ACCESSIBILITY VOCAB

ACCESSIBLE When a person with a disability is able to use, interact, enjoy the same services as a person without a disability.

ACCOMODATION A physical or academic adjustment made to "level the playing field" for an individual with a disability based on a proven need.

ALT TEXT Descriptive text attached to an image (inserted by formatting the image).

ASSISTIVE/ADAPTIVE TECHNOLOGY Software or devices that assist a person with a disability to access a computer. These may include speech to text software, alternate keyboard, etc.

DSS Acronym for Disability Support Services.

DRAGON A popular speech recognition tool, often used to dictate for students unable to type.

HEADERS Markers built into the HTML of a document or webpage that indicate where new sections begin, enabling a person using a screen reader to more quickly navigate the page/document.

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SECTION 508 A section of the US Rehabilitation Act requiring that all federal agencies make electronic and information technology accessible.

SCREENREADER Software that reads web content or digital documents to the user. Users are able to navigate through a page/file with the help of headers and alt text for images.

UNIVERSAL DESIGN An approach to design that emphasizes designing for the widest range of the population, to avoid the need for retrofitting (design a building with an elevator and ramps, don't add those once someone in a wheel chair shows up).

UDL Universal Design for Learning. Applying Universal Design principles to instruction. Emphasis on multiple means of representation, engagement, and expression.

ZOOM TEXT A popular screen magnification software for people with vision problems.

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