

High-level accessibility review - BTAA (Gale Primary Sources Platform)

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Gale Primary Sources Platform

Summary

Top 3 problems for the Gale Primary Sources Platform

This assessment covers portions of the Gale Primary Sources platform. The assessment revealed some problems with screen reader compatibility, resulting in screen reader users sometimes missing critical information needed to understand how to operate the features.

1. **Grouping** – field groupings and text groupings are not given to a screen reader user. People who are blind cannot use the visual layout of a group of related form elements and their shared group label - such as a question with a set of radio button answers - to determine the relationship between the form fields and the group label. In order to understand the relationship of the form fields, their individual labels, and their group label, the relationships must be expressed semantically. When grouped form elements and their group label are expressed semantically, a screen reader user can put focus on a form element and the screen reader will read the form element label and element type as well as the group label. Grouping controls is most important for related radio buttons and checkboxes.
2. **Images** – the footer logo is marked as a background image and the main articles are missing help for screen reader users. People who are blind cannot see images on a page. In order to give people who cannot see an image access to the information conveyed by the image, it must have a text alternative. The text alternative must describe the information or function represented by the image. Screen readers can then use the alternative text to convey that information to the screen reader user. For informative images - images that convey information - the alternative text must communicate the intent, purpose, or meaning of the image in a way that serves as a true alternative for the image.
3. **Links** – the title attribute is used for links causing the description to be duplicated. Meaningful link text helps people choose which links to follow without requiring complicated strategies to understand the page.

Accessibility findings

Project wide issues

The issues presented in this section were identified in multiple pages and are recorded here to avoid repetition. These are applicable to each screen. Due to particularities, similar issues are still reported on a page per page basis, where applicable.

Automated findings using Axe

Issues found through automated testing come from the Axe plugin, an open source accessibility testing tool that is available for Firefox and Chrome. Details here: <https://www.deque.com/products/axe/>.

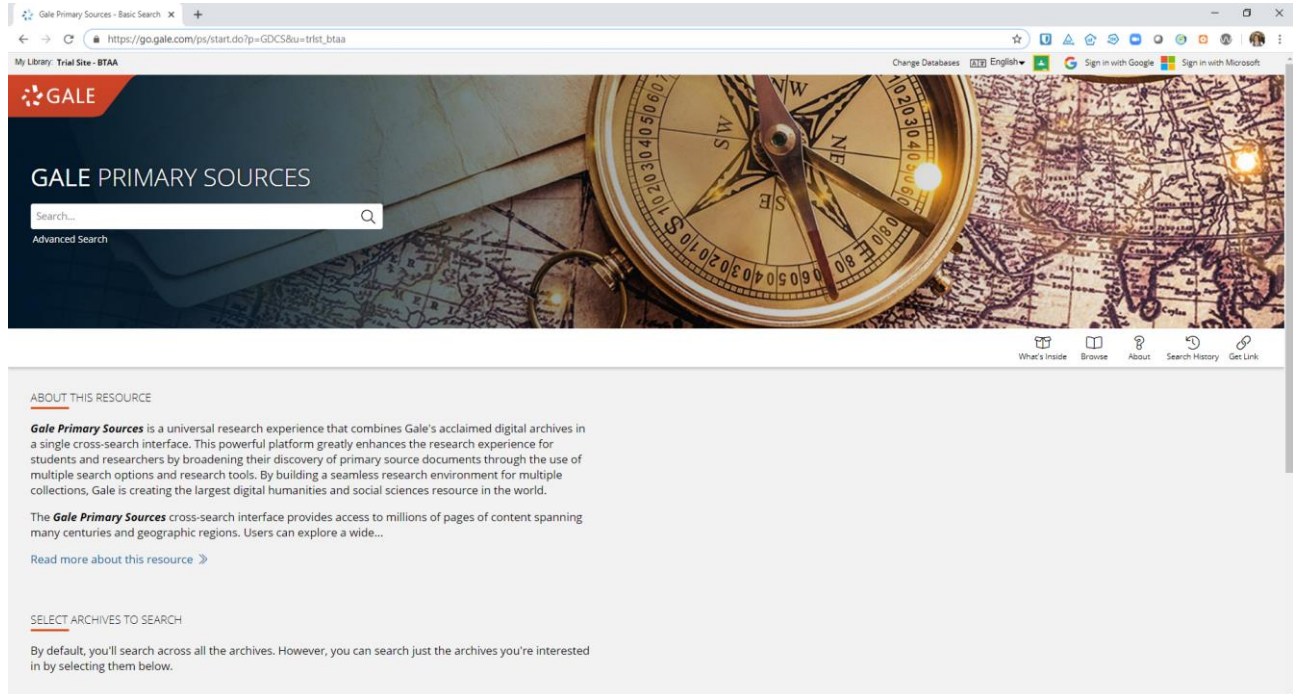
Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

1. **SC 2.4.4** – Links use the title attribute that duplicate the link text.
2. **SC 1.3.1** – The modal for “Product Categories” (opened when selecting the down arrow next to the “Search” field) is not using modal semantics for the screen reader to identify the purpose.
3. **SC 1.1.1** - The footer logo is marked as a background image, when it includes text that is not in the main content.

1. Gale Primary Sources Landing Page

Source: https://go.gale.com/ps/start.do?p=GDCS&u=trlst_btaa

Test case: Test initial interface/landing page to ensure menus, search box, images/icons (what's inside, browse, about, etc.), are accessible.



Manual findings using NVDA screen reader

1. SC 1.3.1 – The checkbox list items are not grouped with the owning label.

2. Search Slave Trade Results

Source:

https://go.gale.com/ps/basicSearch.do?inputFieldNames%5B0%5D=OQE&limiterFieldValues%5BDB%5D=allElectronicResources&_limiterFieldValues%5BDB%5D=1&limiterTypes%5BDB%5D=OR&inputFieldValues%5B0%5D=slave+trade&nwf=y&searchType=BasicSearchForm&userGroupName=trlst_btaa&prodId=GDCS&spellCheck=true&method=doSearch&dblist=&limiterTypes%5BDG%5D=OR&limiterFieldValues%5BDG%5D=&dateIndices=DA&dateLimiterValues%5BDA%5D.dateMode=0&dateLimiterValues%5BDA%5D.fromDay=00&dateLimiterValues%5BDA%5D.fromMonth=00&dateLimiterValues%5BDA%5D.fromYear=&dateLimiterValues%5BDA%5D.toDay=00&dateLimiterValues%5BDA%5D.toMonth=00&dateLimiterValues%5BDA%5D.toYear=&standAloneLimiters=DA&_nonDatedLimiterValues%5BDA%5D=on

Test case: From initial interface search “slave trade”

The screenshot shows the Gale Primary Sources search results page for the query "slave trade". The page displays a search bar with the query, a navigation menu, and a list of results. The results are categorized by content type, with "All Content Types" selected. The results list includes three monographs:

- An essay on the slave trade**
Author: Grimur Jónsson Thorkelin
Publisher: Printed for G. Nicol, bookseller to His Majesty (London)
M.DCC.LXXXVIII. [1788] 32 pages
Found in Eighteenth Century Collections Online
- Remarks on the African slave trade**
Author: William Belsham
Publisher: printed for C. Dilly, in the Poultry (London)
M.DCC.XC. [1790] 18 pages
Found in Eighteenth Century Collections Online
- An address to the publick on the proposed bill for the abolition of the slave trade. By the Rev. James Darnley**

The page also features a "FILTER YOUR RESULTS" section with buttons for Databases, Source Library, Document Type, Publication Date, Languages, Subjects, Author - Items By, Person - About, and Search Within. There is also a "TOPIC FINDER" section with a "Start the Topic Finder" button and a "TERM FREQUENCY" section with a "Term Frequency" button.

Automated findings using Axe

1. **SC 1.3.1** – <dl> elements must only directly contain properly-ordered <dt> and <dd> groups, <script> or <template> elements.

Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

4. **SC 1.3.3** – The filter options that are links, like “Subjects” will not announce to the screen reader user there are matches for a partial search or allow the user to focus the links without pressing escape when on the search field.

3. Filtered Search Results

Source:

[https://go.gale.com/ps/searchWithin.do?limiterFieldValue\(SU\)=%22Abolition+of+slavery%22&tabID=&lm=TY%7E%22Letter%22&searchResultsType=MultiTab&qt=OQE%7Eslave+trade&searchId=R1&searchType=AdvancedSearchForm&actionCmd=DO_LIMIT_SEARCH_RESULTS&userGroupName=trlst_btAA&stw.option=withinResults&inPS=true&prodId=GDCS&stw.option=withinResults&sort=](https://go.gale.com/ps/searchWithin.do?limiterFieldValue(SU)=%22Abolition+of+slavery%22&tabID=&lm=TY%7E%22Letter%22&searchResultsType=MultiTab&qt=OQE%7Eslave+trade&searchId=R1&searchType=AdvancedSearchForm&actionCmd=DO_LIMIT_SEARCH_RESULTS&userGroupName=trlst_btAA&stw.option=withinResults&inPS=true&prodId=GDCS&stw.option=withinResults&sort=)

Test case: Test results page, including different result sections/boxes. Test Filter Your Results options: apply two filters: document type (letters) and subjects (abolition of slavery).

The screenshot shows the Gale Primary Sources search results page. The search terms are 'Basic Search: slave trade'. Applied filters are 'Document Type: Letter' and 'Subject: Abolition of slavery'. The results are categorized into 'MONOGRAPHS (1)' and 'MANUSCRIPTS (3)'. The monograph result is 'Letters to Catherine E. Beecher in Reply to an Essay on Slavery and Abolitionism, Addressed to A. E. Grimké' by Angelina Emily Grimké, published in 1838, 130 pages. The manuscript result is 'August 7, 1840' from The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom), dated Aug 7, 1840, Monograph, Letter. The right sidebar has a 'FILTER YOUR RESULTS' section with buttons for 'Databases', 'Source Library', 'Document Type', 'Publication Date', 'Languages', 'Subjects', 'Author - Items By', 'Person - About', and 'Search Within'. Below that is a 'TOPIC FINDER' section with a 'Start the Topic Finder' button, and a 'TERM FREQUENCY' section with a 'Term Frequency' button.

Automated findings using Axe

1. **SC 1.3.1** – <dl> elements must only directly contain properly-ordered <dt> and <dd> groups, <script> or <template> elements.

Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

1. **SC 1.3.1** – The remove filter type button does not include the assigned value to the screen reader.

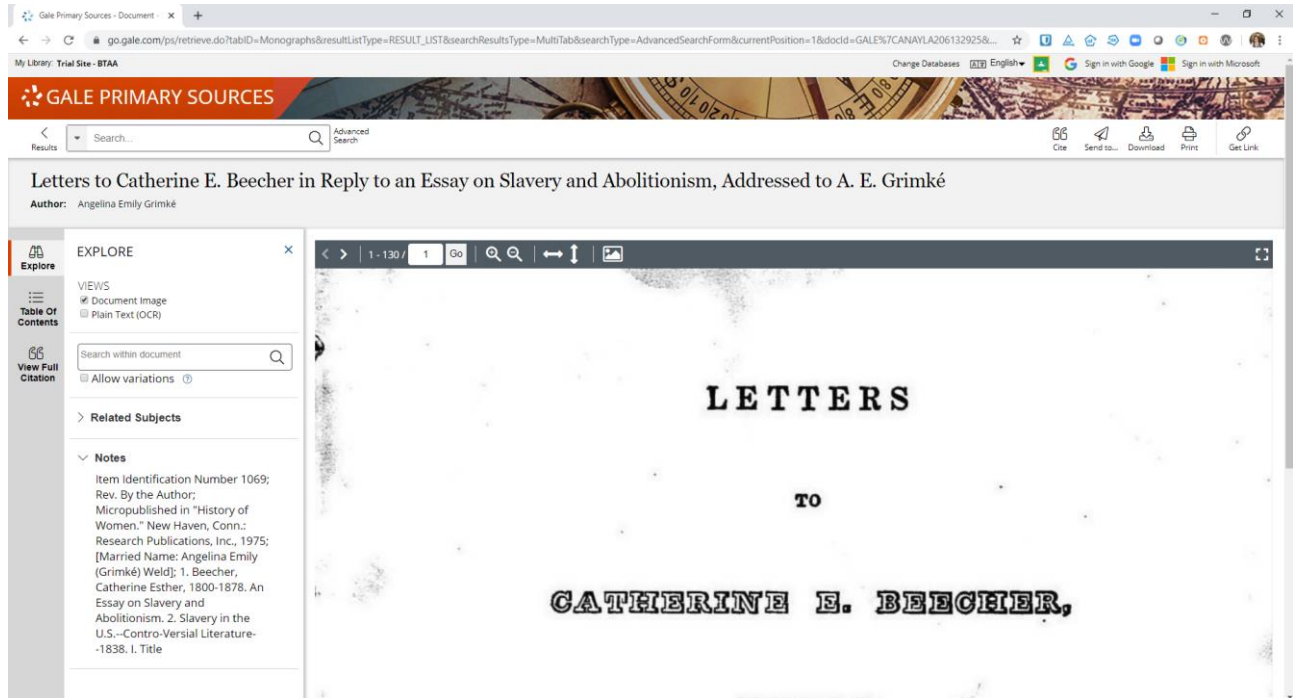
4. Letters to Catherine E Beecher

Source:

https://go.gale.com/ps/retrieve.do?tabID=Monographs&resultListType=RESULT_LIST&searchResultsType=MultiTab&searchType=AdvancedSearchForm¤tPosition=1&docId=GALE%7CANAYLA206132925&docType=Letter&sort=Relevance&contentSegment=ZCEI&prodId=GDCS&contentSet=GALE%7CANAYLA206132925&searchId=R2&userGroupName=trlst_btaa&inPS=true

Test case: Test an individual search result page (letters to Catherine E Beecher...).

https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/ANAYLA206132925/GDCS?u=trlst_btaa&sid=GDCS&xid=ef3736de. Is this page accessible? Is the plain OCR option accessible?



Manual findings using NVDA screen reader

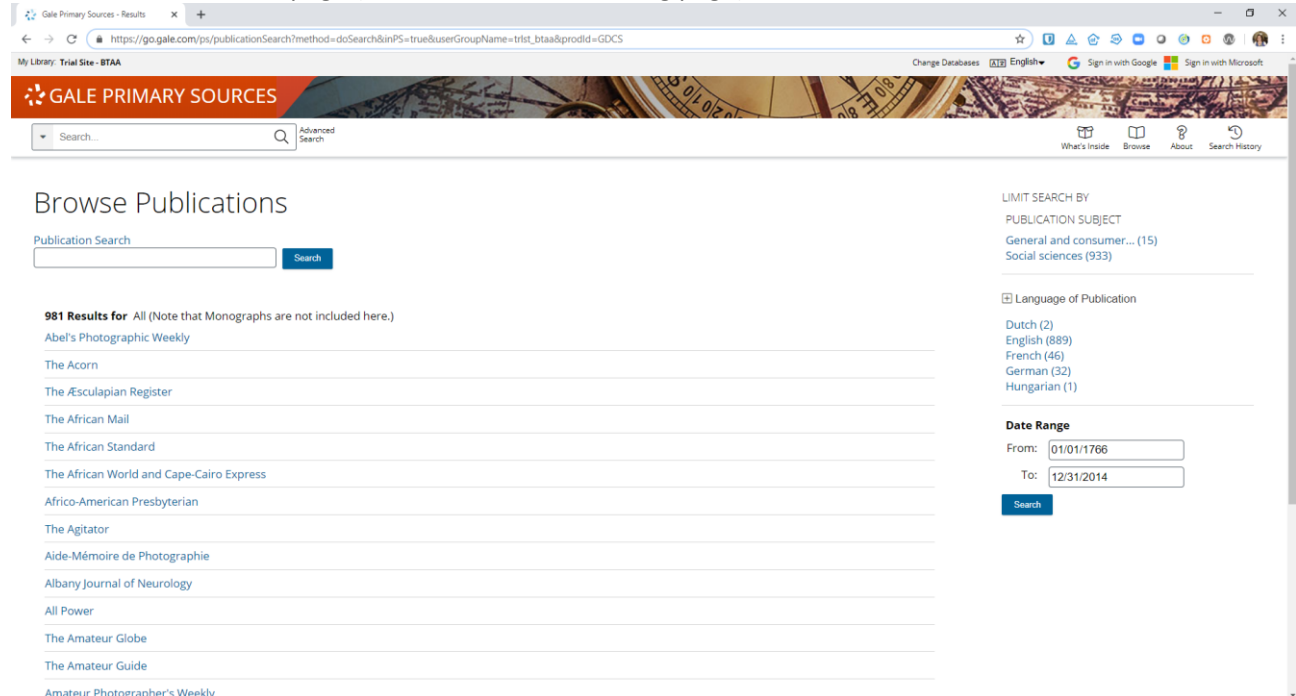
1. **SC 1.1.1** – The image has the overall description applied but the bulk of the text is not available to a screen reader user unless the select "Plain Text (OCR) in the explore panel. The image could include a note "Select to view Plain Text in the Explore options to hear the full content".

5. Browse Page

Source:

https://go.gale.com/ps/publicationSearch?method=doSearch&inPS=true&userGroupName=trlst_btaa&prodId=GDCS

Test case: Test Browse page (linked from initial/landing page)



The screenshot shows the 'Browse Publications' page on the Gale Primary Sources platform. The page features a search bar at the top left with the text 'Search...' and a 'Search' button. Below the search bar, the page displays 'Browse Publications' and a 'Publication Search' input field with a 'Search' button. The main content area shows '981 Results for All (Note that Monographs are not included here.)' followed by a list of publication titles: Abel's Photographic Weekly, The Acorn, The Æsculapian Register, The African Mail, The African Standard, The African World and Cape-Cairo Express, Africo-American Presbyterian, The Agitator, Aide-Mémoire de Photographie, Albany Journal of Neurology, All Power, The Amateur Globe, The Amateur Guide, and Amateur Photographer's Weekly. On the right side, there are filter options under 'LIMIT SEARCH BY'. The first filter is 'PUBLICATION SUBJECT' with 'General and consumer...' (15) and 'Social sciences (933)'. The second filter is 'Language of Publication' with 'Dutch (2)', 'English (889)', 'French (46)', 'German (32)', and 'Hungarian (1)'. The third filter is 'Date Range' with 'From: 01/01/1766' and 'To: 12/31/2014', and a 'Search' button.

Manual findings using NVDA screen reader

1. **SC 1.3.1** – The list of results is a description list missing the overall purpose of the list.
2. **SC 2.1.1** – The calendar is not focusable with the keyboard. The user can type the date but not use the visible on focus calendar.

6. Advanced Search Page

Source: https://go.gale.com/ps/disAdvSearch.do?userGroupName=trlist_btaa&prodId=GDCS

Test case: Test Advanced Search page (linked from below search box on initial/landing page)

My Library: Trial Site - BTA

GALE PRIMARY SOURCES

SEARCH...

SEARCH OPTIONS

Advanced Search Publication Search Topic Finder

Advanced Search

Search for in

And in

And in

Allow variations ⓘ

MORE OPTIONS

by publication date(s):

All Dates Before On After Between

Include documents with no known publication date.

by illustrated works:

Manual findings using NVDA screen reader

1. **SC 1.3.1** – Publication date fields are not grouped with the owning criteria, e.g. “by publication date: Before”.