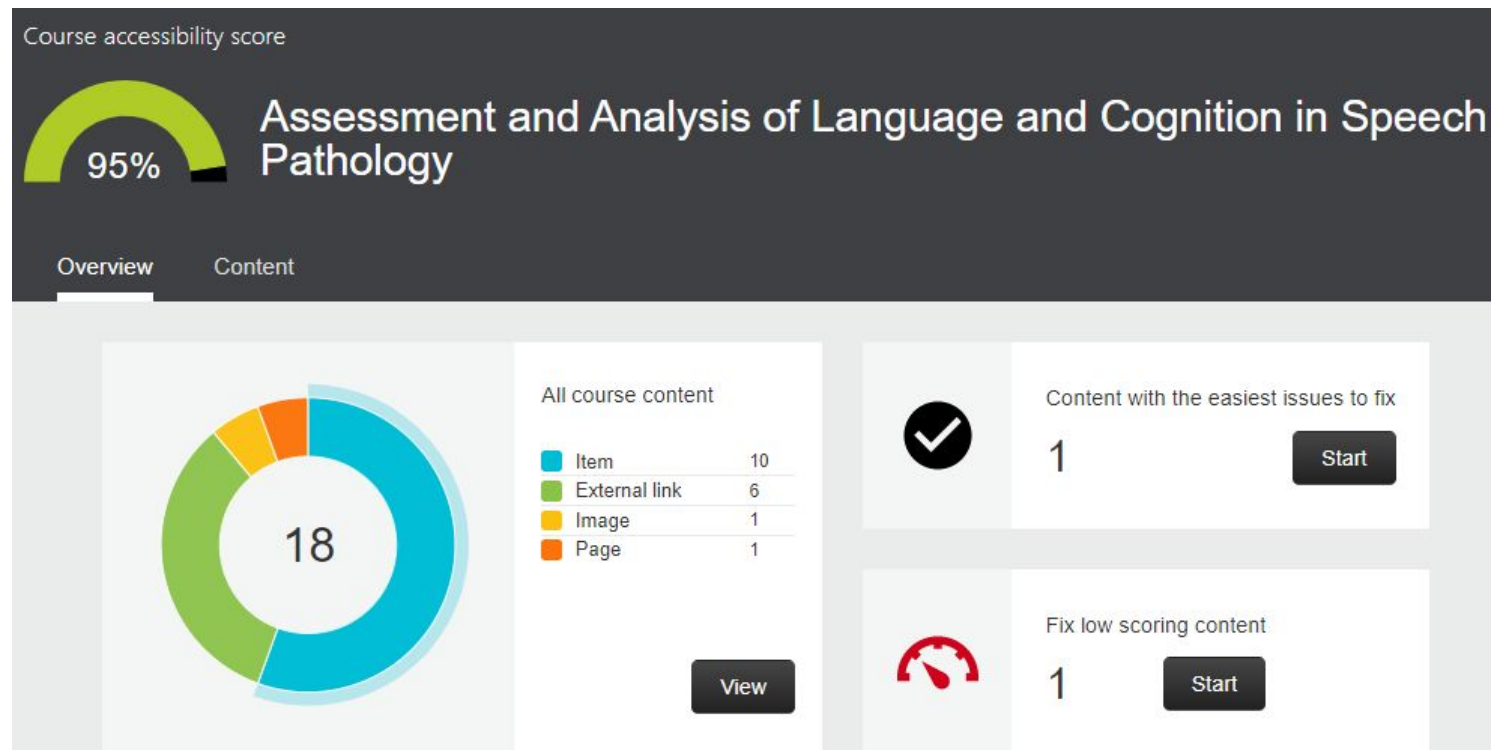## Headings should follow a logical order

Think of headings in an item like the chapters and section titles in a book. Without a logical order, the book outline is hard to follow and navigate. Headings should follow a sequential, descending order and shouldn't skip a level. Heading 1 <H1> is the highest heading level you can use and Heading 6 <H6> is the lowest. In your course editor, these headings may be labeled differently or not all levels may be displayed.

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Subject Accessibility Report

When was the last time you ran one?

Under 'Subject Tools' → Accessibility Report LTI 1.3

- Clicking on either 'view' or the Content tab will open list view

- Callout items on the right, 'start' to open directly

Next Steps

Further considerations etc.

- Blackboard AllY LTI 1.3 → 'LMS agnostic' (will work in exactly the same way in

  Brightspace next year)

- Discovery - prior to your next teaching session, put aside some time to check

  through the content in your i2 subject(s) - the results might surprise you?

- Writing better alt-text descriptions -

  https://www.perkins.org/resource/how-write-alt-text-and-image-descriptions-visuall
  y-impaired/

- Workshop Recordings and AllY resource library -

  https://www.csu.edu.au/division/learning-teaching/learning-technology/subject-outl
  ines-sites/blackboard-ally-accessibility-tool

Needs help!

A little better

Almost there

Perfect!

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