Read or view the following materials:

1. "How do Blind People Interpret Emojis?" (audio, 16 mins) *Ouch: Disability talk*.http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p036111y
2. "Intro to Accessibility" http://webaim.org/intro/
3. Eyman, et al. "Access/ibility: Access and Usability for Digital Publishing." *Kairos, a Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy 20.2*http://technorhetoric.net/20.2/topoi/eyman-et-al/index.html

Before 7:00 pm on Wednesday, start a new thread in the **Week 8 forum** on Blackboard in response to the following prompt:

What is accessibility? What did you learn, what surprised you, or what new revelations did you have about how our culture uses texts and images as a result of these readings? What are some of the most important legal and ethical issues of accessibility that web content writers need to be aware of? Describe one or two specific accesibility-related design choices that you've already made or that you need to make as you're completing your text-to-hypertext project.

Please provide paragraph or page number citations in your post. You are not required to provide a Works Cited at the end of your post. (Discussion post rubric)

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Looking at the combined information I have about accessibility based on what I knew before reading these articles and adding what I have just learned, I know that accessibility is essentially availability at which people can obtain content. "Content" can range from a very side variety of things, such as information on a website to even the groceries you buy at the store. Everything should be accessible for all people regardless of whether or not they have a disability. After listening to the podcast, I was only mildly surprised by what I learned about emojis and how they come off to those who cannot actually see them like everyone else can. Whenever my friend and I have contradicting opinions on what one of Apple's many emojis actually is, we type out in a text message and send it to the other person. Upon receiving it, we will press and hold on it, then select the "speak" option. The iPhone then says out loud a short description of what the emoji actually, settling our dispute. I had always assumed that those who could not see the emojis utilized similar concepts in their interpretations of the emojis. They talked about how our world is becoming increasingly more visual and how there is a possibility that those who cannot connect with the things that are so popular now (visual things), that you might get left behind. I was kind of surprised by that revelation because it, in a sense, is very true. The world we live in is insanely visual with our memes and Instagram posts and Snapchat use, and I did not even consider the fact that not everyone can understand all of those things. You have to be able to see them to get them, and there are people that just cannot do that.

Legally and ethically, everything should be accessible for everyone, but as mentioned on "Intro to Accessibility" website, accessibility and usability are two entirely different things. Just because you can access something does not mean that you are going to because it might be difficult or time consuming. There are laws in place that are supposed to ensure that all websites are accessible, but that might not be good enough.

While I am making my test-to-hypertext website, I would like to focus on making it as accessible as I possibly can. On the "Access/ibility: Access and Usability for Digital Publishing." website, there is a section that says "Almost everyone benefits from helpful illustrations, properly-organized content, and clear navigation. Similarly, while captions are a necessity for deaf users, they can be helpful to others, including anyone who views a video without audio." I'd like to make sure that the content on my website is well-organized as well as have helpful illustrations when possible. Just having these qualities present will benefit, and also knowing that my website would be better in all

aspects by me making it as accessible and usable as possible is a very great incentive to do so (aside from doing it just to make it easier on those with disabilities.) I'd be benefiting everyone who visits my site, not just the ones with disabilities. I think that all things on the internet should be made accessible and usable for as many people as possible because that's only fair, really.