



California Open Online Library for Education & Accessibility

COOL4Ed (the California Open Online Library for Education) was created so that faculty can easily find, adopt, utilize, review and/or modify free and open etextbooks for little or no cost. The COOL4Ed accessibility open textbook evaluations can inform faculty, staff, and students how the free and open etextbooks meet 15 accessibility “checkpoints” that could impact the learning of learners with a range of disabilities.

SUMMARY OF ACCESSIBILITY EVALUATION:

Textbook: Dynamic Earth: Introduction to Physical Geography
Format of Textbook: HTML

Assistive Technology (AT) Evaluation Score: Overall	7.1 (Maximum score = 10)
<p>Assistive Technologies (AT) Evaluations applies specialized tools and software in the accessibility evaluation process. These specialized assistive technologies, see list below, are typically not used or available by the general public into the accessibility evaluation process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility features of desktop operating systems (e.g. high-contrast display themes, settings from the Keyboard and Mouse control panels) • Accessibility-related software included with desktop operating systems (e.g. VoiceOver, Microsoft Narrator) • Third-party accessibility software and hardware: • Screen readers (e.g. JAWS, Window Eyes) • Magnification software (e.g. ZoomText Magnifier/Reader, MAGIC Pro with Speech) • Reading software for users with learning disabilities (e.g. Read and Write Gold, Kurzweil 3000) • Refreshable Braille displays 	
Non- Assistive Technology (NAT) Evaluation Score: Overall	6.4 (Maximum score =10)
<p>Non-Assistive Technologies (NAT) Evaluations applies only native or basic tools and software such as the keyboard and Narrator in the accessibility evaluation process. These non-assistive technologies are readily available and used by the general public.</p>	



COOL4Ed Accessibility Evaluation Methods:

The California State University [Accessible Technology Initiative](#) and [MERLOT](#) (Multimedia Educational Resources for Learning and Online Teaching) developed the rubric or “checkpoints” for the accessibility evaluation. [CAST](#), a nationally recognized organization with expertise in accessibility and UDL, reviewed and affirmed the appropriateness and value of the accessibility evaluation rubric and contributed the references and support resources to help people learn how best to design, evaluate, and remediate the learning materials to maximize the accessibility of the learning resources for all. The “checkpoints” have been built upon the Section 508 technical standards and has been organized and tailored to the typical characteristics of digital resources used in higher education courses.

The accessibility evaluations were performed by the [Center for Usability in Design and Accessibility](#) at California State University, Long Beach; faculty and graduate students with expertise in human factors, usability, and accessibility performed the evaluations of over 150 free and open etextbooks. COOL4ed.org has published the accessibility evaluation rubric and provides a detailed description of the methodology used to evaluate the accessibility of the etextbooks in COOL4ed.

LOOKING FOR DETAILED ACCESSIBILITY REPORTS?

[See Detailed Accessibility Evaluation Report using Assistive Technologies](#)

[See Detailed Accessibility Evaluation Report using Non-Assistive Technologies](#)



DETAILED ACCESSIBILITY EVALUATION REPORT using Assistive Technologies

Assistive Technologies (AT) Evaluations applies specialized tools and software in the accessibility evaluation process. These specialized assistive technologies, such as Kurzweil and NVDA, are typically not used or available by the general public into the accessibility evaluation process.

1. Accessibility Documentation

A. The organization providing the online materials has a formal accessibility policy.	Fail
Additional Information:	No accessibility policy found.
B. The organization providing the online materials has an accessibility statement.	Fail
Additional Information:	No accessibility statement found.
C. An Accessibility Evaluation Report is available from an external organization.	Fail
Additional Information:	No accessibility evaluation report found.

2. Text Access

A. The text of the digital resource is available to assistive technology that allows the user to enable text-to-speech (TTS) functionality.	Pass
Additional Information:	2/2 chapters pass (1, 2).

3. Text Adjustment

A. Text is compatible with assistive technology.	Pass
Additional Information:	2/2 chapters somewhat pass (1, 2).
B. The resource allows the user to adjust the font size and font/background color (or is rendered by an application such as a browser, media player, or reader) that offers this functionality).	Pass
Additional Information:	2/2 chapters pass (9, 10).



4. Reading Layout

<p>A. Text of the digital resource is compatible with assistive technology that allows the user to reflow the text by specifying the margins and line spacing (or is rendered by an application such as a browser, media player, or reader that offers this functionality).</p>	<p>Fail</p>
<p>Additional Information:</p>	<p>0/12 webpages pass. (Chpt 1-12; chapter 13- 14 do not have hyperlinks that will open chapter 13-14).</p>
<p>B. If the digital resource is an electronic alternative to printed materials, the page numbers correspond to the printed material.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Additional Information:</p>	<p>No PDF file available.</p>

5. Reading Order

<p>A. The reading order for digital resource content logically corresponds to the visual layout of the page when rendered by assistive technology.</p>	<p>Pass</p>
<p>Additional Information:</p>	<p>4/5 pages pass. (Ch 8, 9, 10, 11, 12).</p>

6. Structural Markup/Navigation

<p>A. The text of the digital resource includes markup (e.g. tags or styles) that allows for navigation by key structural elements (chapters, headings, pages) using assistive technology (or is rendered by an application such as a browser, media player, or reader that offers this functionality).</p>	<p>Pass</p>
<p>Additional Information:</p>	<p>2/2 chapters pass (Ch 1, 2).</p>
<p>B. The text of the digital resource includes markup for bullets and numbered lists that is compatible with assistive technology (or is rendered by an application such as a browser,</p>	<p>Pass</p>



media player, or reader that offers this functionality).	
Additional Information:	10/10 lists pass (Ch 1, 2, 3).
C. If the text of the digital resource is delivered within an ebook reader application, a method is provided that allows users to bypass the reader interface and move directly to the text content that is compatible with assistive technology.	N/A
Additional Information:	Not using eReader application.

7. Tables

A. Data tables include markup (e.g. tags or styles) that identifies row and column headers in a manner that is compatible with assistive technology (or are rendered by an application such as a browser, media player, or reader that offers this functionality).	N/A
Additional Information:	No tables found within book.

8. Hyperlinks

A. In-book links take you to a location within the textbook. For example, the table of contents would be considered in-book links and embedded links take you to the correct location in the book.	N/A
Additional Information:	
B. Live hyperlinks take you to any website or webpages external to the book.	Pass
Additional Information:	I averaged the scores between the hyperlink live functionality and description.
C. Live links take you to the correct webpage that is functioning properly.	Pass
Additional Information:	50/50 links pass (Ch 1, 2).



D. Live links are descriptive enough for the users to know where it should take them.	Pass
Additional Information:	35/50 links pass (Ch 1, 2).

9. Color and Contrast

A. All information within the material that is conveyed using color is also available in a manner that is compatible with those that do not perceive color, and information conveyed by color is also conveyed in other ways.	Fail
Additional Information:	7/29 chapters pass (Ch 9, 10).
B. Information is conveyed from the sub-categories for contrast.	Pass
Additional Information:	Averaged scores for contrast header, text and simple images.
C. Contrast for headers passed WCAG AA standards for large texts (contrast ratio 3:1).	Pass
Additional Information:	2/2 chapters pass (1, 2).
D. Contrast for text passed WCAG AA standards for normal texts (contrast ratio of 4.5:1).	Pass
Additional Information:	2/2 chapters pass (1, 2).
E. Contrast for simple images (for example, images of atoms) passed WCAG AA standards (contrast ratio of 4.5:1).	N/A
Additional Information:	There are no simple images.

10. Language

A. The text of the digital resource includes markup that declares the language of the content in a manner that is compatible with assistive technology.	Fail
Additional Information:	No lang="en" found in source code.



B. If the digital resource includes passages in a foreign language, these passages include markup that declares the language in a manner that is compatible with assistive technology.	Fail
Additional Information:	No secondary language found in book.

11.Images

A. Non-decorative images have alternative text that is compatible with assistive technology (or is rendered by an application such as a browser, media player, or reader that offers this functionality).	Fail
Additional Information:	0/2 chapters pass (ch 1, 2).
B. Decorative images are marked with null alternate text or contain markup that allows them to be ignored by assistive technology.	Fail
Additional Information:	0/2 chapters pass (chp 1, 2).
C. Complex images, charts, and graphs have longer text descriptions that are compatible with assistive technology (or are rendered by an application such as a browser, media player, or reader) that offers this functionality).	Fail
Additional Information:	0/2 chapters pass (ch 1, 2).

12.Multimedia

A. A synchronized text track (e.g. open or closed captions) is provided with all video content.	Fail
Additional Information:	2/3 videos pass (Ch 1).
B. A transcript is provided with all audio content.	Fail
Additional Information:	0/3 transcript found (Ch 1).
C. Audio/video content is delivered via a media player that is compatible with assistive	Pass



technology. This includes support for all criteria listed in Section 15 below.	
Additional Information:	3/3 multimedia pass (Ch 1).

13.Flickering

A. The digital resource content does not contain anything that flashes more than three times in any one-second period.	Pass
Additional Information:	No flickering found.

14.Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)

A. STEM figures have appropriate markup that indicates that the image is a figure.	Fail
Additional Information:	0/10 figures markups pass (Ch 9).
B. STEM graphs have appropriate markup that indicates that the image is a graph.	Fail
Additional Information:	0/4 graph markups pass. (Ch 6, 12). Only 4 graphs found within book.
C. STEM equations have appropriate markup that indicates that the image is an equation.	N/A
Additional Information:	No equations found in book.
D. STEM tables have appropriate markup that indicates the image is a table.	N/A
Additional Information:	No tables found within book.
E. STEM figures have appropriate notation markup that conveys both the notation (presentation) and meaning (semantics) of the STEM content.	Fail
Additional Information:	6/10 figure notation markups pass. (Ch 9).
F. STEM graphs have appropriate notation markup that conveys both the notation (presentation) and meaning (semantics) of the STEM content.	Fail



Additional Information:	0/4 graphs pass. (Ch 6, 12). Only 4 graphs found within book.
G. STEM equations have appropriate notation markup that conveys both the notation (presentation) and meaning (semantics) of the STEM content.	N/A
Additional Information:	No equations found in book.
H. Assistive technology used can access the content from the STEM tables.	N/A
Additional Information:	No tables found within book.

15. Interactive Elements

A. Each interactive element (e.g. menu, hyperlink, button) and function (e.g. annotations) allows keyboard-only operation both with and without assistive technology.	N/A
Additional Information:	No keyboard interactive elements found.
B. Each interactive element conveys information to assistive technology regarding the element's name, type, and status (e.g. "Play, button, selected").	N/A
Additional Information:	No markup interactive elements found.
C. All instructions, prompts, and error messages necessary to complete forms are conveyed as text to assistive technology (or are rendered by an application such as a browser, media player, or reader that offers this functionality).	N/A
Additional Information:	No text prompts interactive elements found.



DETAILED ACCESSIBILITY EVALUATION REPORT using Non-Assistive Technologies

Non-Assistive Technologies (NAT) Evaluations applies only native or basic tools and software such as the keyboard and Narrator in the accessibility evaluation process. These non-assistive technologies are readily available and used by the general public.

1. Accessibility Documentation

A. The organization providing the online materials has a formal accessibility policy.	Fail
Additional Information:	Not found
B. The organization providing the online materials has an accessibility statement.	Fail
Additional Information:	Not found
C. An Accessibility Evaluation Report is available from an external organization.	Fail
Additional Information:	Not found

2. Text Access

A. The text of the digital resource is available to assistive technology that allows the user to enable text-to-speech (TTS) functionality.	Pass
Additional Information:	2/2 chapters pass. Chapters 3 & 4 were checked.

3. Text Adjustment

A. Text is compatible with assistive technology.	Pass
Additional Information:	2/2 chapters pass with zoom option on google chrome. Chapters 3 & 4 were checked.
B. The resource allows the user to adjust the font size and font/background color (or is rendered by an application such as a browser, media player, or reader) that offers this functionality).	Pass



Additional Information:	2/2 chapters pass. Chapters 3 & 4 were checked.
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4. Reading Layout

A. Text of the digital resource is compatible with assistive technology that allows the user to reflow the text by specifying the margins and line spacing (or is rendered by an application such as a browser, media player, or reader that offers this functionality).	Fail
Additional Information:	0/2 chapters pass. Chapters do reflow up to 125%. Chapters also reflow to certain degree when making browser smaller but not fully.
B. If the digital resource is an electronic alternative to printed materials, the page numbers correspond to the printed material.	N/A
Additional Information:	No pdf of printed version found.

5. Reading Order

A. The reading order for digital resource content logically corresponds to the visual layout of the page when rendered by assistive technology.	N/A
Additional Information:	Non AT Tech only.

6. Structural Markup/Navigation

A. The text of the digital resource includes markup (e.g. tags or styles) that allows for navigation by key structural elements (chapters, headings, pages) using assistive technology (or is rendered by an application such as a browser, media player, or reader that offers this functionality).	N/A
Additional Information:	Non AT Tech only.



B. The text of the digital resource includes markup for bullets and numbered lists that is compatible with assistive technology (or is rendered by an application such as a browser, media player, or reader that offers this functionality).	N/A
Additional Information:	Non AT Tech only.
C. If the text of the digital resource is delivered within an ebook reader application, a method is provided that allows users to bypass the reader interface and move directly to the text content that is compatible with assistive technology.	N/A
Additional Information:	Non AT Tech only.

7. Tables

A. Data tables include markup (e.g. tags or styles) that identifies row and column headers in a manner that is compatible with assistive technology (or are rendered by an application such as a browser, media player, or reader that offers this functionality).	N/A
Additional Information:	Non AT Tech only.

8. Hyperlinks

A. In-book links take you to a location within the textbook. For example, the table of contents would be considered in-book links and embedded links take you to the correct location in the book.	N/A
Additional Information:	No within book links in HTML.
B. Live hyperlinks take you to any website or webpages external to the book.	Pass
Additional Information:	Average Score.



C. Live links take you to the correct webpage that is functioning properly.	Pass
Additional Information:	20/20 links pass.
D. Live links are descriptive enough for the users to know where it should take them.	Pass
Additional Information:	20/20 links pass.

9. Color and Contrast

A. All information within the material that is conveyed using color is also available in a manner that is compatible with those that do not perceive color, and information conveyed by color is also conveyed in other ways.	Fail
Additional Information:	Links are made blue to demonstrate they are links but do not have a secondary code.
B. Information is conveyed from the sub-categories for contrast.	Pass
Additional Information:	Average Score
C. Contrast for headers passed WCAG AA standards for large texts (contrast ratio 3:1).	Pass
Additional Information:	Headers are a medium dark gray and background is white.
D. Contrast for text passed WCAG AA standards for normal texts (contrast ratio of 4.5:1).	Pass
Additional Information:	Text is black while background is white.
E. Contrast for simple images (for example, images of atoms) passed WCAG AA standards (contrast ratio of 4.5:1).	N/A
Additional Information:	No simple images found.

10. Language

A. The text of the digital resource includes markup that declares the language of the	Fail
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content in a manner that is compatible with assistive technology.	
Additional Information:	No language code was found.
B. If the digital resource includes passages in a foreign language, these passages include markup that declares the language in a manner that is compatible with assistive technology.	N/A
Additional Information:	No other language was found.

11.Images

A. Non-decorative images have alternative text that is compatible with assistive technology (or is rendered by an application such as a browser, media player, or reader that offers this functionality).	Pass
Additional Information:	2/2 chapters pass when checked with w3c.
B. Decorative images are marked with null alternate text or contain markup that allows them to be ignored by assistive technology.	Pass
Additional Information:	2/2 chapters pass when checked with w3c.
C. Complex images, charts, and graphs have longer text descriptions that are compatible with assistive technology (or are rendered by an application such as a browser, media player, or reader) that offers this functionality).	Fail
Additional Information:	Complex images have like "picure" when they should have a much more elaborate description.

12.Multimedia

A. A synchronized text track (e.g. open or closed captions) is provided with all video content.	Pass
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Additional Information:	4/4 videos have text to track. The videos rated are found in chapter 1 and 2 however videos are found in every chapter.
B. A transcript is provided with all audio content.	Fail
Additional Information:	0/4 videos pass. Transcripts are not provided.
C. Audio/video content is delivered via a media player that is compatible with assistive technology. This includes support for all criteria listed in Section 15 below.	N/A
Additional Information:	Assistive technology only.

13.Flickering

A. The digital resource content does not contain anything that flashes more than three times in any one-second period.	Pass
Additional Information:	No flickering. Chapters 2, 8, 12 and 24 were checked.

14.Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)

A. STEM figures have appropriate markup that indicates that the image is a figure.	Fail
Additional Information:	2/10 figures have mark up.
B. STEM graphs have appropriate markup that indicates that the image is a graph.	N/A
Additional Information:	No stem graphs found.
C. STEM equations have appropriate markup that indicates that the image is an equation.	N/A
Additional Information:	No stem equations found.
D. STEM tables have appropriate markup that indicates the image is a table.	N/A
Additional Information:	No stem tables found.
E. STEM figures have appropriate notation markup that conveys both the notation	Fail



(presentation) and meaning (semantics) of the STEM content.	
Additional Information:	0/10 figures have a notation.
F. STEM graphs have appropriate notation markup that conveys both the notation (presentation) and meaning (semantics) of the STEM content.	N/A
Additional Information:	No stem graphs found.
G. STEM equations have appropriate notation markup that conveys both the notation (presentation) and meaning (semantics) of the STEM content.	N/A
Additional Information:	No stem equations found.
H. Assistive technology used can access the content from the STEM tables.	N/A
Additional Information:	No stem tables found.

15. Interactive Elements

A. Each interactive element (e.g. menu, hyperlink, button) and function (e.g. annotations) allows keyboard-only operation both with and without assistive technology.	N/A
Additional Information:	Non-Assistive Technologies only.
B. Each interactive element conveys information to assistive technology regarding the element's name, type, and status (e.g. "Play, button, selected").	N/A
Additional Information:	Non-Assistive Technologies only.
C. All instructions, prompts, and error messages necessary to complete forms are conveyed as text to assistive technology (or are rendered by an application such as a browser, media player, or reader that offers this functionality).	N/A
Additional Information:	Non-Assistive Technologies only.



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