

Do This Instead - Session Activity Part 2

Best Practices Resource Page/Mobile Accessibility Tips

Don't do this...	Do this instead...
Use Materia activities on a Canvas page with other critical material (Materia doesn't fit on a smartphone screen)	Embed Materia activities on a standalone Canvas page, linked from the main page with more critical information (and telling students the Materia practice will not display on a phone)
Use align=left so words wrap around the right side, possibly broken into multiple lines per word	Always place images on their own line in a Canvas page (centered is usually best). Select the percentage option in "Image Options" to ensure images are responsive and adjust based on screen size.
Use bolding and font size to indicate headings for new sections	Use font "style" (Heading 2, Paragraph, etc) to create headings, as these are screen-reader compliant
Copy-paste images from Google without paying attention to options	Always customize the ALT text for screen readers, as the default ALT text from Google is usually insufficient
Type or paste very long text documents into a single Canvas page (it's a lot of scrolling!)	Break up the text into sections, use headings, action icons, and add images. Also consider breaking the text into two or more pages, possibly with activities between them in the Canvas module
Upload PDFs as your first choice (PDFs load in mobile devices with tiny font, and while pinch/zoom is possible, it's very hard to read that way)	When possible, paste instead into a Canvas page or use the document converter tool. If a PDF must be used, caution students when linking to it that it should be viewed on a laptop or desktop computer
Refer to course navigation as if everyone is using a laptop or desktop computer	Because the app does not have side navigation and uses different terminology, use generic terms instead for where students should click
Place a high-quality (and heavy/large) image or video, as this may pause while loading and look broken	Resize images to a smaller size before uploading to Canvas. Link to or embed videos hosted on a streaming platform (e.g., YouTube)
Define tables in pixels (such as for the class schedule), which may require scrolling on mobile devices	Define tables in HTML using percentages