

## **Accessibility of Authoring Tools**

This table provides a comparison of the major accessibility features of Captivate, Lectora, and Storyline as they relate to those with disabilities using assistive technology. To create an accessible course, please refer to the documentation provided by each of these authoring tools, as accessibility is determined not only by the software features but by how they are implemented by the designer and developer.

Feature	Captivate	Lectora	Storyline
Transcript	Static text boxes can be added for transcript text.	<ul> <li>Static or scrolling text boxes can be added for transcript text.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Notes panel displays transcript text.</li> <li>Static text boxes can be added for transcript text.</li> </ul>
Closed/Open Captions	<ul> <li>Caption text and time stops can be added in a dialog box. Captions are displayed in an overlay at the bottom of the slide.</li> <li>Text captions can be added to the slide and manually timed to audio.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>You can import closed captions to FLV audio or video using an XML file.</li> <li>Text captions can be added to the slide and manually timed via actions.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Text captions can be added to the slide and manually timed to audio.</li> </ul>
Alternative Text	<ul> <li>Object name can be used as alt text.</li> <li>You can enter a longer description in a dialog box.</li> <li>Non-content objects can have empty alt text.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Object name can be used as alt text.</li> <li>You can use separate text box for descriptions longer than 128 characters.</li> <li>Non-content objects can have empty alt text.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Object name can be used as alt text.</li> <li>You can enter a longer description in a dialog box.</li> <li>Non-content objects can have empty alt text.</li> </ul>
Screen Reader Process	<ul> <li>User must press Ctrl+Home (or similar) on each slide.</li> <li>Objects are read when tabbed to.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>All objects that appear on page load are announced automatically.</li> <li>Objects that appear after page load are read when tabbed to.</li> </ul>	Objects are read when tabbed to.
Tab/Screen Reader Order	<ul> <li>Screen is read from top to bottom and left to right.</li> <li>Third-party widget is available to adjust tab order.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Order is determined by order in object list, which governs the layering order (front to back) as well.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Screen is read from top to bottom and left to right.</li> </ul>



Feature	Captivate	Lectora	Storyline
Screen Reading of Timed Objects or Objects Shown via an Action	<ul> <li>Objects are accessible only while they appear on the slide.</li> <li>Slide objects cannot be played independently of the audio.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Objects that appear on page load are announced automatically.</li> <li>All objects are accessible once they appear when tabbed to.</li> <li>Slide objects can be played independently of the audio.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Objects are accessible only while they appear on the slide.</li> <li>Slide objects cannot be played independently of the audio.</li> </ul>
Rollover Actions (Mouse Enter/Exit)	<ul> <li>Rollover actions trigger when object is tabbed to.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Rollover actions are not keyboard accessible.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Rollover actions are not keyboard accessible.</li> </ul>
Displayed Variables	<ul> <li>Screen readers read the name of the variable instead of the value.</li> </ul>	Screen readers read the value of the variable.	Screen readers read the value of the variable.**
Accessible Question Types	<ul><li>Multiple choice</li><li>True/false</li><li>Rating scale</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Multiple choice</li> <li>True/false</li> <li>Short answer</li> <li>Essay</li> <li>Fill in the blank</li> <li>Likert</li> <li>Ordinal</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Multiple choice**</li> <li>True/false**</li> <li>Matching drop-down**</li> <li>Sequence drop-down**</li> <li>Likert**</li> <li>Fill in the blank</li> <li>Numeric</li> <li>Short answer</li> <li>Essay</li> </ul>
Inaccessible Question Types	<ul><li>Fill in the blank</li><li>Matching</li><li>Hot spot</li><li>Short answer</li><li>Sequence</li></ul>	<ul><li>Matching</li><li>Drag and drop</li><li>Hot spot</li><li>Likert scale</li></ul>	<ul><li>Word bank</li><li>Matching drag and drop</li><li>Sequence drag and drop</li><li>Hotspot</li></ul>
Skip Navigation	<ul> <li>Not applicable as the entire project plays on a single HTML page.*</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Action can be added to the interface to skip repetitive elements.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Items in the navigation bar (menu bar, etc.) are read on every page and cannot be skipped.</li> </ul>
Preferences	<ul> <li>Variables can be used to track accessibility preference and change settings accordingly.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Variables can be used to track accessibility preference and change settings accordingly.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Variables can be used to track accessibility preference and change settings accordingly.</li> </ul>
Tables	<ul> <li>There is no native table function. Tables imported as graphics may not be accessible.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Tables with no more than one header row (such as this table) and no more than one column heading can be made accessible.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>There is no native table function. Tables imported as graphics may not be accessible.</li> </ul>

<sup>\*</sup> Future releases that may offer HTML publish may affect many of these findings.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Storyline is in beta at the time this document was created. This feature is expected to be accessible upon the official release.