

HW2 Heuristic Evaluation: Refocus.io

1. **Problem:** When in focus mode, the arrow buttons tend to move up and down depending on the length of the focused text. Have to move mouse very often to navigate sentences.

Heuristic: Efficiency

Severity: Moderate

2. **Problem:** Not obvious where “Focus” is. When trying to go into focus mode, I could not find the focus button. I looked in the side pane to no avail. I thought the button just didn’t exist for a while (tried clicking on the focus.io logo in the side pane). I found it eventually, but I had assumed it was just part of the site.

Heuristic: Learnability, Readability

Severity: Severe



3. **Problem:** Although the page scrolls along with the focus plugin, I’m not sure where on the page the focus is being put. If there is going to be feedback for this, I would like to know what paragraph is being focused on in addition to the section in the page.

Heuristic: Consistency, Efficiency

Severity: Moderate

4. **Good:** Affordances for “next” and “back” are simply arrows. No need to read text, it’s quick to simply look at the image and tell that the buttons will scroll you forward and backward.

Heuristic: Learnability

5. **Good:** Arrow/esc keys are good. Documentation was not needed because these were natural key presses. However, it may be nice to include configurable keypresses.

Heuristic: Efficiency

6. **Problem:** Dotted line visual gets cut off by scrollbar, makes the side panel seem more cramped than it actually is.



Heuristic: Consistency

Severity: Moderate

7. **Problem:** When putting image links in sidebar, no text is displayed.

Heuristic: Consistency

Severity: Severe

Suggestion: Use alt text to display, or if no alt text is given, have the text display “[IMAGE]”.

8. **Problem:** “Clear completed” link uses cursor icon, instead of a pointer icon.

Heuristic: Consistency

Severity: Severe

9. **Good:** Can sort links, no documentation/tutorial used and is not necessary.

Heuristic: Explorable Interfaces

10. **Problem:** Window does not resize when focus toolbar is hidden. The main window will still have this awkward margin on the right, as if the toolbar was still there.

Heuristic: Consistency

Severity: Severe

11. **Problem:** Scanning through focused text quickly makes the actual window scroll through pretty slowly, and lags behind.

Heuristic: Latency reduction

Severity: Moderate

12. **Problem:** Can’t drag links from focus window to sidebar at all.

Heuristic: Consistency

Severity: Severe

13. **Problem:** Highlighting text then hitting the focus button does not bring me to the first sentence, I need to hit “Focus on selection” instead.

Heuristic: Consistency

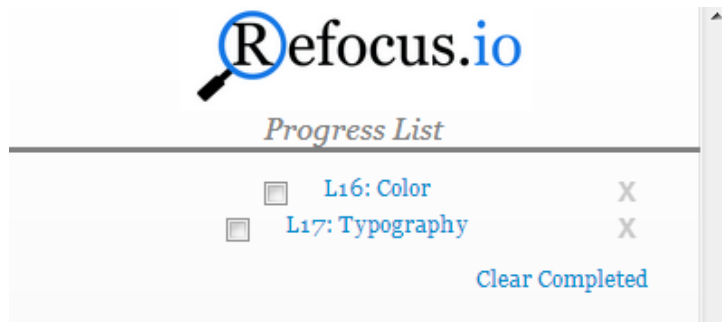
Severity: Severe

14. **Problem:** Need to click on arrow but not sidebar in order to open/close the side panel.

Heuristic: Efficiency, Fitt's Law

Severity: Moderate

15. **Problem:** Checkbox alignment in sidebar not consistently left aligned



Heuristic: Readability

Severity: Moderate