

Strategic Reader: Progress Toward Increased Accessibility

At Pearson, we value every learner.

Pearson's defining goal — to help people make progress in their lives through learning — can only be fulfilled when our educational materials are accessible to all users.

Our commitment

We are committed to access for persons with disabilities as part of the fabric of our learning materials, development processes, innovation efforts, and employee culture. We are also committed to providing clear and straightforward statements on the accessibility of our products, so that our customers can plan appropriately. Accessibility and achievement go hand in hand. Our goal is to eliminate barriers that can hinder a student's opportunity to learn or opportunity to demonstrate that learning.

Our commitment is embodied in specific policies and services

Pearson continues to make steady progress in developing our learning platforms, rich media assets, and other content to be as accessible as possible to all of our customers. WCAG 2.0 AA standards form the basis of the Pearson Accessibility Guidelines for product development, and we regularly review our existing platforms and content to improve accessibility with each release.

Strategic Reader

Pearson is continually making improvements to ensure that *all* students can access and utilize **Strategic Reader**. The Strategic Reader interface works with all common screen magnifiers and is contrast-optimized for vision-impaired access to most features.

Strategic Reader also offers:

- closed captioning for all videos
- improved color contrast for onscreen text
- the ability for instructors to adjust timed activities for students with accommodations

All rich media assets accessed in Strategic Reader have been developed to address accessibility requirements. Users may:

- resize the video player
- pause, rewind, and rewatch videos or listen again to audio
- speed up or slow down all videos except for Guided Eye Movement™ (GEM) videos

Moving forward

Accessibility is not just a feature that is added to Strategic Reader, but a process by which it is built. We are committed to embedding accessibility in all product development processes. In 2018, we plan to:

- continue to create modules that use a modern and accessible user interface
- commission a full VPAT audit
- incorporate accessibility improvements as part of global user interface redesign effort
- include closed captioning for all audio in the product
- add tab indexing so that users can use their keyboard to access the product
- improve accessibility through screen reader