

CS 471 Senior Capstone I, Fall 2024

Usability Testing Activity #2

Procedures. For each task, choose group members to fill the following roles. New group members fill the roles in each task.

- One group member is the **participant**, who uses the app/site being tested and attempts to perform the various tasks. As much as possible, the participant should *think out loud*.
 - One other group member acts as **facilitator**, who ensures that the participant knows what to do and stays on task. The facilitator should have this document available to refer to. The facilitator may offer a little advice or help—but *only* if the participant is stuck.
 - Other group members are **observers**. They only observe. They may take notes. They do not speak during the testing—except perhaps to suggest that it is time to move to the next task. However, they can and should participate in group discussions after the testing is over.
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Site. `fire.ak.blm.gov`

Task #1

- Determine how many wildfires have burned in the past week in Alaska. Where are they, and what are their names?

Task #2

- Determine whether any communities in Alaska currently have adverse health impacts from fires (difficulty breathing, etc.).

Task #3

- Determine what plans are in place to help people in Alaska communities to be aware of and/or deal with the problem of smoky air.

Task #4

- Determine who runs this website. How can you get in touch with them? Are they part of a larger organization?

Task #5

- Suppose you want to write an application that uses data from this site. How do you obtain it? Are any special permissions required? If so, how do you obtain them?

Task #6

- Try to figure out who the intended audience for this website is. What are the goals of the website? What needs does it meet? What functionality is it supposed to have?

Conclusions (group discussion, no roles)

- What is your opinion of the site? Does it look good? Is it easy to use? Are its major features convenient? Any aspects of it confusing? Is it fast enough?
- Suppose you were the development team for this website. What would be your top three priorities to work on?