

Reading is Lit!

ReWordify: Effectiveness of Technology to Enhance Reading Comprehension

ReWordify

As an educator for the past 10 years, I know resources that leverage technology, diverse methodologies, and immersive experiences are crucial to effective skill-building exercises.

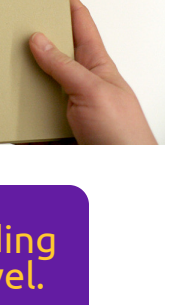


ReWordify is a free online software that promotes reading comprehension by simplifying vocabulary. The customizable interface allows students the freedom to challenge, test, and track their progress.

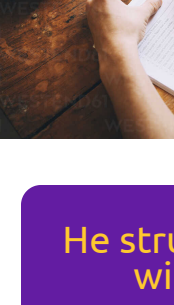


...researchers noted growth in reading power which means continuous growth in word knowledge.

-Whipple 1925



Build Reading Comprehension



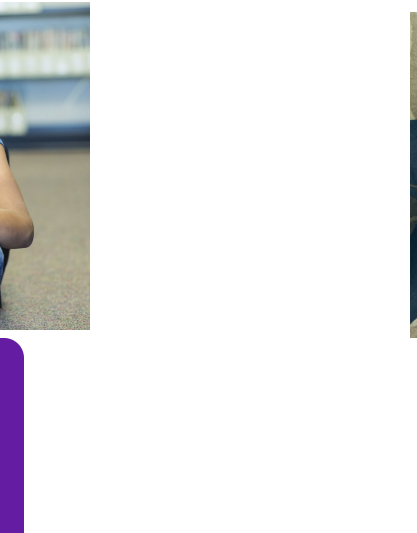
Leverage Instructional Design with learning theories



Simplify Complex Text with ease



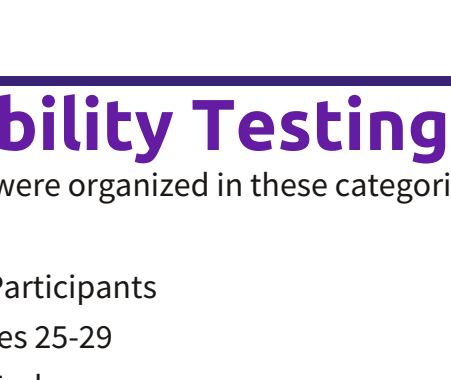
Mike is reading at a low level.



He struggles with summarizing ideas.



He succeeds with peer and guided instruction.



He can't apply his skill independently.



He is unmotivated and filled with self doubt.

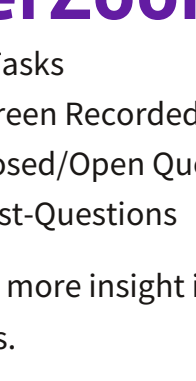
Usability Testing

Results were organized in these categories

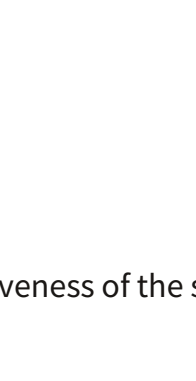


- 5 Participants
- Ages 25-29
- 6 Tasks
- Post -Test Questions
- Additional Feedback (Optional)

Goals



Which features do students desire?



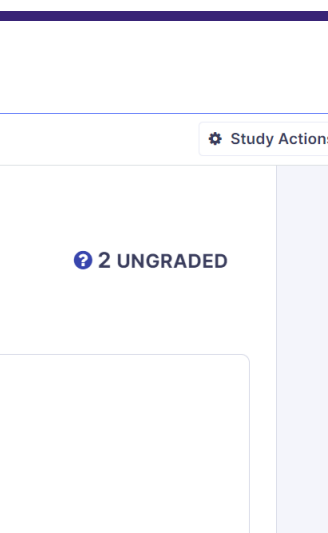
How can engagement be individualized?



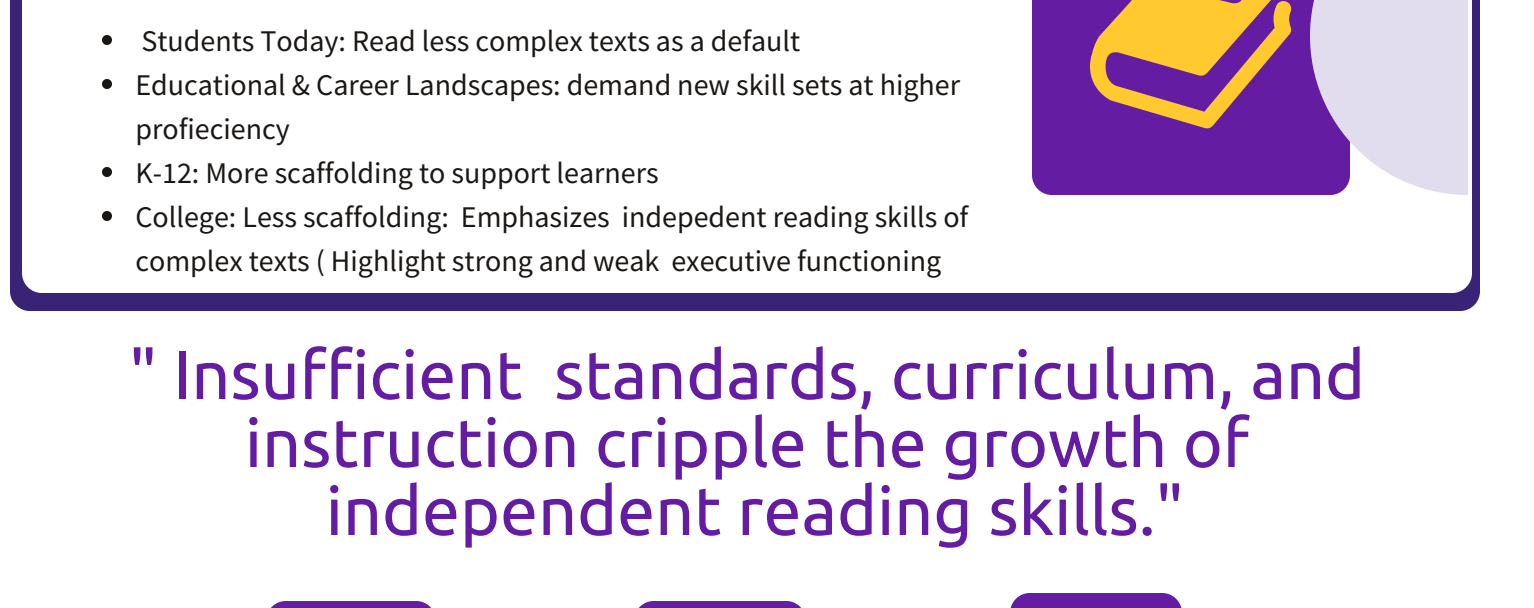
How do teachers support technology inside & outside class?

UserZoom

- 6 Tasks
- Screen Recorded
- Closed/Open Questions
- Post-Questions

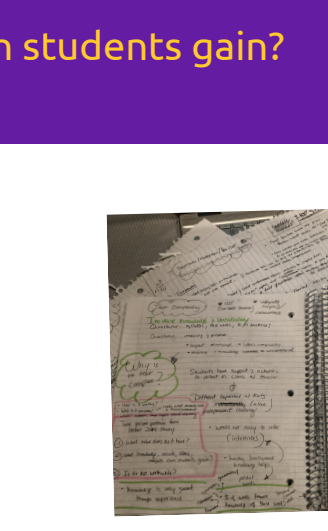


I gained more insight into the effectiveness of the skill-building activities.



Research Insights

sThe quantitative data is complemented by the qualitative data to create a real life " snapshot" of how users experience the problem.



- Students Today: Read less complex texts as a default
- Educational & Career Landscapes: demand new skill sets at higher proficiency
- K-12: More scaffolding to support learners
- College: Less scaffolding: Emphasizes independent reading skills of complex texts (Highlight strong and weak executive functioning

" Insufficient standards, curriculum, and instruction cripple the growth of independent reading skills."



Layout & Sketches



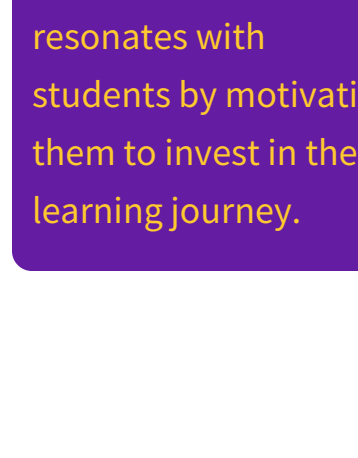
Case Study Results



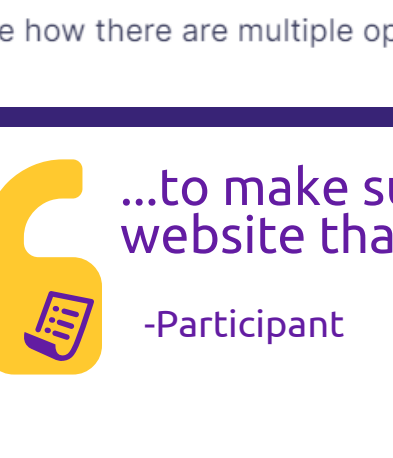
Quotes

Preliminary Questions (Dr. Hiebert)

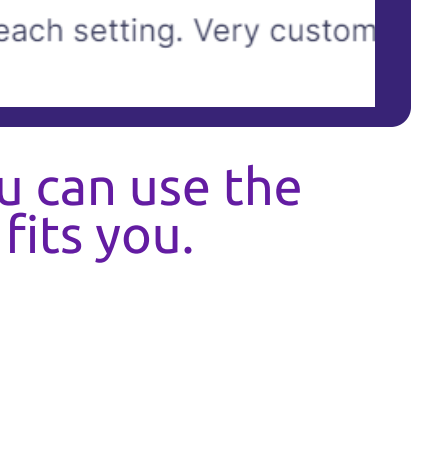
- What is the value of the text?
- What insights, knowledge, and vocabulary can students gain?
- Is the text worthwhile?



User Story to express key problems of target audience



Focus on accuracy & fluency of text comprehension



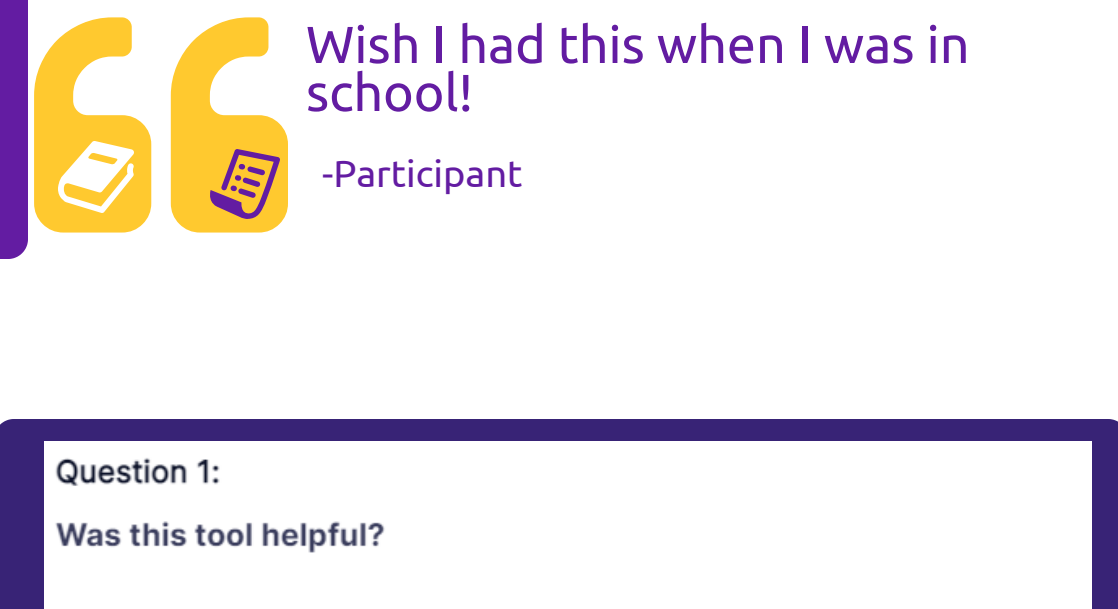
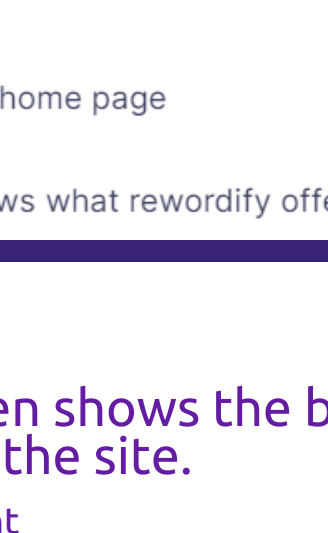
Notes centered on CCST & Dr. Hiebert's insights to define text value

" Help students understand "how" words work. "

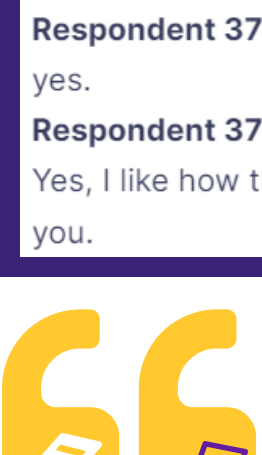
" Lack of early text complexity hinders reading more advanced (nuanced) texts."

Research Insights

Despite any issues participants had, they all found the product effective in its purpose to engage students while building reading comprehension skills.

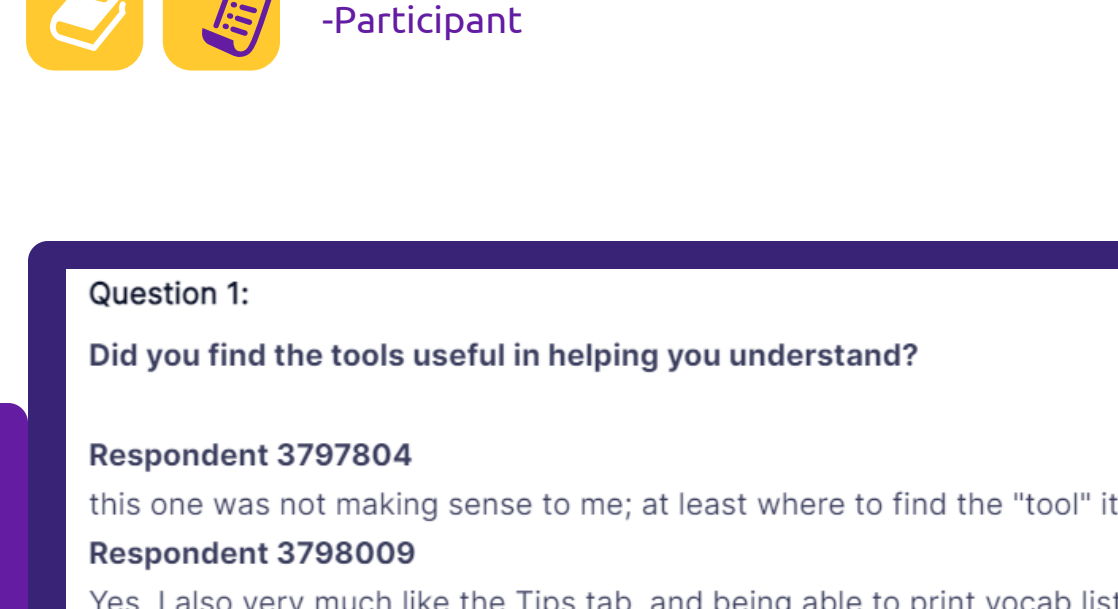


Encouraged self-reflection to realize how past learning experiences could've been improved upon.



Wish I had this when I was in school!

-Participant

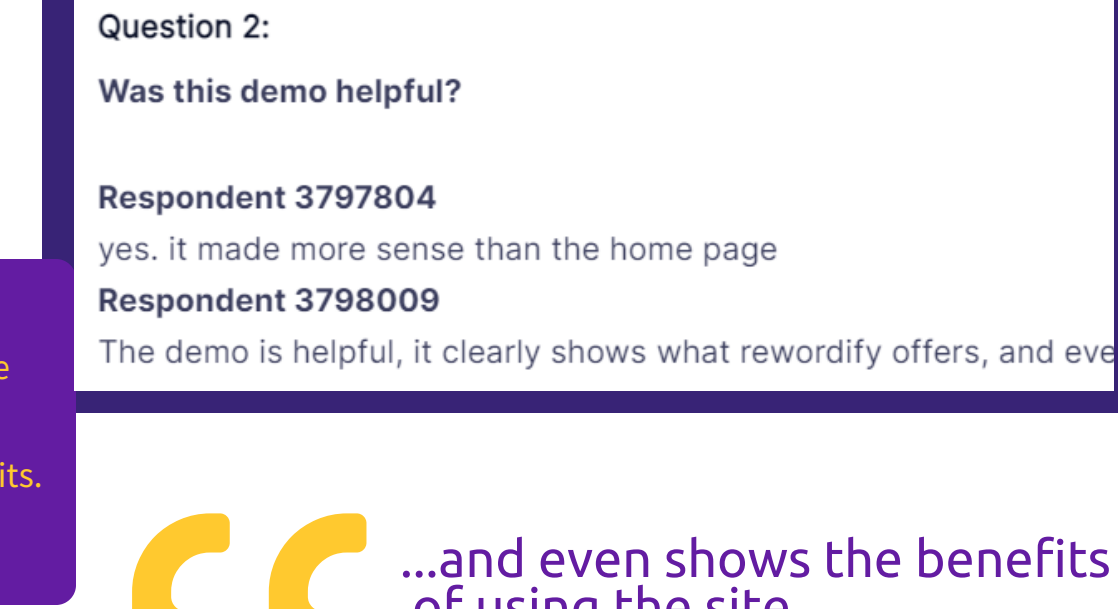


Customization resonates with students by motivating them to invest in their learning journey.



...to make sure you can use the website that best fits you.

-Participant

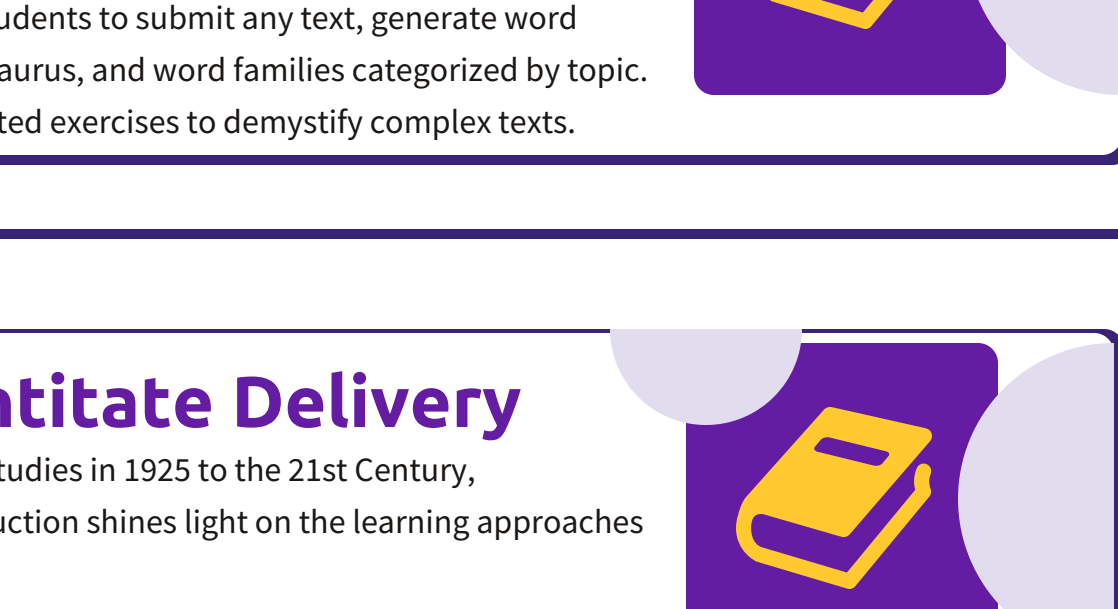


Despite issues, they still found the product to be very useful!

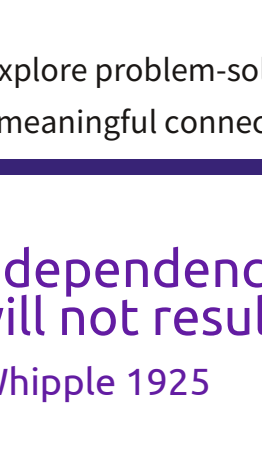


...quizzes, and auto-saving feature is a nice touch.

-Participant



Demo & User-Guide helped to clarify features and benefits.



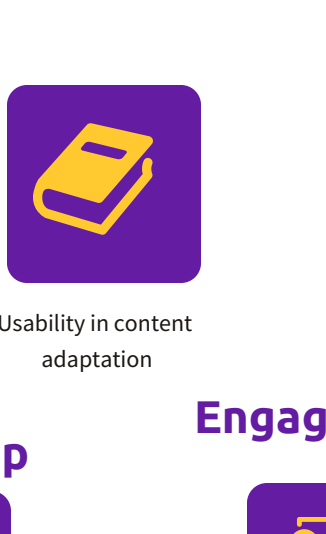
...and even shows the benefits of using the site.

-Participant

Competitive Analysis

There are no other free platforms that combined vocabulary acquisition skills with scaffolded exercises to give multiple exposures to vocabulary.

Wordsift allows students to submit any text, generate word clouds, visual thesaurus, and word families categorized by topic. There are no targeted exercises to demystify complex texts.



Differentiate Delivery

From educational studies in 1925 to the 21st Century, differentiated instruction shines light on the learning approaches students can take.

This allows them to explore problem-solving to generate creativity and create meaningful connections to the content.



...dependence on 1 single vocabulary instruction.. will not result in optimal learning.

-Whipple 1925



Direct Learning



Indirect Learning



Usability in content adaptation



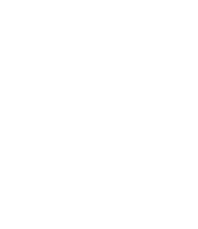
Diverse Content

Compliments various learning styles and potential for peer collaboration



Information Access

Simple interface lessens cognitive load to increase retention



Learning Ownership

Simplified tools and positive feedback encourage students



Engagement

Instructor and system feedback on performance via analytics

Future Recommendations

ReWordify has great foundations that utilize vocabulary building and reading comprehension, but I would like to see more of the following.



- Gamification
- Optimization for Mobile Use
- Example Word/Phrase context