

Missing Design Patterns

[Previous Design Pattern Work](#)

Copy before lisa's edits: <https://docs.google.com>

Overview

This document is to allow us to create the missing design patterns after the user needs review. Each new pattern needed is listed below. Please sign up for a design pattern. Then:

1. Double check against the User Story Mapping and content usable to make sure it isn't covered.
2. If it is covered, add a note to the pattern stating which user story you believe covers it
3. If it is not covered, complete the template below it.

Thank you.

Template

Pattern Name (Use active voice such as "Make each step clear)

Pattern Description: 1-2 sentences in active voice that describes what to do. For example, "In a multi-step process, clearly indicate the steps completed, the current step and the steps pending. Make sure the current location and progress within a sequence is clear."

How it helps

This section should have

1. An explanation of the problem / user need that the pattern solves
2. an everyday understandable example of how it helps or the problems

More details (optional)

Add annoying details hear, such as exceptions (if necessary)

Getting started (optional)

Add content here if necessary such as what you might recommend as a proposed Success Criteria at the WCAG single A (measurable/testable/easy to achieve)

Examples

(These should make it easier to understand)

At this point we can have one example. (You can add an editor's note if you feel more examples would add clarity for different cases, but do not have time to do it now.)

Success example:
(find from bbc gel)

Failure example:

Technical details

“The following are proposals for WCAG. They experiment with more testable language”
Link to github issue and /or earlier version

Other links and resources (optional)
Links to research and resources

Objective 1: Help users understand what things are and how to use them

1 User Need: Controls do not move unexpectedly as I am using them.

Pattern Name **Controls do not move unexpectedly**

Pattern Description: 1-2 sentences in active voice that describes what to do. For example, “In a multi-step process, clearly indicate the steps completed, the current step and the steps pending. Make sure the current location and progress within a sequence is clear.”

Make sure **controls** remain in place and do not move, unless initiated by the user.

How it helps

Some times a user is about to press a control and it moves. Slow eye hand coordination and processing speed means that users hit the wrong control causing an unwanted action and disorienting the user.

Shifting content also can cause cognitive overload and increase the mental fatigue

For example, a user with Traumatic Brain Injury is reading content. As they read it, content refreshes and a addinal article appears above the article they are reading is moved down. They become disoriented and the application becomes very hard to use

In another example, a user is about to press a button on a video. The orientation changes to landscape and the control moves. Because the user has slow eye hand coordination, they end up pressing a link to a new video.

More details (optional)

Add annoying details here, such as exceptions (if necessary)

This includes:

- Links in a list shifting positions
- Orientation changes
- Slow loading of a page that the user thinks is complete

Note that if controls shift because of an action the user, and the user will not be trying to activate a moving control, it is usually not problematic. For example form controls shift down while a user is typing extra text into a text box above the controls.

Examples

(These should make it easier to understand)

At this point we can have one example. (You can add an editor's note if you feel more examples would add clarity for different cases, but do not have time to do it now.)

Success example:

A loading icon is visible while the page is loading. After the content is finished loading the controls do not move

Failure example:

The user is about to select a phone number to call. As the user is about to touch the phone number it shifts down. The user presses the wrong phone number and calls the wrong person.

Technical details

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Link to github issue and /or earlier version

Other links and resources (optional)

Objective 2: Help the user find what they need

2 User Need: I can get to the feature I need using the minimum number of easy steps

Pattern Name: Make short critical paths

Create a critical path that only includes the steps required to complete important tasks.

Move secondary or optional steps out of the direct path. These can still be included as optional additions but do not force users to go through them.

DF: Streamline processes, and workflows so that they include only the minimally necessary steps. Separate alternative, optional steps that are supplemental but not required.

How it helps

Creating a critical path the number of steps to complete a process reduces the possibility of distraction, mistakes, and mental fatigue and increases the chance that users with cognitive disabilities can successfully complete process.

DF: Streamlining processes, and workflows, reduces distractions, mistakes, and mental fatigue. It increases the chance that users with cognitive disabilities can successfully, and accurately, complete a process, task, or navigate a workflow.

Examples

Success example:

The steps included in the online process to buy movie tickets are:

1. Select a movie
2. Select the date and time
3. Select seats
4. Pay
5. Print tickets

Secondary The movie theatre allows the user to buy snacks ahead of time, and donate to a charity. All of these actions are supplemental, however. but instead of forcing the user to do this as part of the direct process, it is a secondary option addition when selecting seats and paying.

DF: The movie theatre allows the user to view descriptions about the movie and ratings, buy snacks ahead of time, and donate to a charity. These actions, or steps, are not required in order for the user to complete the task of purchasing a movie ticket. Instead of requiring the user the user to make these selections as part of the direct process, they should be separated into an

optional process provided after the user has the primary it is a secondary option addition when selecting seats and paying. Alternative, or supplemental steps

Success example:

For the most used function in an app:

Open the app. Run the function you use the most

Failure example:

The steps included in the online process to buy movie tickets are:

Select a movie

Select the date and time

Select seats

Purchase snacks ahead of time or opt out

Make a charitable donation or opt out

Create an account

Pay

Print tickets

The movie theatre forces users to decide on snacks and making a charitable donation before paying for their tickets. While an opt out option is available, it is somewhat hidden on the screen, particularly on mobile devices, and users often give up when they can't figure out how to pay.

Failure example:

For the most used function in an app:

Go to the app introduction page (that says how wonderful this app is), press continue

Go to the app main page

Go to a sub page

Select an option

Select another option

Run the function you use the most

Technical details

- List all the steps in a process and determine whether they are necessary to complete the process
- Move all optional steps out of the critical path

User Need: I know what the website offers, or if I should move on

Pattern Name: Make it easy to identify the most important tasks and features of the site

Pattern Description: Make important tasks and features on the site visually and programatically prominent on the website. Techniques to do so include:

- Calling out key tasks for the website on the home page
 - Dedicate call out boxes or sections of the home page to these tasks/features
 - Giving the most important tasks/features visual weight
 - Placing the tasks/features towards the top of the page so the user does not have to scroll to see them
 - Place the tasks/features toward the top of the content so AT finds them quickly and, when appropriate, provide headings for each one
- Including them at a top level of the main navigation

How it helps

People with low executive function, impaired memory, and other cognitive and learning disabilities may have difficulty determining what they can do on a site. By calling out important tasks and features, people can more quickly determine whether the site will meet their needs.

For example, a user goes to website to buy the tickets. He sees many reviews and other items but can not see how to buy the tickets. The user leaves the site.

More details

The most important tasks and features are:

- The three tasks the users want to perform
- The three most common tasks (from the users perspective)
- Tasks that affect the users health or wellbeing

Usage data can normally identify the most common tasks. Focus groups and surveys are also useful for identifying what the users want.

Examples

Success example: A library website includes the important tasks directly on the main page. The advanced search box which allows users to search for books in the catalog is located towards the top of the home page and a simple version which allows users to search the site or the catalog is in the main navigation. Important tasks such as signing

up for a library card, locating a branch, and reserving a conference room are listed in the main navigation and included on the main page in visually distinct boxes.

Failure example:

A library website only includes upcoming events on the main page. Users have to click on a link titled Catalog before they can get to a search box to look for books. Signing up for a library card, locating a branch, and reserving a conference room are included on a page labeled About and are not easily visible from the main navigation.

Technical details

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Links to research and resources

Objective 3: Use clear and understandable content and text

3 User Need: I can easily distinguish words (e.g. clear background and letters so 3 second for site word and no disturbing background noise for audio)

Pattern Name: Ensure foreground content is not obscured by background

Pattern Description: Do not overlay words on busy background. Have an option to remove background noise behind auditory content or ensure background sounds do not interfere with the main auditory content. This includes:

For text:

- Use solid backgrounds for blocks of text,
- use thick outlines with solid fills for text that is overlaid on background that has designs running through it.

For auditory content:

- Not having any fast changing background content behinds foreground auditory such as background conversations, unnecessary traffic etc. or,
- Provide an option to remove background noise behind auditory content

How it helps

Fixating on many words at a time is necessary for comprehension for many people . Reading a sentence phrase by phrase conveys more meaning than individual words and is easier to comprehend. The more words an individual can process in one glance, not only helps someone read faster, but it also makes it easier for their brain to understand what's written, and stay interested. Most people can take in a whole line of text, or more at once. A slow reader may read a sentence slowly using 6 to 9 eye fixations, sometimes taking in only a single word (or less) at a time. Adding background noise reduces this span. Removing noise and background helps users comprehend more words at the same time.

Also, automatic word recognition is used typically in tandem with phonetics to achieve full reading comprehension. For example, approximately 200 words exist in the English language that must be memorized, and automatically recognized, because they don't fit traditional letter sound patterns, in order to piece together strings of words into sentences. If a user can't recognize these words, or any others, in 3 seconds then the text is harder to understand.

For example a slow reader can manage text on the web. However, because of the long site words and the background, they can not understand some content.

More details (optional)

Add annoying details hear, such as exceptions (if necessary)

Getting started (optional)

Add content here if necessary such as what you might recommend as a proposed Success Criteria at the WCAG single A (measurable/testable/easy to achieve)

Examples

(These should make it easier to understand)

At this point we can have one example. (You can add an editor's note if you feel more examples would add clarity for different cases, but do not have time to do it now.)

We will have 100 spaces available, and our goal is to offer a variety of representation for each of the 16 career clusters. Each space will be approximately 10ft and include an 8ft table. Applications to attend are now being accepted through December 6, 2019 with notification of accepted participation sent out by January 3, 2020.

Success example:
(find from bbc gel)

Failure example:

Technical details

“The following are proposals for WCAG. They experiment with more testable language”
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Other links and resources (optional)

4 User Need: I need words to include accents and diacritics on letters that are necessary to phonetically read the words. (This is often needed in languages like Arabic and Hebrew.)

Pattern Name Include symbols and letters necessary to decipher the words. (This is often needed in languages like Arabic and Hebrew.)

Pattern Description:

Include vowels, letters or diacritic marks that are necessary to decipher words.

How it helps

Some languages, such as Hebrew and Arabic, have optional vowels and diacritic marks. Without these marks, many words with the same characters have between two (Hebrew) and seven (Arabic) different ways of being pronounced with different meanings. Most readers can read the word based on the context, and use their visual memory to guess the correct pronunciation. People with impaired visual memory, slow readers and screen readers may often guess the incorrect term and/or pronunciation.

For example a user with a language disability is trying to sound out a word. They guess three different pronunciations until they find one that makes sense. Unfortunately, many people with language impairments cannot work out the meaning as words out of context may only provide an idea rather than a specific meaning. Screen readers often require these characters to speak the correct word.

- body gestures,
- sarcasm and metaphors
- emotions, and
- facial expressions seen in images and animations

Have a definition or explanation available.

This should be provided in text close to the implied content or in the markup.

How it helps

Implied content can be difficult for some users because it requires them to:

- know where to look to get the information and
- understand the meaning behind what is being implied.

One example was a [research study](#) where people with autism were asked to watch a movie that had a lot of implied communications. They were watching the actors' mouth, but the information such as that the spoken text was sarcastic was communicated by their facial expressions. When asked about what happened in the movie, some missed the implied communications and the point of the communications.

Another example is a gif used in a social media post that communicates a person's true feelings about a statement they made in text. Some individuals may not be able to understand the emotion being demonstrated by the person's body language or facial expression and miss the point the author is trying to make.

When using body gestures, emotion communications, and facial expressions as the only way to communicate something, it is important to include this in another way to ensure all users understand. One way this can be done is through supplementary text.

More details (optional)

Add annoying details here, such as exceptions (if necessary)

Proposed More details:

This includes:

- graphics used alone to identify that something is important, or should be remembered
- Sarcasm in text
- Animations used to add importance or communicate something contrary to the literal meaning of the paired text

Getting started (optional)

Add content here if necessary such as what you might recommend as a proposed Success Criteria at the WCAG single A (measurable/testable/easy to achieve)

Examples

Proposed Success example:

When writing sarcastic comments in a social media post or email, adding supplementary text such as <sarcasm> helps readers be sure they understand the intent of your communication.

You can also use the personalization semantics to add non literal text alternative when it is mature

Technical details

“The following are proposals for WCAG. They experiment with more testable language”

Link to github issue and /or earlier version

Other links and resources (optional)

6 User Need: I want interfaces to use metrics I know, and that are common in my location (such as feet or meters).

Pattern Name Use metrics and units that are likely to be familiar

Ensure any metrics are provided in units that user will be familiar with.

How it helps

Most people are familiar with a single set of units that are commonly used for metrics in their location or culture. When presented with metrics in other units they are required to perform a conversion in order to understand the relative magnitude. This will often require using tools such as a calculator or web search engine thus making content less accessible. Provide in line alternatives or an option to switch units that is easily selected, or perhaps based on the user’s location. Common examples are the units used for distance, meters, currency and temperature.

More details (optional)

Sometimes metrics are commonly declared in a specific unit even when localised alternatives are available, For example TV or monitor sizes are usually given in inches

even when metres are the common unit. However, even, in these cases providing alternatives is still useful as users may not be familiar with the metrics given.

Getting started (optional)

Provide a mechanism to select a different set of metrics that are more meaningful to the user, or provide common alternatives in the text

Examples

Success example:

“The Eiffel Tower is 1,063 feet (324 meters) tall, including the antenna at the top.”

Failure example:

“The Eiffel Tower is 1,063 feet tall”

Technical details

“The following are proposals for WCAG. They experiment with more testable language”

Link to github issue and /or earlier version

Other links and resources (optional)

7. User Need: As a user that needs help to stay focused, I need help with knowing where a task starts and finishes to help with switching attention

- And and how long this task might take and effort
- manage the task such as letting me know what information I will need (credit card, full address etc) before I start.

(note: we merged in how long it takes as they belong together)

Pattern Name: Provide information so a user can prepare for and complete a task with estimated effort.

Task here

Emphasis the start of important tasks.

Before a user performs a task consisting of multiple steps ensure they have an estimate of the amount of effort required to complete the task. This should include:

- the time it might take and
- details of any resources needed to perform the task.

Once the task has been started ensure it is clear when still “in-process” and when it is has been completed.

How it helps

Some users find distractions difficult especially when they cause them to switch focus mid-task and subsequently return where they left off. For example, a web site may have a large arrow pointing the way to the “book here” link. That emphasizes the start of the booking task, and will help users know when they have started the task.

Often people need to manage their times of concentration so they can focus without interruptions. Thus, prior advice on the time a task takes, it's complexity or working memory load enables them to better prepare and complete without unintentional abandonment. Furthermore, the provision of a list of required resources before starting the task along with an indication of the number steps left until completion of the task will help avoid unwitting failures.

A good example is booking a family holiday. This often requires the user to enter several dates, names and passport numbers etc. which are best collected before starting the booking. The form can be clearly organised into steps such as Dates, Destination, Travellers. With the addition of an indication of progress and when all is done, the user can focus on the task and is less likely to fail and require help or give up.

More details (optional)

Getting started (optional)

Provide an estimate of time required and a list of all required resources at the start of a multi-step task or form. Break the task into steps

Examples

Success example: Booking an flight online

Before the user begins to book an airline ticket, a message is presented “The average time for booking an airline ticket is 15- 30 minutes. You will need your travel dates, the number of travelers and each travelers passport to complete this process.”

Failure example:

Another airline does not notify the user that they need their passport. The process times out when the user is trying to find their passport number. The user needs to start over or will abandon the booking.

Technical details

WCAG 2.1 SC:

- *2.2.1 Timing Adjustable*
<https://www.w3.org/TR/UNDERSTANDING-WCAG20/time-limits-required-behaviors.html>
- *2.2.6 Timeouts*

User Need: I want clear labels

Pattern Name Use clear labels

Use clear labels. Labels should:

- use common words and plain text,
- be visible and next to the relevant control
- be readable by assistive technologies made for people with cognitive disabilities.

How it helps

When labels are missing or unclear, users often do not know that the feature is available or what the control is. Although many users can guess what a control is for users with cognitive disabilities or impaired memory or executive function are less likely to be able to remember the design pattern or work out what it is.

A clear label, next to the control, means people with cognitive disabilities are more likely to be able to use it.

Similarly, if a label is not next to a control it is confusing for some users. When a label can not be next to a control, there should be clear visual indicators that clearly, and visibly associate them, so that the control and not belong to a different label. (This will need user testing with learning and cognitive disabilities to ensure it is usable.)

For example a user living with dementia is using an application. Some controls do not have visual labels. A care giver shows them what the control is for and they can use the application. The next day they try and use it again but can not remember what the control is for. This application is not useable for them.

In another example, the label disappears when the focus is removed. The user can not remember what the control is and does not know how to make it reappear.

Labels need to be visible, labels need to be nearby and labels present need to be read by AT

More details (optional)

Many people with learning and cognitive disabilities use web extension and simple screenreaders. They often do not read ARIA or titles. Until that changes, or an extension

displays them, labels should not rely on these attributes for people with learning or cognitive disabilities.

Examples

Success example: Label is visible, uses simple common words, and is right next to the control

first name _____

Failure example: Label uses uncommon words that are not easy to understand exactly what is needed .

given name _____

Technical details

Objective 6: Processes do not rely on memory.

8 User Need: I need the login process to be simple, and not multi-step.

Pattern Name: Allow the user a simple, single step, login

How it helps

This allows people with impaired executive function or impaired working memory to login. This is especially important for users who become confused or overwhelmed with multi step processes. For example, a user with traumatic brain injury wishes to use a site for online banking. They can have put their finger on a finger print scanner to authenticate who they are. Other examples included some third party logins such as login with facebook.

Examples

Success example:

1. Allow login with facebook
2. Use the web authentication protocol and allow single step method that match your security needs

Failure example: All login methods involve multiple steps

Technical details

“The following are proposals for WCAG. They experiment with more testable language”

Link to github issue and /or earlier version

Other links and resources (optional)

Links to research and resources

Objective: Processes do not rely on memory.

Objective: Processes do not rely on memory and cognitive skills.

9. User Need: As a I need processes that does not rely on a lot of words

Pattern Name: Avoid steps in process that require more words than necessary. This includes:

- Providing at least one login alternative does not require reading a lot of words.
- Removing unnecessary words from process
- Adding symbols to critical steps
- Providing direct links to critical functions

This method should also not rely on memory, solving puzzles, or calculations.

How it helps

People with severe language and communication disabilities an get lost and overwhelmed when there are too many words on a screen. For example, person with traumatic brain injury may park their car in a shopping area. The car parking is paid for via an app that uses a lot of words and choises that is too confusing for them. The result is they can not park or shop in this aera.

A login option that does not contain a lot of words or steps, allows people with language and communication disabilities to login. For example, a person with a communication disabilitie is struggling using words but has strong numeric abilities. They wants to login to their bank account and see their current account. They can cope with the numbers, and follow their bank balance. However having a process of scrolling though a lot of words and finding the one they need stops them from being able to use this function. As they prefer symbols, clear and familiar symbol next to the login options they need to select, can make it manageable.

Also note that login processes should also not rely on a user's memory, ability to read or interpret words or symbols, solve puzzles or complete calculations bar entry for a number of individuals. Providing alternate methods of logging in that do not rely on these abilities ensures individuals with cognitive and learning disabilities can access their accounts.

Examples

Success example:

1. Allow login with third party like facebook or google. Use the standard symbol with the
- 2.Login that .with the web authentication protocol that allows any easy login option that reach the security requirements.

Failure example:

1. A login that requires answering security questions. No simple, word free, login alternative is provided
2. A log in process that requires many words, that require matching it into the correct word, such as requiring two of the following: user name, use number, user password and user identification . No simple login alternative is provided

Technical details

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Link to github issue and /or earlier version

Other links and resources (optional)

Objective 7: Provide help and support

User Need: Support and explanations for any choices. The advantages or disadvantages are clear to me and I understand the effects of the choice I might make. For example when choosing a cheaper airline ticket you often have to pay for a meal.

Clearly state the results and disadvantages of actions, options, and selections

When presenting users with actions and selections, clearly explain the benefits, risks and consequences of each option.

This includes:

- any changes from what the user asked for,
- any disadvantages from the standard product or offering,
- any features that may be a risk to the users wellbeing or finances.

How it helps

Clearly stating benefits and consequences of each action and selection option helps individuals avoid mistakes. This is particularly important when the results cannot be easily corrected, lead to safety risks, or may never be known.

For example, a user of a travel site is booking a trip to Geneva. They see an option at a good time, but this ticket is to a different city. They assume the options give are to the location they asked for. They check the dates and times, but, because they can not read quickly, do not double check the destination. They are taken to a different location, and as a vulnerable user end up at night without accommodation.

In another example, a user sees a laptop for sale at a good price. They do not see the refurbished word in the long description. The laptop is not actually a good price.

More details

Getting started (optional)

1. Whenever you ask the user to make a selection or take an action, consider whether there are any implied or hidden results that the user should be aware of.
2. If so, clearly indicate those results within the UI and confirm the user is aware of them..

Examples

Success example:

When choosing an airline ticket, a customer has to select several price points. Next to each, there is a clear description of what is included. The least expensive option does not include a meal or baggage beyond a small carryon. Once purchased the ticket is nonrefundable. The most expensive option can be refunded or exchanged and includes a meal, carry-on bag, and 1 piece of checked luggage.

If the ticket is to a different destination or other unusual or change that could be a risk to the user is asked to confirm the change.

Failure example:

Each meal option available for selection from an online menu has a fun name. The meal contents, side items, and ability to customize each option is not visible until two steps later in the process. A customer must go several screens down on each item in order to make a decision.

Technical details

None.

****THE PATTERNS ABOVE THIS LINE HAVE BEEN ADDED TO CONTENT USABLE****

NB need to decide where to put this as doesn't fit well with current Objectives .Perhaps 8 or 4 or 7)

User Need: I have sensitivities that can be triggered by some types of content e.g. content that is busy, confusing, depressing, makes loud noise.

Help people avoid content that might trigger sensitivities

Give clear warning and allow the user to skip any content that may harm the user, or could contain psychological stimulus that prompts recall of a previous traumatic experience reactions. Enable personalisation filters to hide all such content.

This included content that contains:

- loud sudden noises
- abusive behaviour
- trauma-related topics
- sexual content that may be not be fully consensual or mutual
- Violence
- Noises and visuals that may result in phantom visuals/audio or promote hallucinations
- Items that may cause seizures (epilepsy) or migraines (photosensitivity) such as flashing lights

Consider adding noises and visuals that may result in phantom visuals/audio or promote hallucinations to "Help people avoid content that might trigger sensitivities"

How it helps

Some people with cognitive disabilities or mental health issues may have a serious reaction to certain types of content.

For example, a person may experience a PTSD episode from sudden loud noises. They may therefore be unable to use a social media app that starts multimedia content automatically.

More details (optional)

Even if a site can be explicitly expected to contain problematic content given its topic it should still offer clear warnings, however the site is entered.

Note that it may be upsetting to see the warning. Therefore, allowing this types of content to be always be removed is preferable.

Getting started (optional)

Ensure any sections of content that may act as a trigger are hidden from accidental view and only exposed via a user action, after warnings have been read. If the content is on its own page, ensure clear warnings in case it is entered via a search engine result or other link.

Examples

Success example:

A video containing gun fire has a clear warning above the media and does not autoplay. Once the user has asked not to see this content, the user can select an “always remove this type of content” option.

Failure example:

An article of teenage life at home contains a paragraph about self harm without any warnings

Technical details

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Link to github issue and /or earlier version

Other links and resources (optional)

Links to research and resources

Potential Patterns from mental health paper

User Need: I need to feel safe and secure when using a website, especially if providing information or communicating with others.

Provide clear safety, privacy and security statements or controls plus trust signals

The point is to make people comfortable not cover technical security issues or explain policy or stop being sued.

Handled in **A.7.11 Pattern: Keep the user information safe?**

User Need: ??

Design to allow for mental fatigue

This seems to mostly be a high level requirement that is probably already fully covered by other patterns.

Perhaps add notes about mental health to other patterns?

<Jennie suggested>

User Need: ?? Consider adding noises and visuals that may result in phantom visuals/audio or promote hallucinations to "Help people avoid content that might trigger sensitivities"

User Need: ?? Also, make it clear when media content has already been viewed – to help avoid perseveration on particular media, and help those who's memory challenges add to cognitive fatigue (not disable it, just a visual format similar to visited link)

Other potential patterns from Personas

Avoid HScroll? sam 3 (in wcag 2.1)

Allow frequent save in a long running edit process Carolyn 3

Provide suggested entries sam 4

Chunk long lists - for entry? Tom 2

Autocorrect and forgiving input - not just units as in current Pattern Tom 2

Describe [abstract] images if important Amy 3 - thought we had this

Instructions stay visible when entering content - Frank 2 - probably already covered

Entered info should be displayed as entered and use familiar formats Fank 1 airports

Something about data display options??? Frank 1 calendar

Provide data entered in other processes Johnathan 1

Jennie Also, make it clear when content has already been viewed – to help avoid perseveration on particular media, and help those who's memory challenges add to cognitive fatigue (not disable it, just a visual format similar to visited link)