

# Adobe Illustrator Accessibility Evaluation

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## Introduction

The following is a summary of accessibility testing for Adobe Illustrator, accessed through Adobe creative cloud on desktop.

This a graphic design software used to create vector graphics. Unlike raster images (like photos) made of pixels, vector graphics use mathematical formulas to draw lines and shapes. This means you can scale a vector design to any size (from a tiny business card to a massive billboard) without it ever becoming blurry or losing quality.

The application was tested on a PC, using desktop version of the software. Because of this, the application could not be tested with automated testing software.

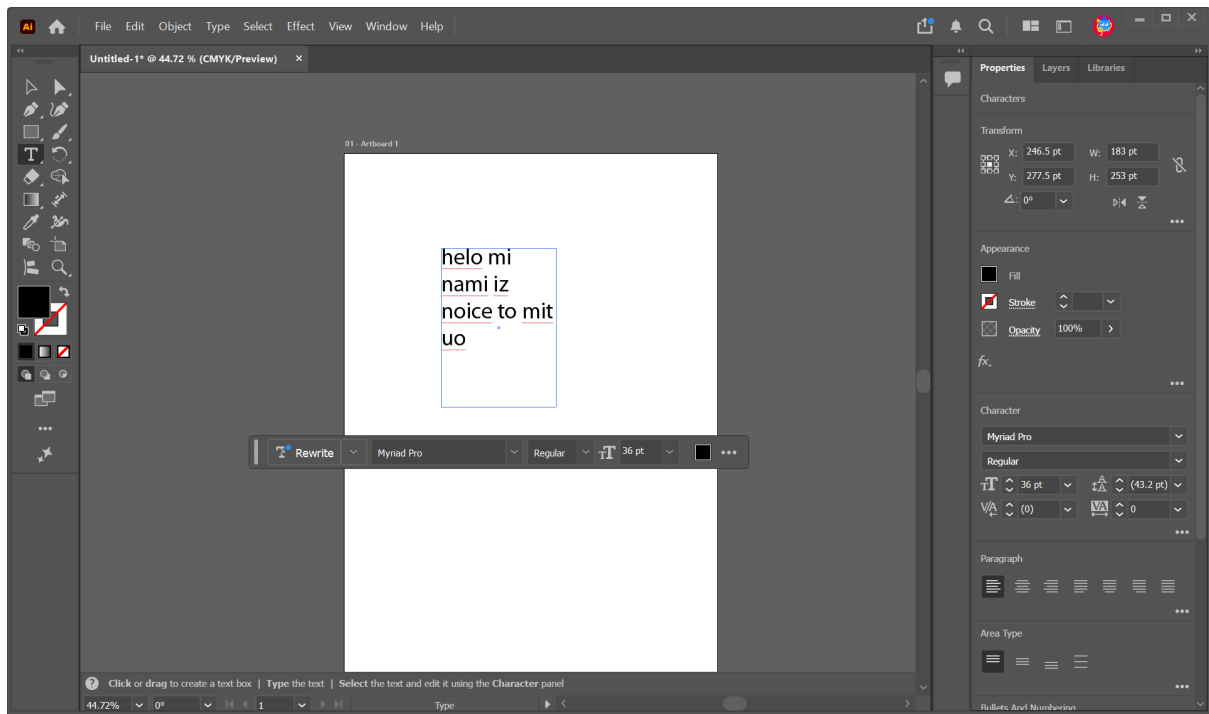
## Manual Testing Accessibility Findings

The application was tested against the following criteria, with the results recorded below.

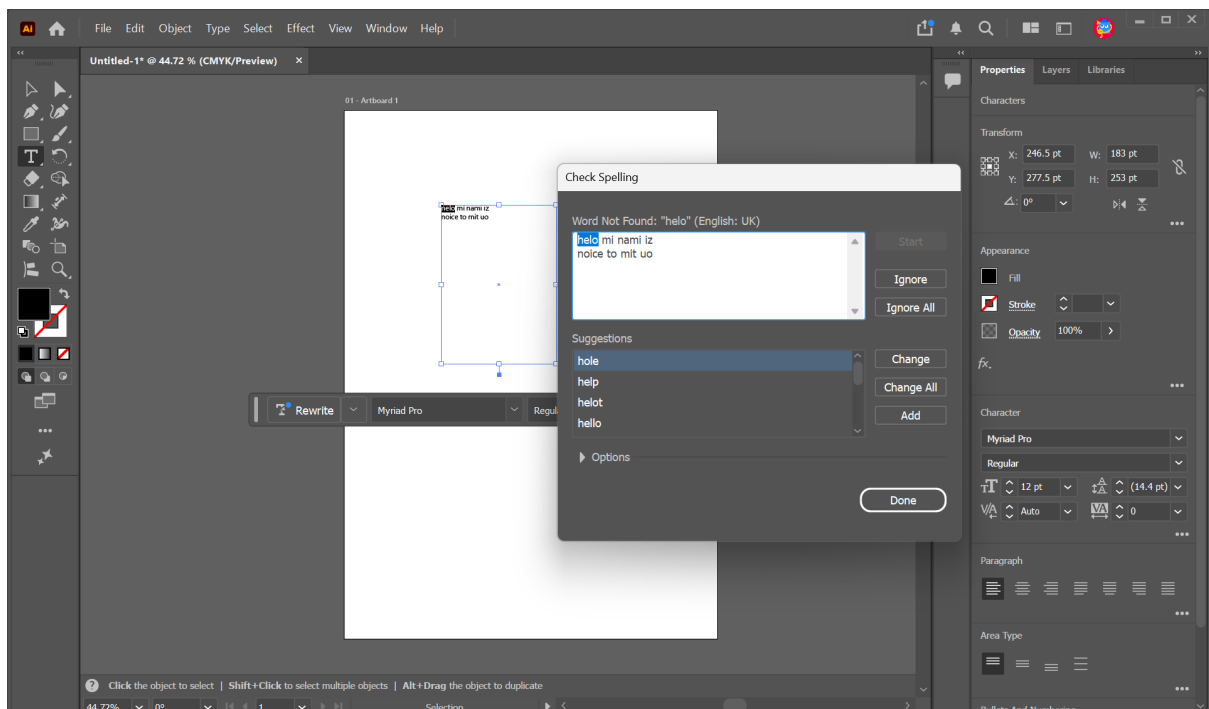
### **1. Is browser spellcheck functionality compatible with the system?**

A spellcheck function is helpful for using the search facility, or typing in a free text box on a website, and is particularly useful for users with specific learning differences, for example, dyslexia. Spellcheck functionality highlights potential errors, specifically in the way a word or term is spelt, and, in some cases, suggests alternatives.

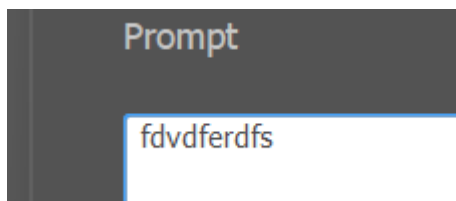
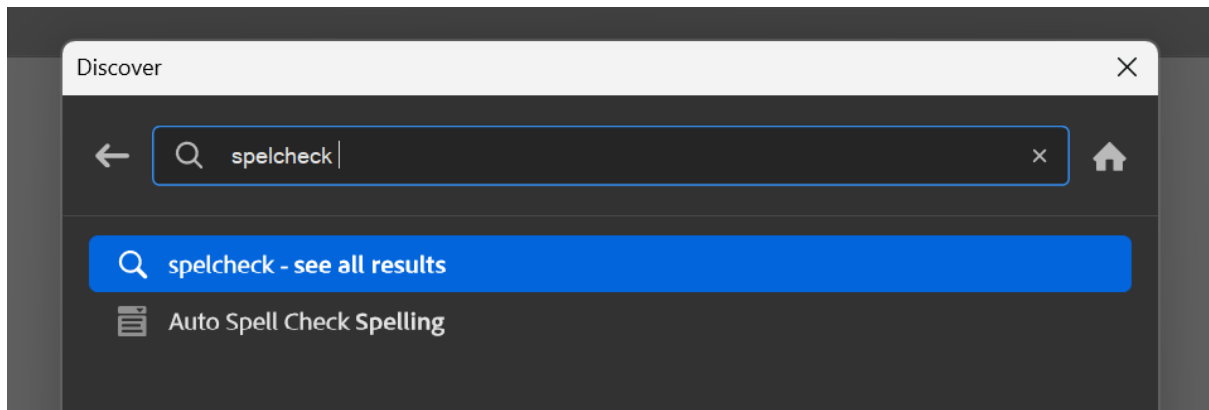
Users can add text on their files and a spellcheck functionality seems to be enabled:



Users can also use Ctrl + I keyboard shortcut and open spell checker with edit suggestions:

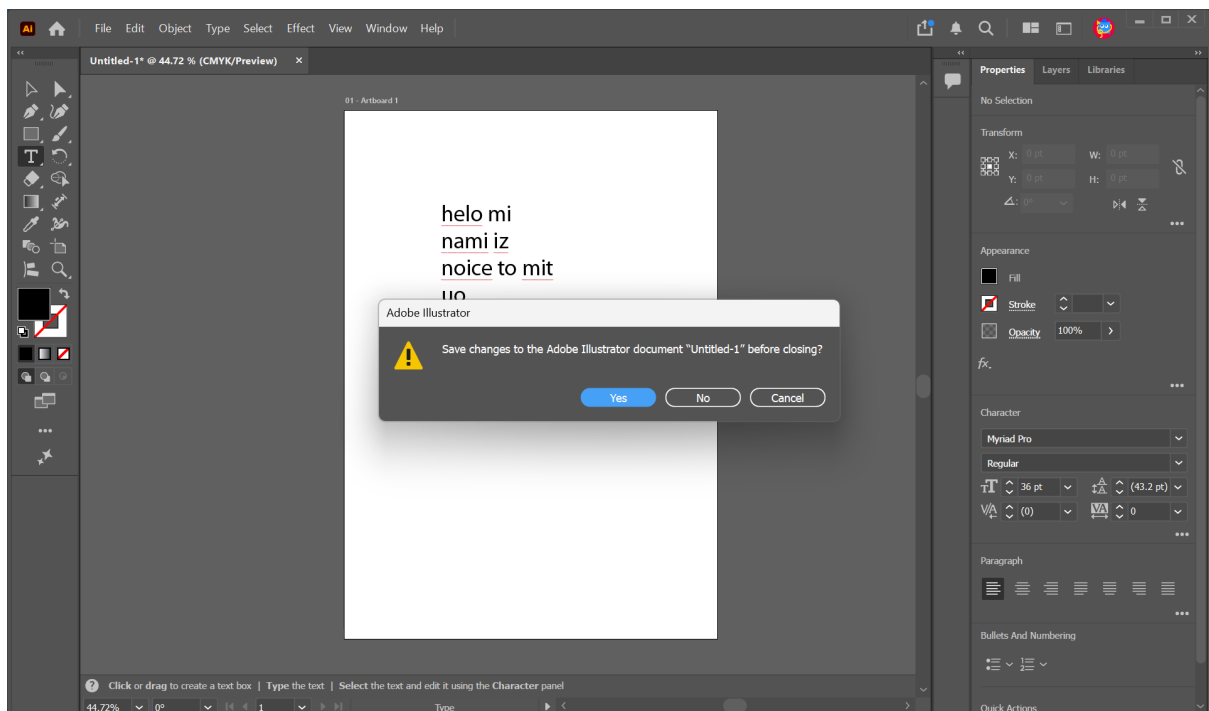


However, spellcheck is not enabled in other text entry fields, for example:

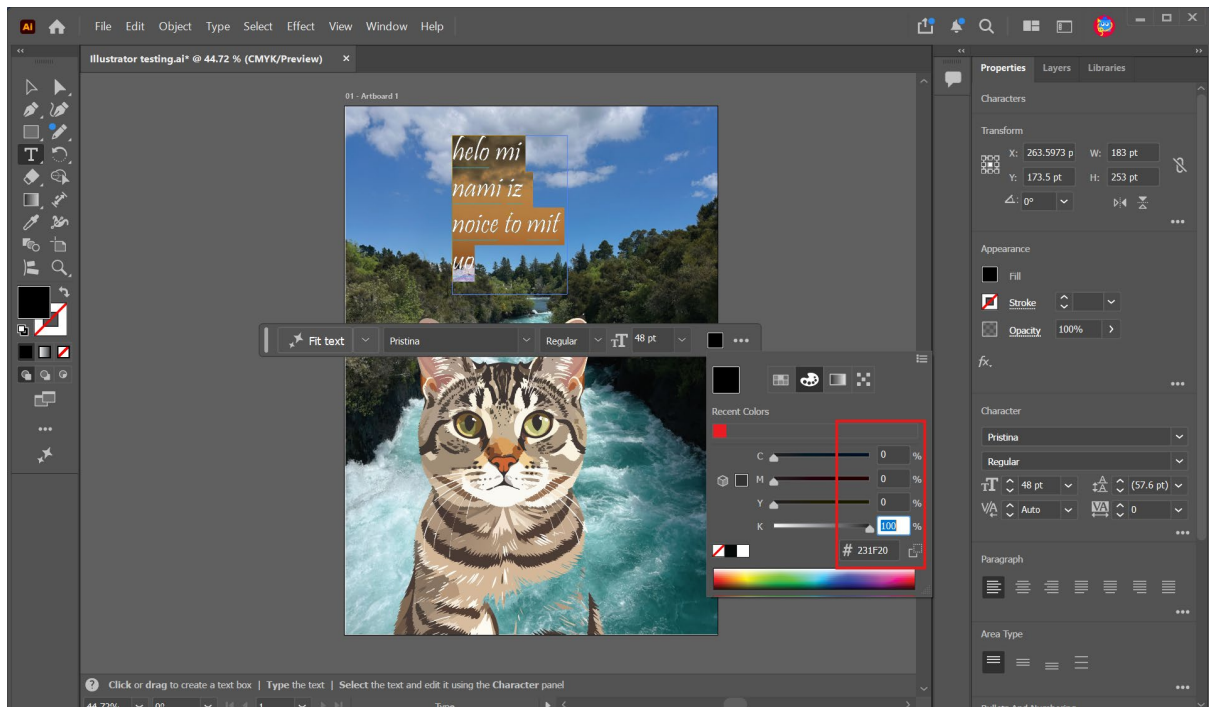


## 2. Describe any data validation that is automatically run by the system to ensure that users enter data in the correct formats. How does the system inform the user of errors?

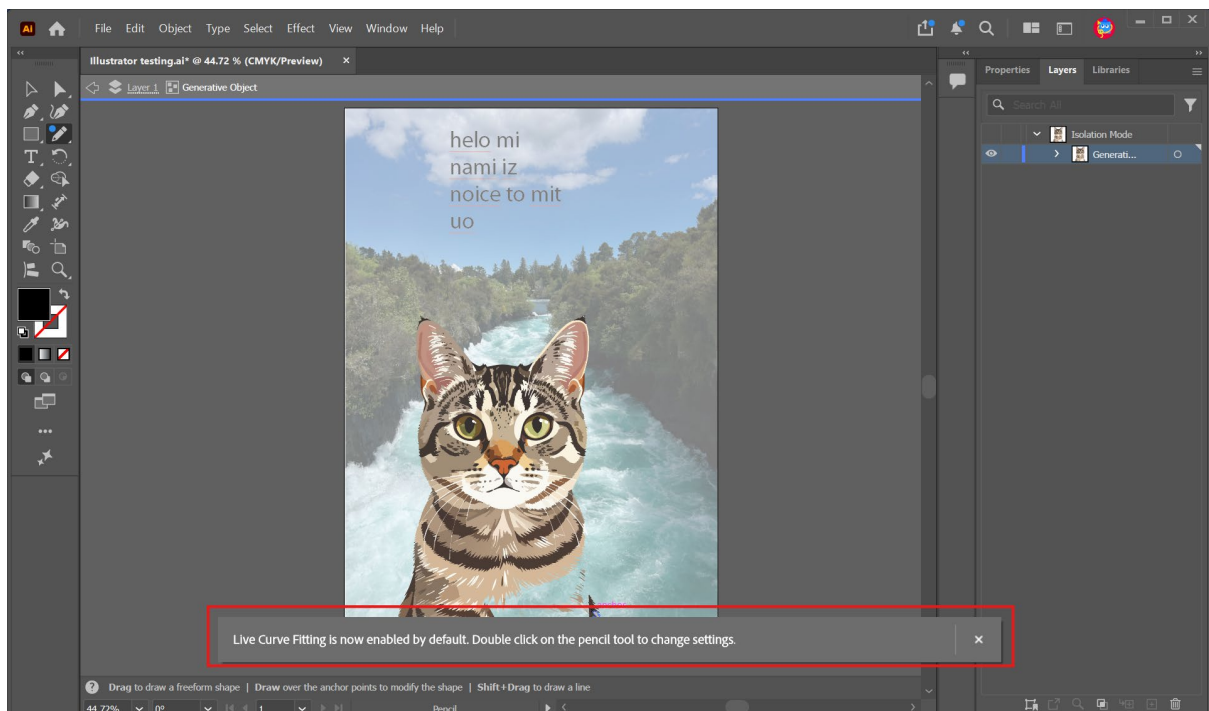
If a user tries to close the application without saving, a pop-up appears to ask if changes should be saved:



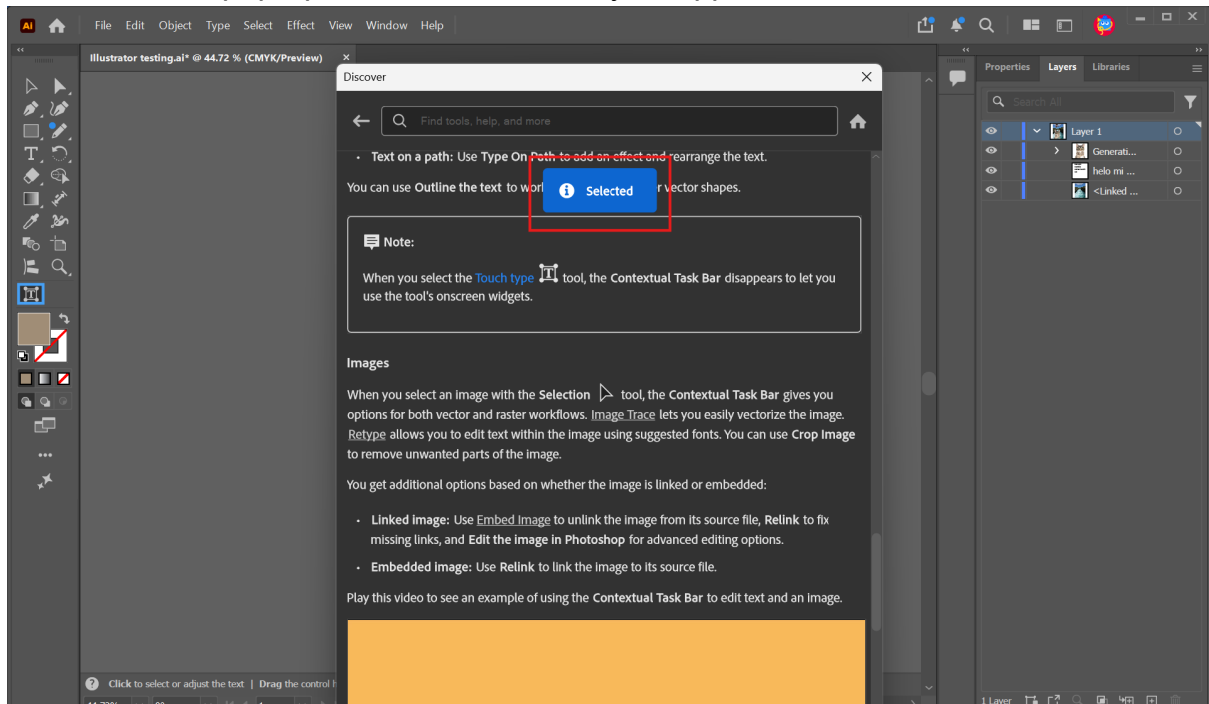
If a user tries to enter too many letters/numbers into a colour code or letters into a field that only accepts numbers, then they are automatically deleted and the field remains as it was:



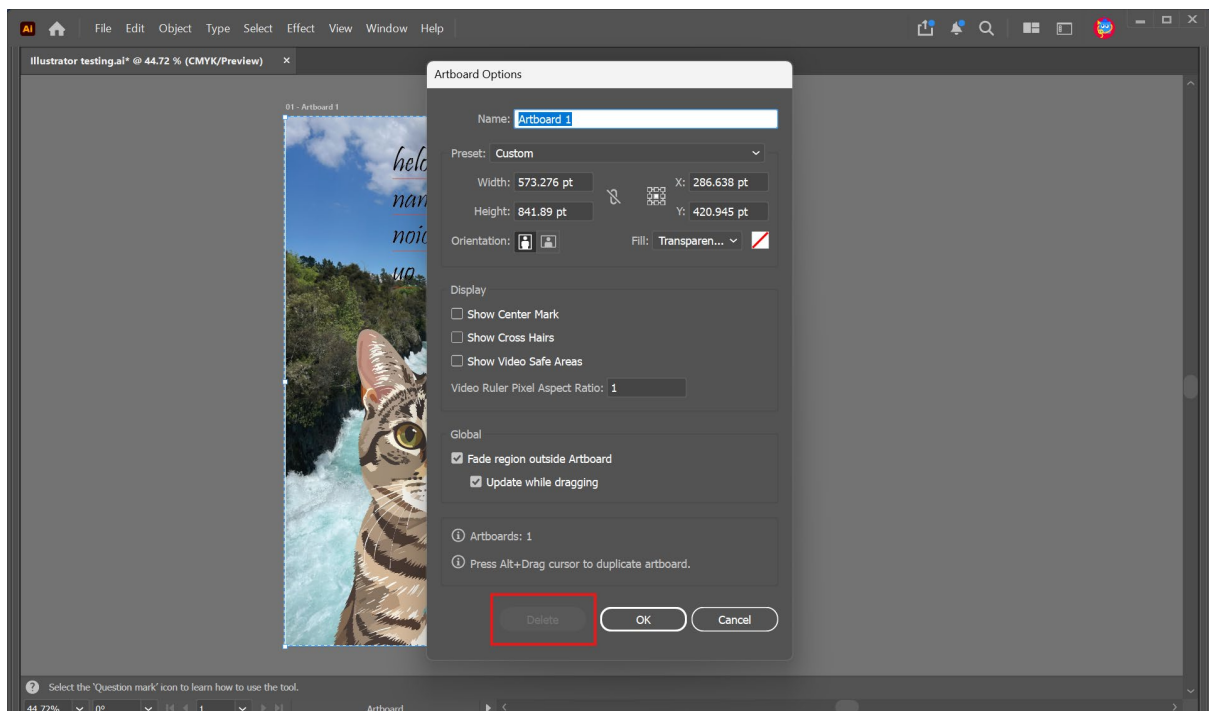
There were also some status/information message pop-ups that would appear when certain functionalities were selected:



Some of these pop-ups would automatically disappear after a few seconds:



There also are disabled buttons:



**3. If a form requires the user to repeat information, for example, their address multiple times, is there an option for the system to automatically fill in this information if it has been provided previously?**

There were no areas that would require a redundant entry.

**4. Is a cognitive function test required to access this site? E.g., do you need to remember a password? (This is negated if there is a forgotten password link or an object recognition option that allows you access.)**

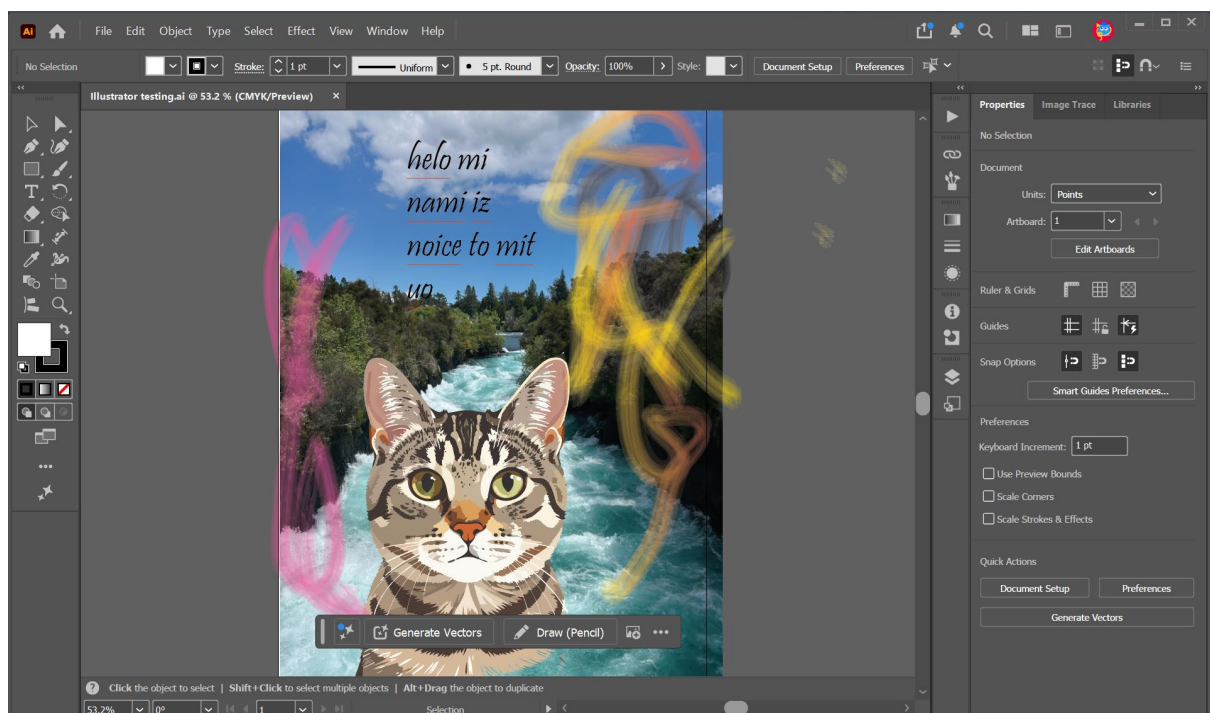
Users can install Adobe Creative Cloud through software centre. Then, they can log-in using their Microsoft account to log in. There is a help link with information on forgotten passwords.

**5. Is the system compatible with browser functionality to allow the user to customise their views (i.e., font size, colours, and contrast ratios).**

### Customisation

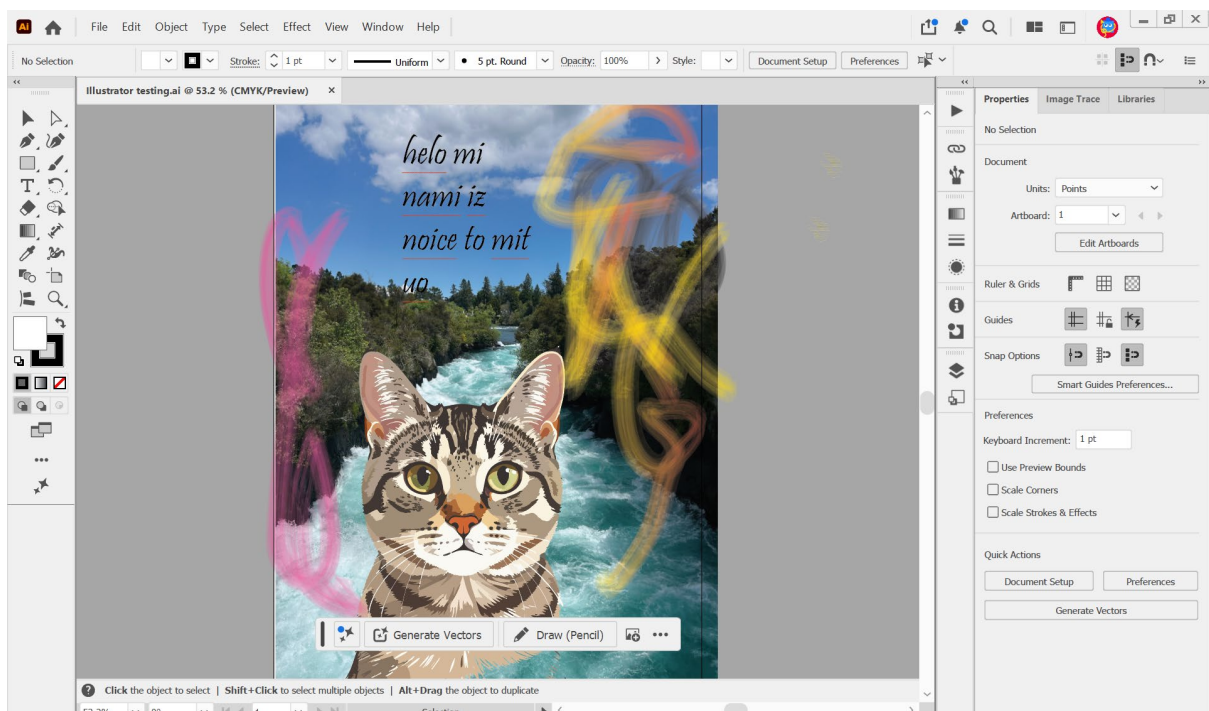
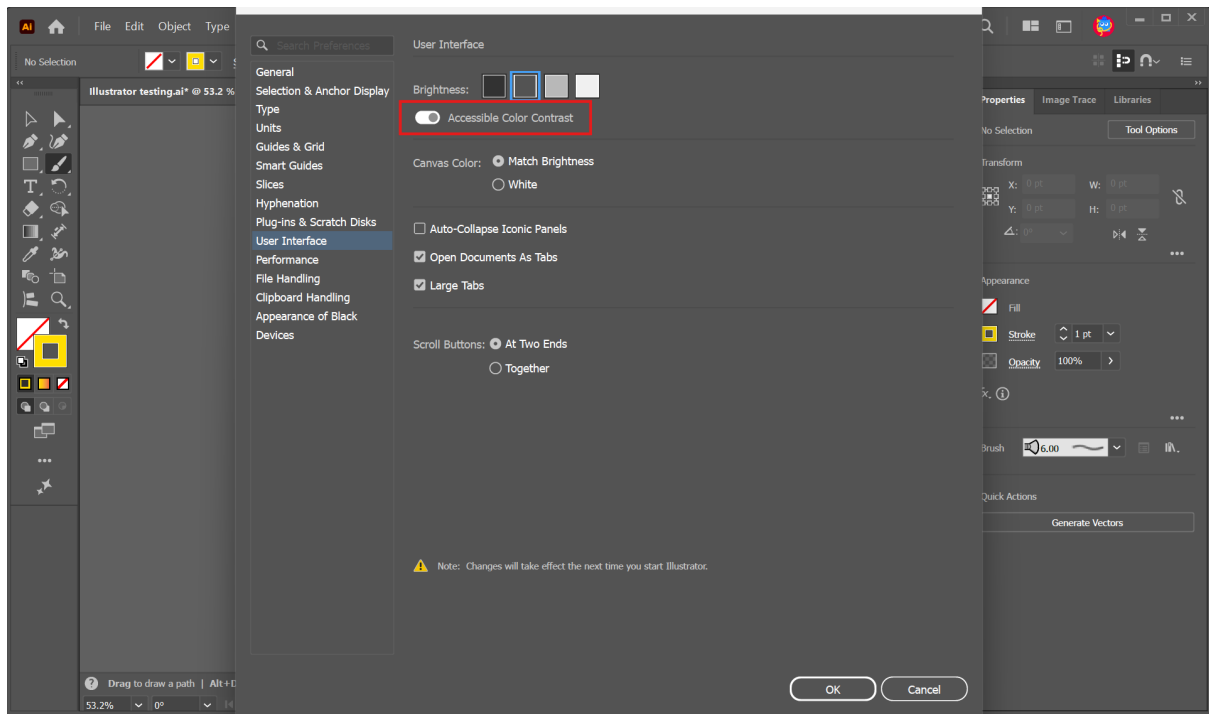
The customisation is limited.

Original:



Selecting a different colour theme or larger font size (through computer settings) did not have an effect.

There are some customisation settings within the software, for example, accessible colour contrast modes, where users can change the background colours:

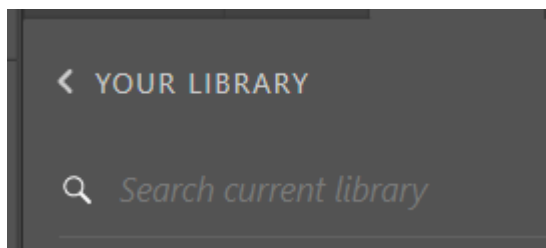
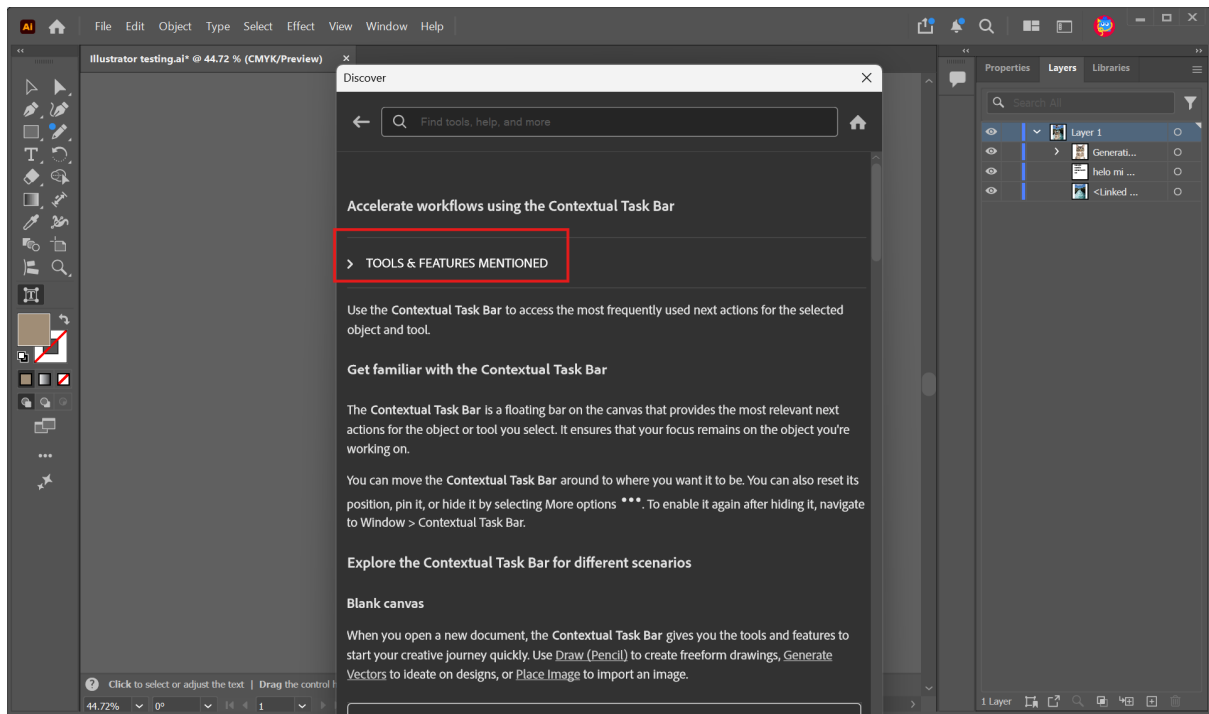


## Fonts

The default fonts used were sans serif. However, when adding text, users can select any fonts that they want.

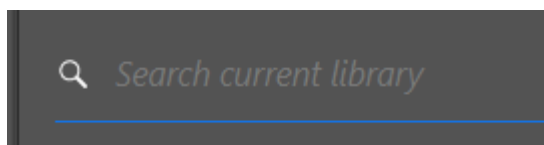
Users can choose to use underlining, italics, and continuous capitals, but continuous capitals and italics were used within the application too:





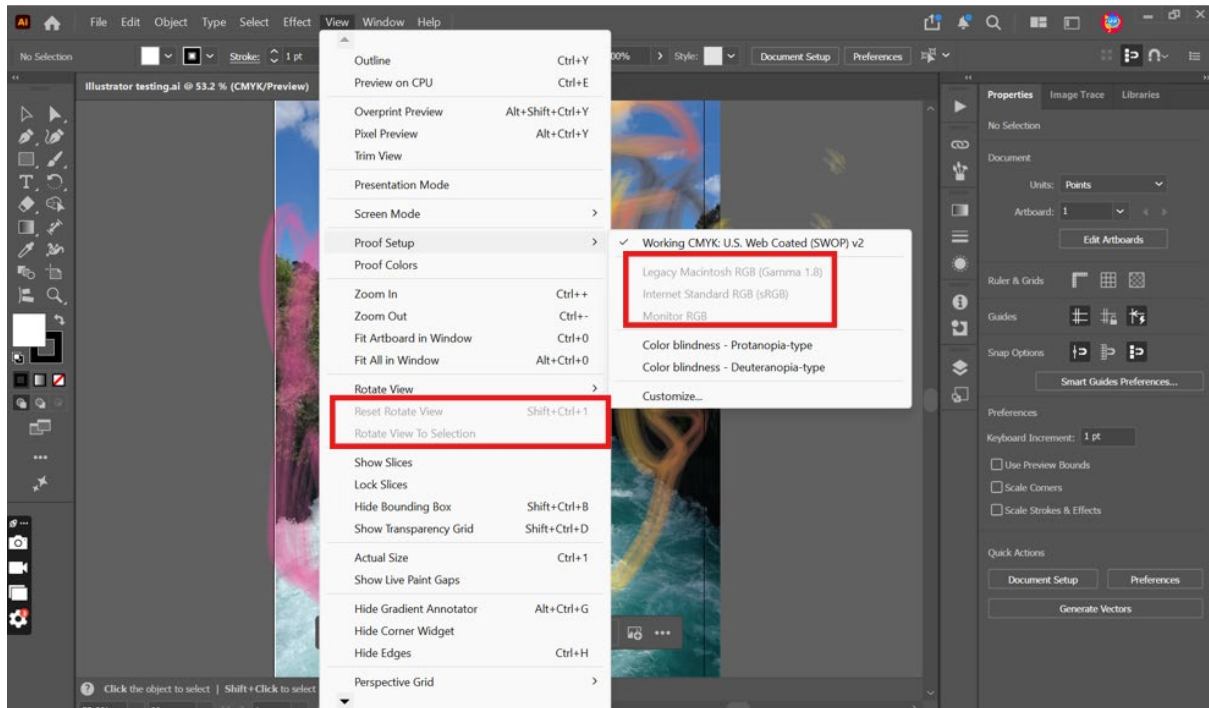
## Contrasts

A lot of text elements on the system had small fonts and very low colour contrasts, for example:



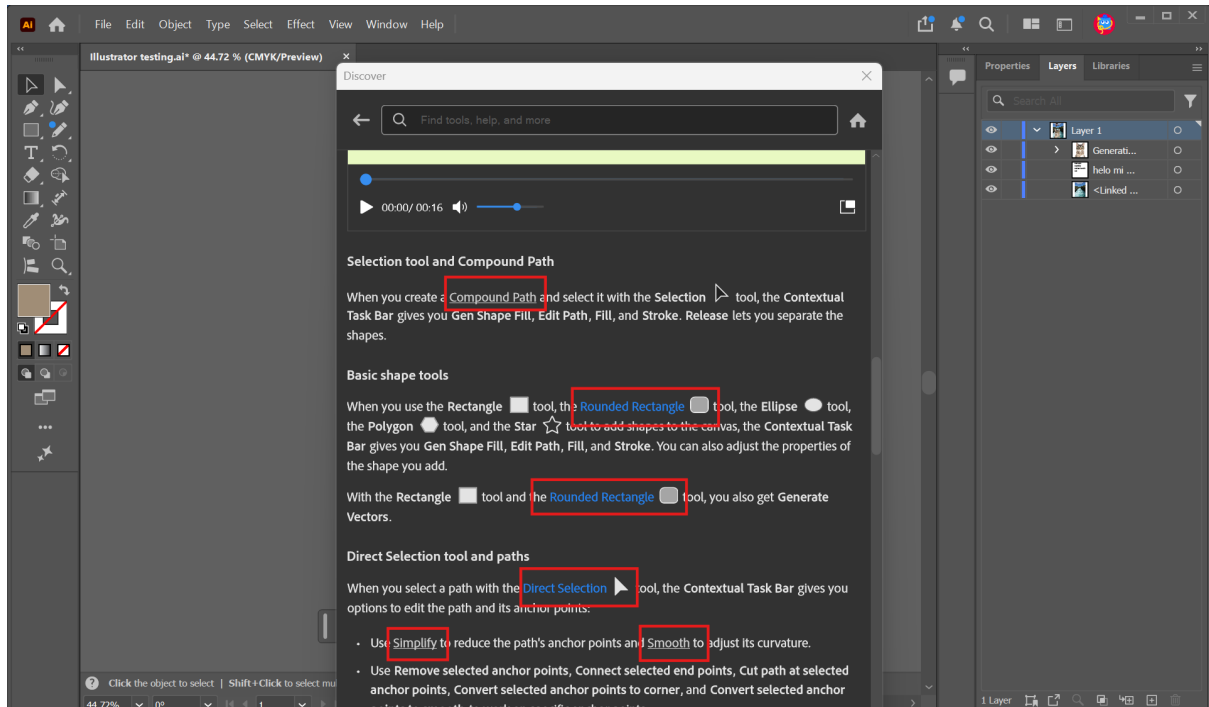
There were also some disabled buttons (that become active if the right functionalities are used), for example:



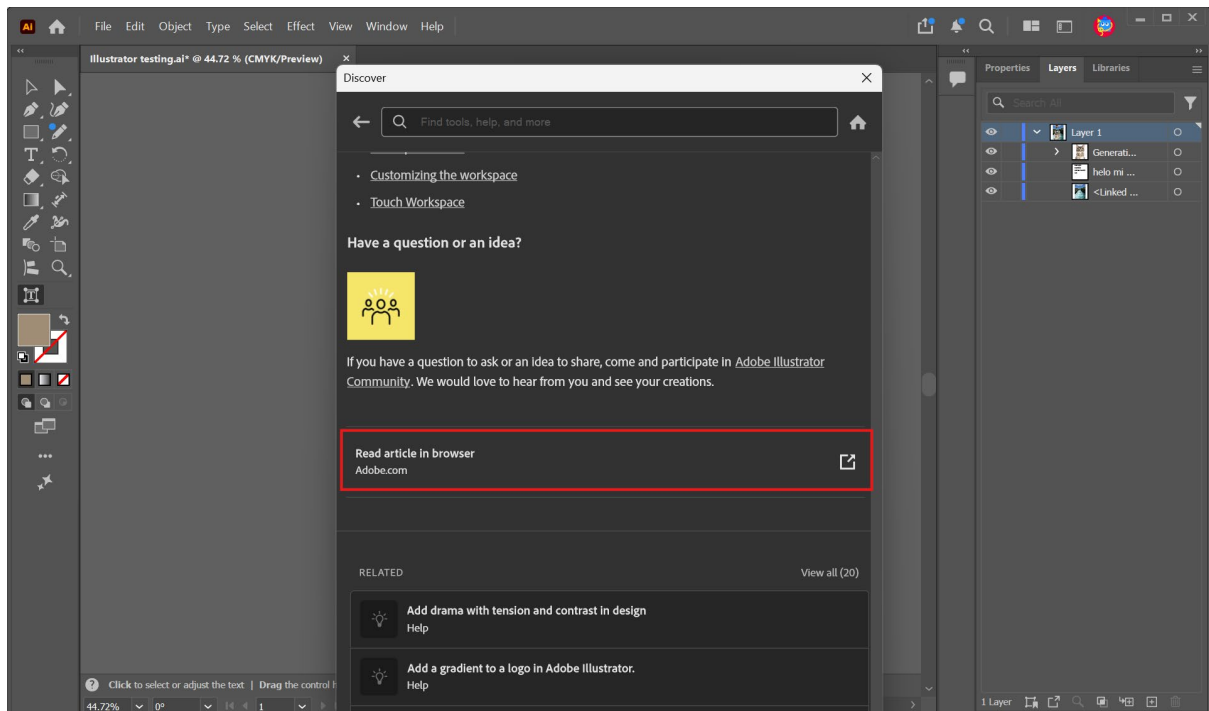


## Links

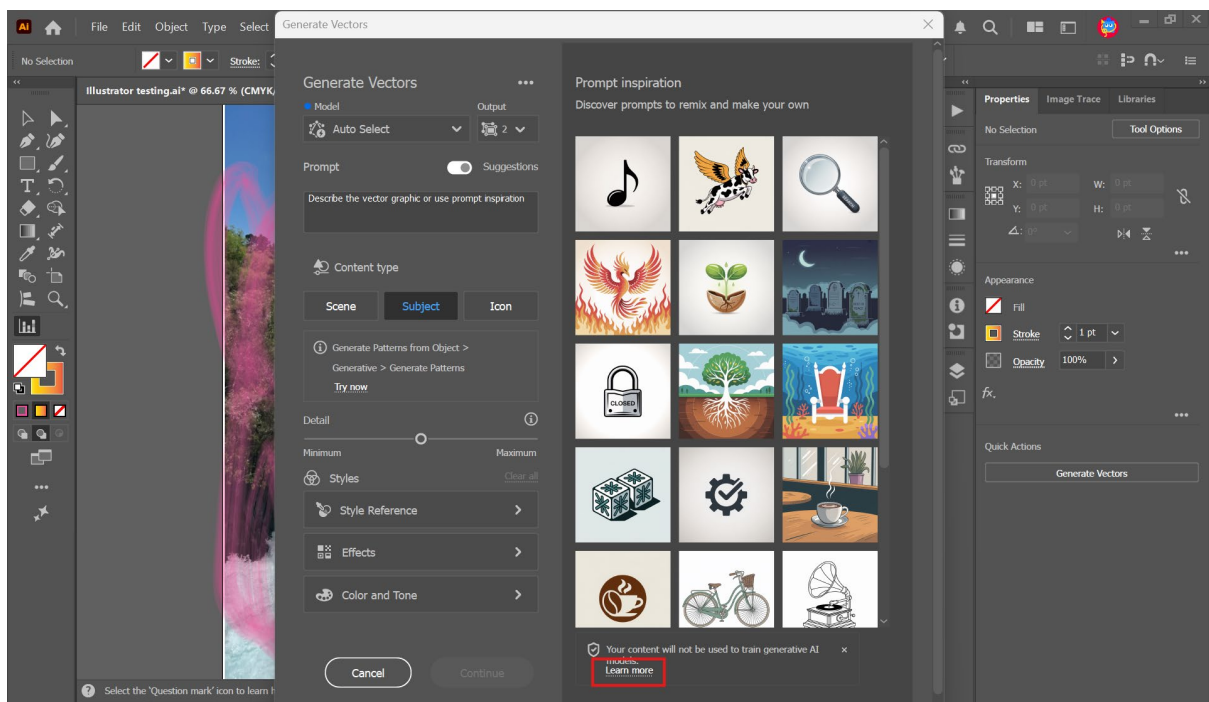
Links had different formatting. For example, some links were blue and not underlined (they opened things within Illustrator), other links were grey and underlined (they opened new window without warning):



Other links looked like plain text but had an icon next to links that warned users about opening a new window:



A lot of links seemed to have mostly good hypertext, however, hypertext of some links could still be improved and made more informative, than, for example, 'Learn more' link:



There seem to be no naked URLs.

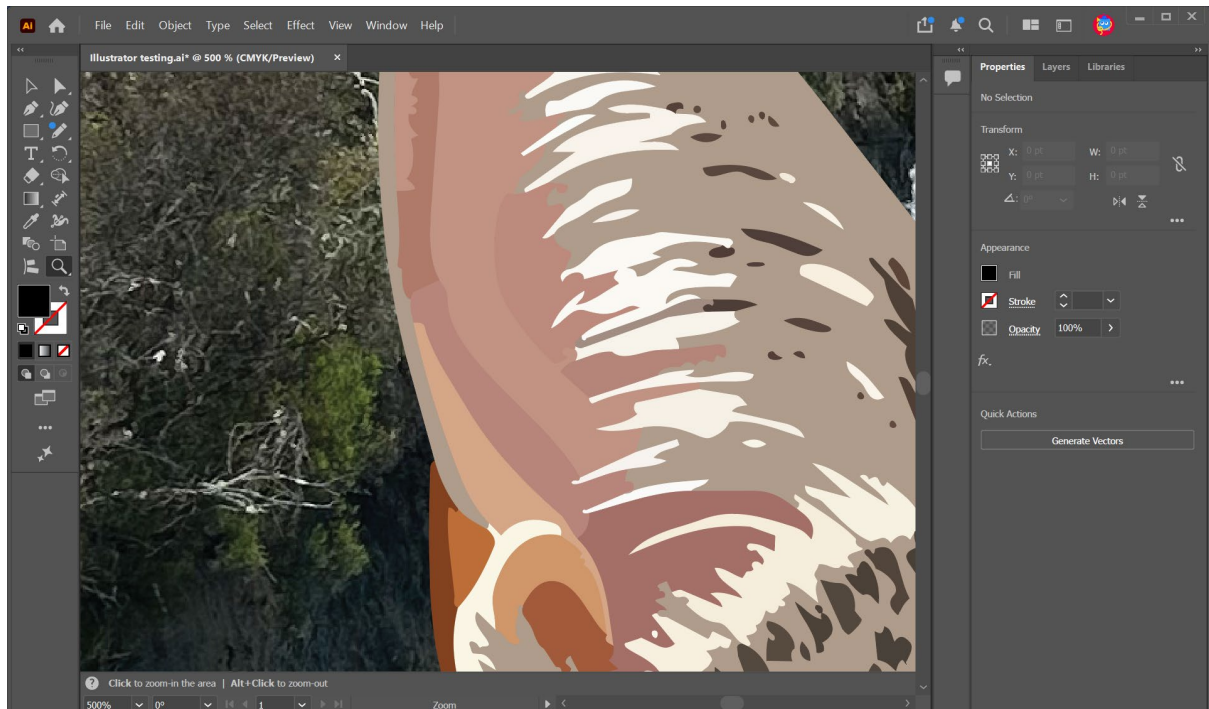
**6. Confirm whether the system scales correctly using different resolutions and if the system reflows when magnified.**

### **Windows Magnifier**

It is possible to magnify the site up to 500% using Windows Magnifier, without significant loss of content or distortion.

### **Ctrl +**

Magnification is limited as ctrl + and ctrl - allow to zoom the file in and out but does not change the scale of the menus, example of magnification to 500%:

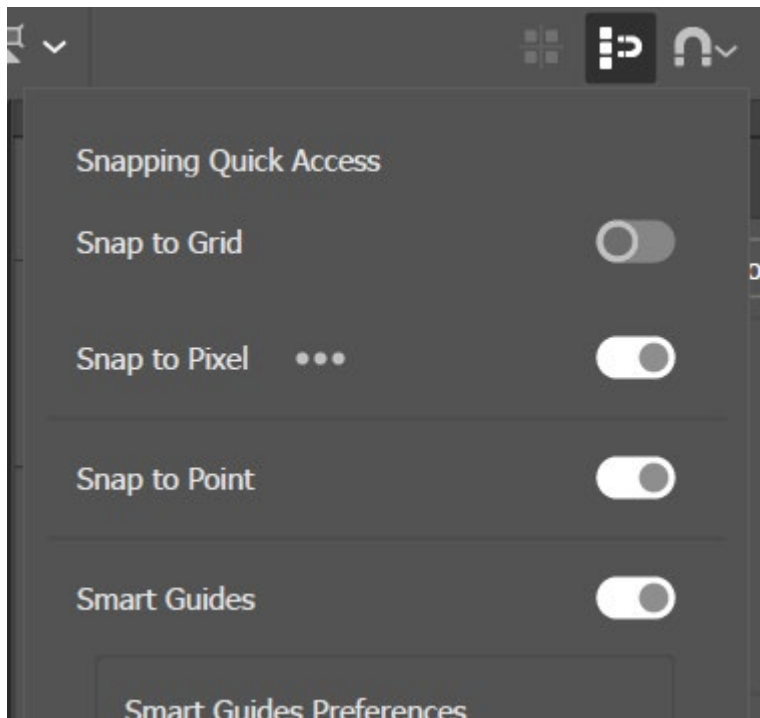


### **Reflow**

Menus cannot be zoomed in, so do not require reflow. Pictures can be zoomed in and do not have reflow at percentages when they no longer fit the screen.

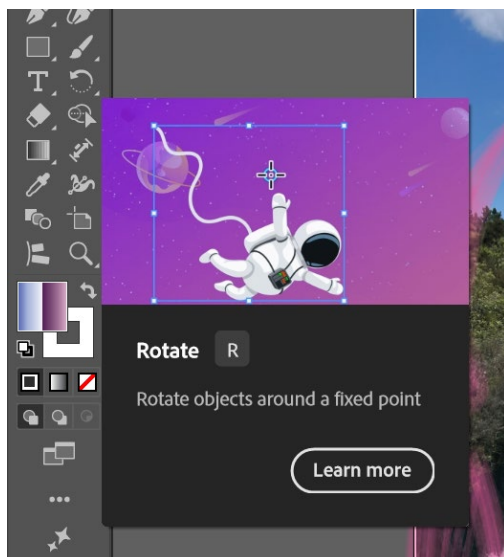
**7. Confirm whether the system conveys any information in colour only?**

There were toggle buttons that could be said to convey information by colour:

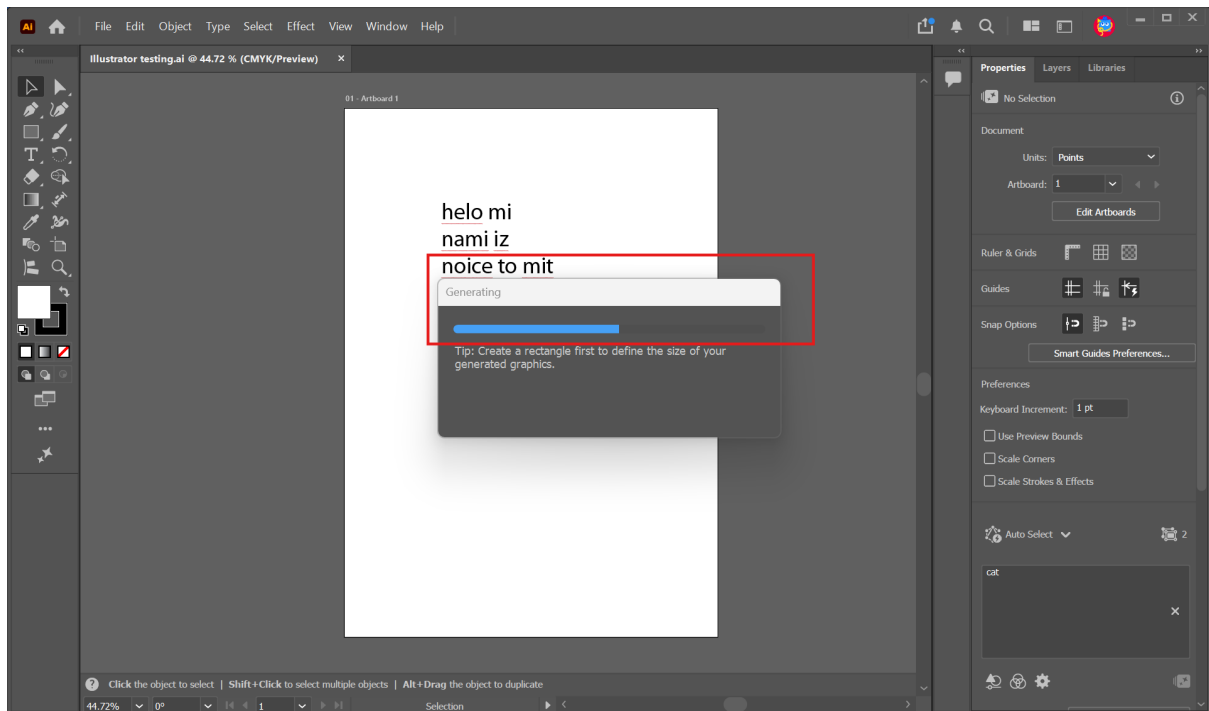


### 8. Is there any flashing, scrolling or moving content?

When a user selects some tools, some of them have pop-ups with moving videos that show what the selected tool can be used for, these videos cannot be paused but can be closed when the pop-up is dismissed:

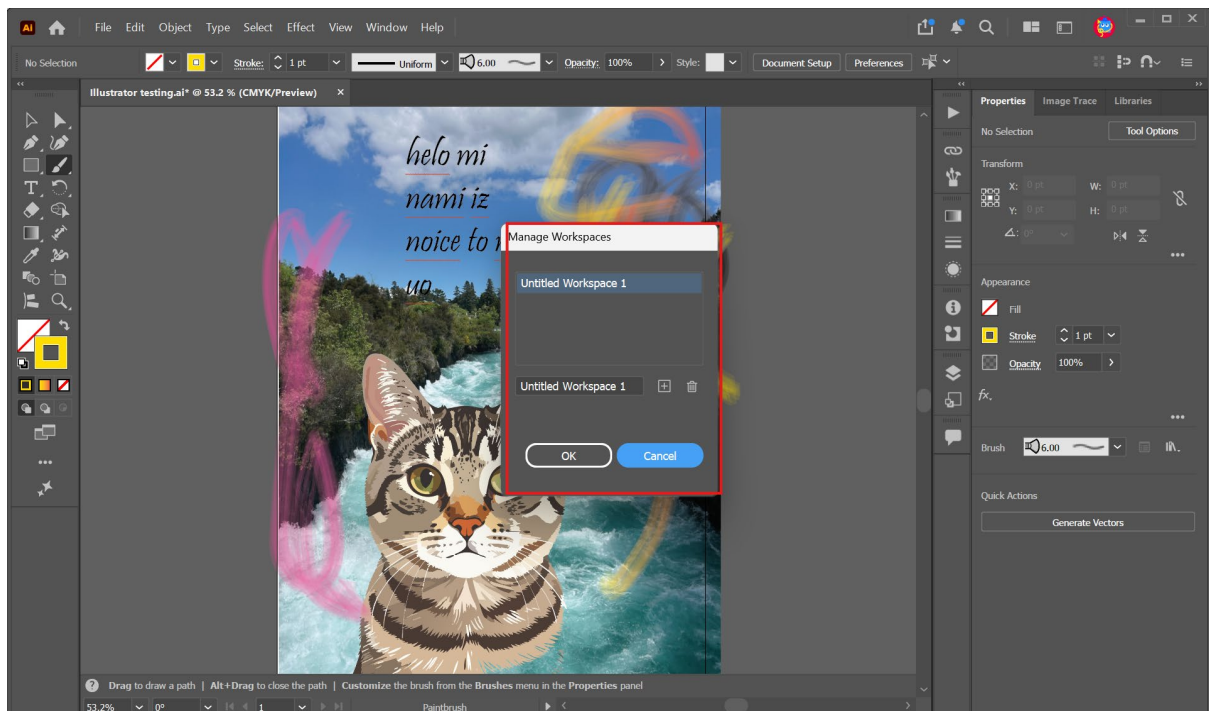


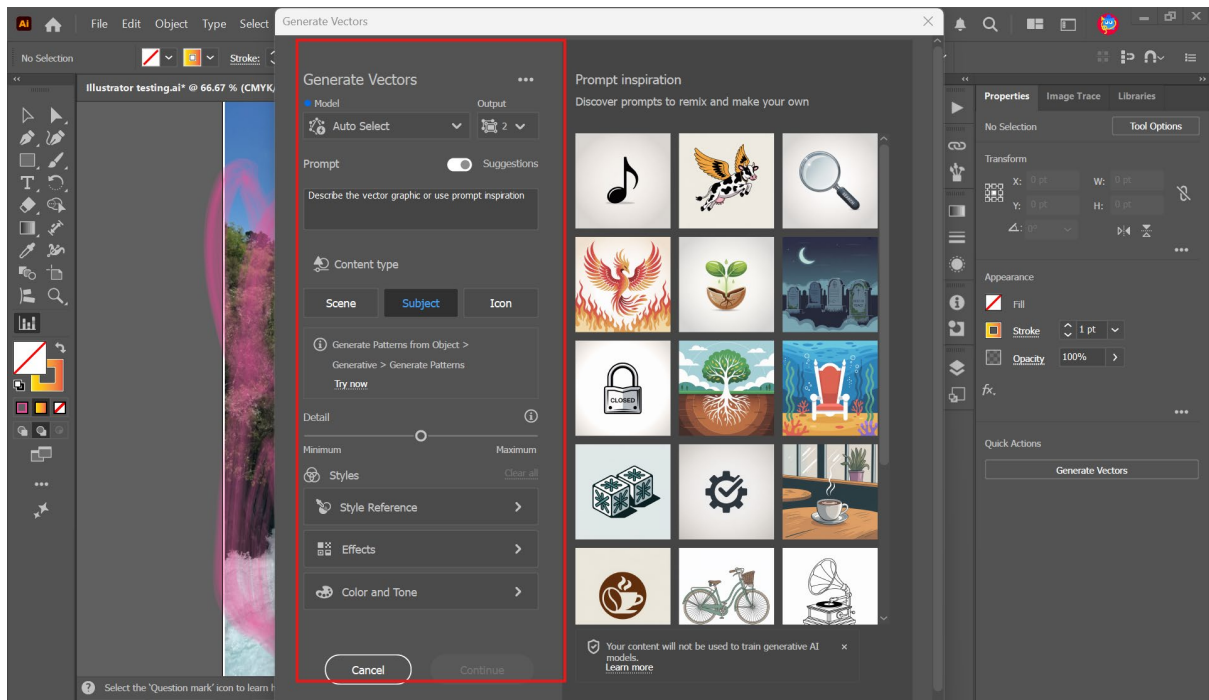
There are various types of loading icons/progress bars:



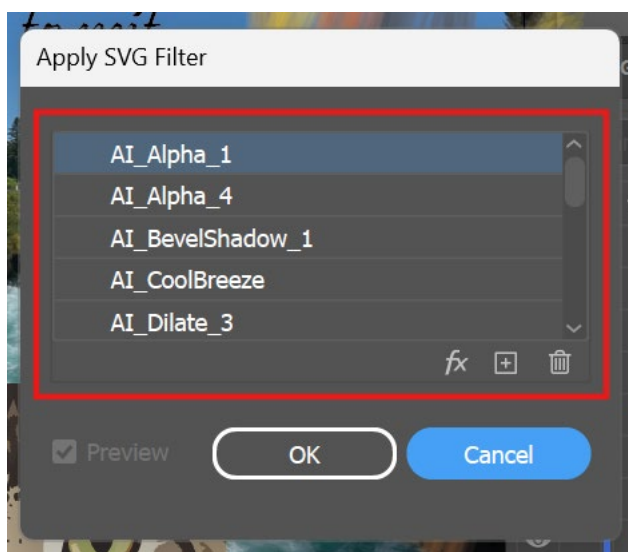
**9. Confirm whether all content is accessible through a keyboard interface and whether it requires specific timings for keystrokes (i.e., is it possible to navigate around and complete the task without ever using the mouse?).**

Most of the content seemed inaccessible by keyboard. Only a few areas were accessible, mostly various buttons in the pop-ups, for example:

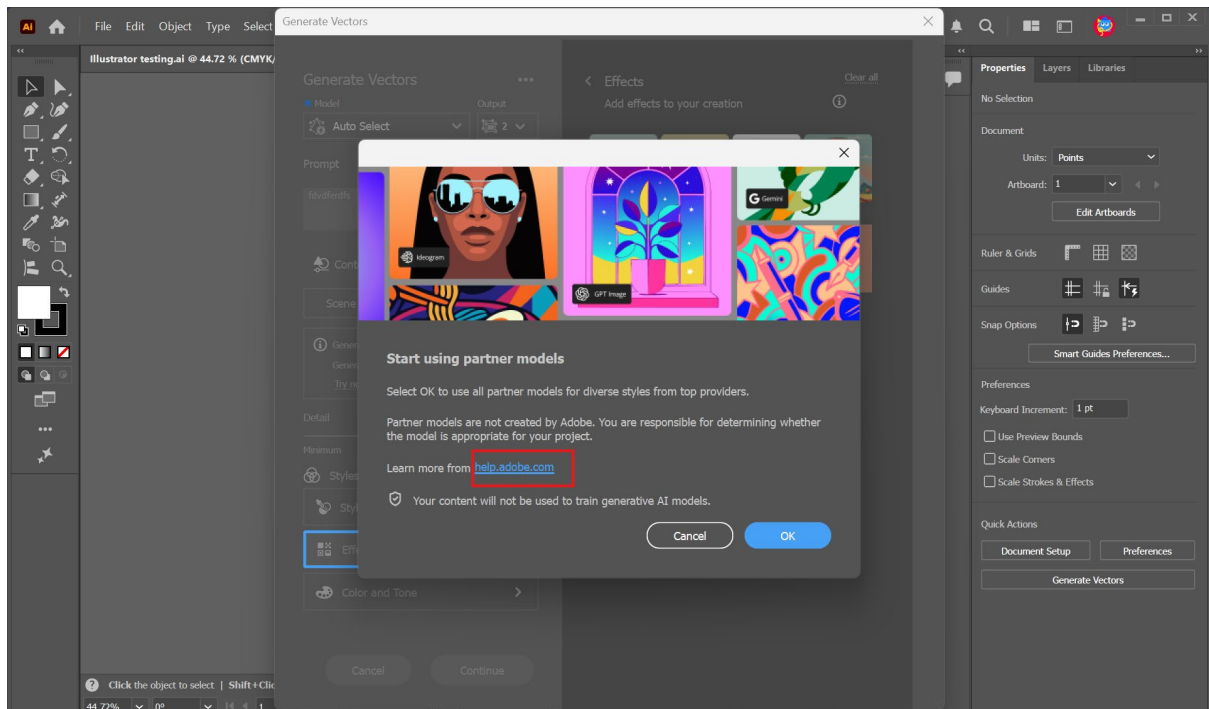




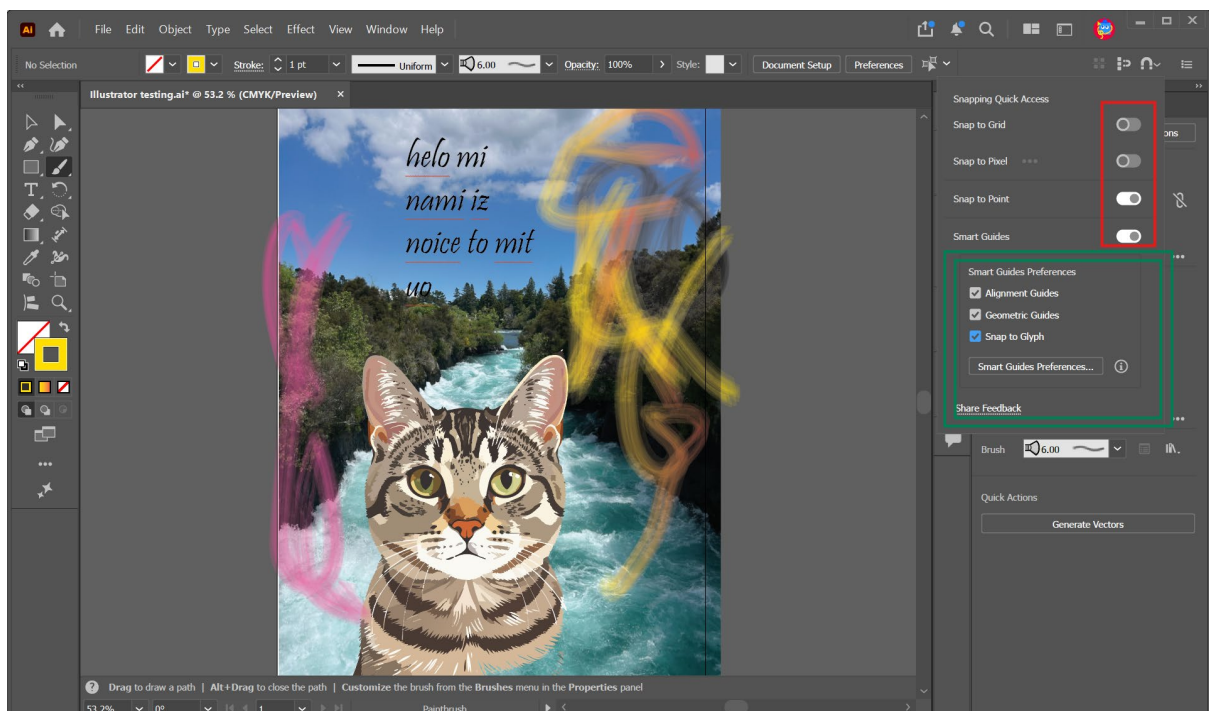
However, even some elements in the pop-ups were inaccessible, for example:







Example of a pop-up where keyboard inaccessible areas are overlined with red and accessible areas are marked in double green outline:



There are a lot of keyboard shortcuts that allow users to switch between functionalities (for example, from text box to a brush) and users can customise the shortcuts. However, this does not mean that keyboard users can use the functionalities, as, for example, a keyboard user may be able to choose a brush functionality but not actually paint with that brush.

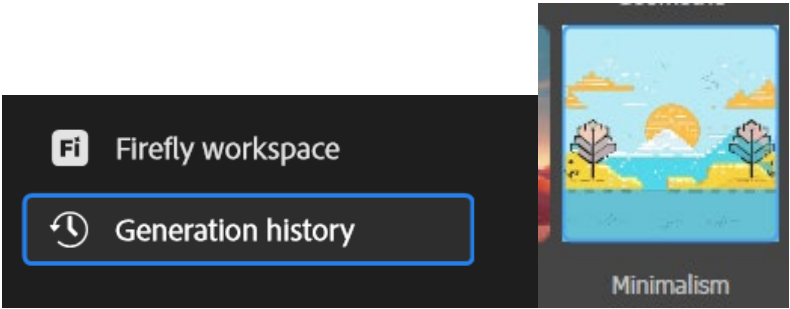
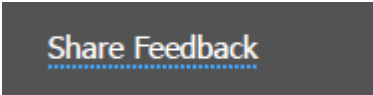


There were functionalities that required dragging and did not have alternatives (for example, the picture crop adjustments or drawing).

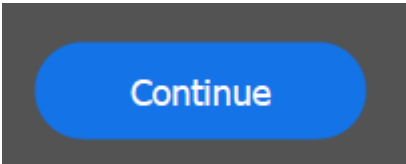
There were no skip navigation links.

A lot of content was inaccessible, but in areas that were accessible, there were no keyboard traps and navigation order was logical.

Focus was indicated by:

- a blue overline:
- buttons becoming blue:
- dotted underline that turns blue when selected by keyboard:

A few areas did not have a visible keyboard focus indicator, for example, buttons that

are already blue:

Keyboard focus indicator could be improved and have a brighter thicker outline or a different colour to the elements.

## 10. Is Read and Write (TextHelp) compatible with the application?

TextHelp supports spelling and grammar checking, suggesting word completion, which proves helpful for people with reading difficulties (including dyslexia), typing difficulties, or a physical impairment. This software is available on all University public access PCs, and also via download from the Software Centre to a managed desktop.

Screen masking worked well, which is important as general customisation is limited.

Spellcheck works.

Reading functionalities were very limited, not all text could be read and the read text was not highlighted.

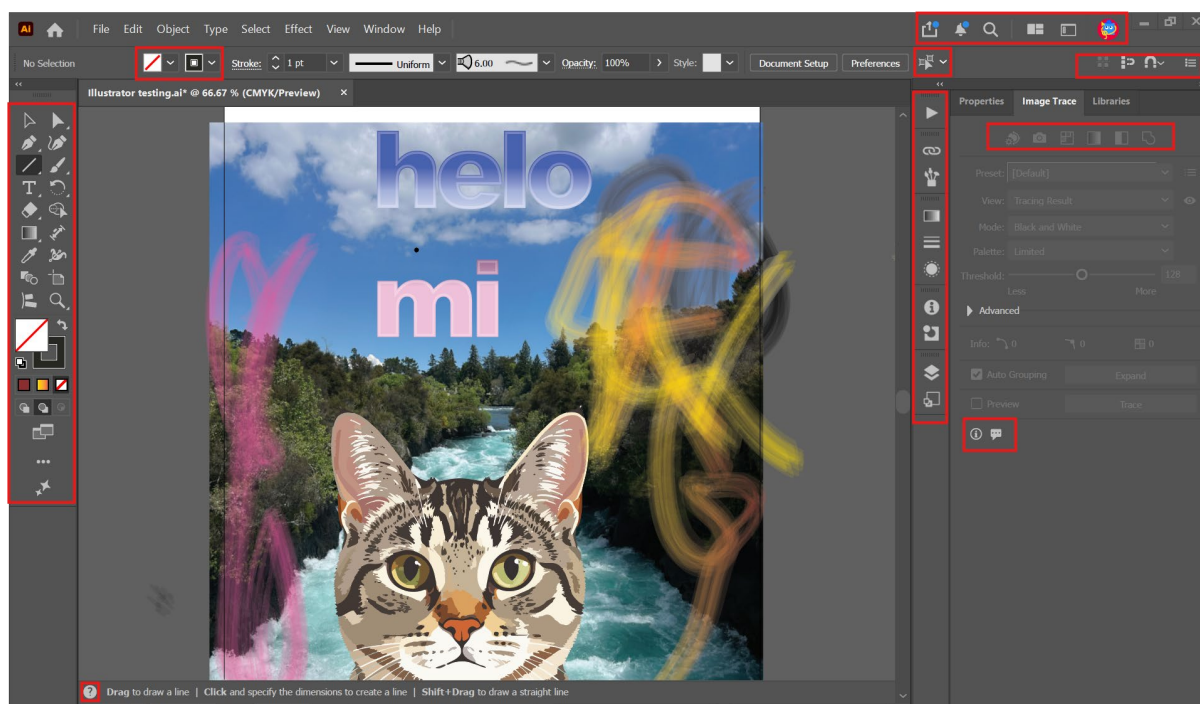
## 11. Is ZoomText compatible with the application? Can ZoomText be used without distortion of the pages content?

ZoomText allows users to magnify digital text and change contrast, for example, black text on white instead of white text on black. It is especially helpful for people with a visual impairment.

Colour changing and magnification functionalities worked well.

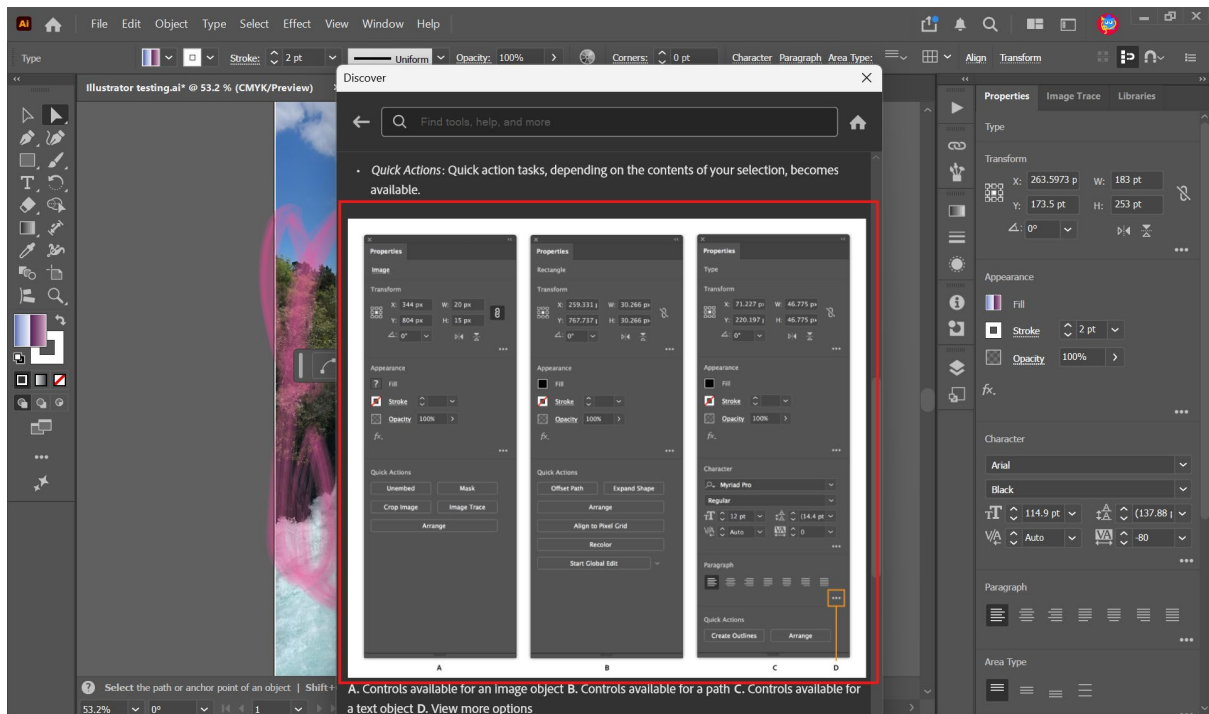
## 12. Are there alt text/text descriptions added for all non-text content?

There are various non-text elements, mostly icons and images, for example:



It is unclear if images, graphics and icons have alt text programmed, but most of the content and images are inaccessible by screen-readers, so this visual content would be missed by users who rely on screen-readers.

There are images of text in the 'Discover' section, next to written instructions on how to use certain functionalities:

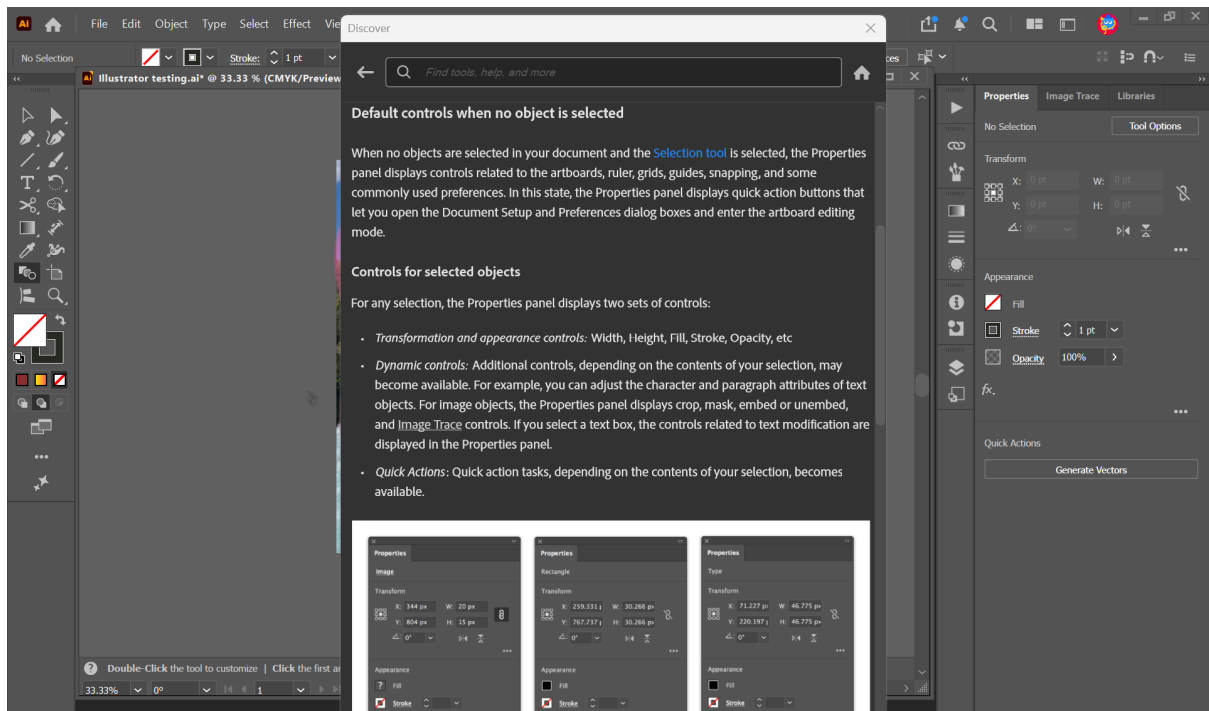


### 13. Is Job Access with Software (JAWS) Compatible with the application?

JAWS is a software package that converts text to speech, and therefore a useful tool for blind and visually impaired users.

JAWS is mostly not compatible with the software. Limited keyboard accessibility limits screen-reader compatibility.

The few things that are read by the screen-reader include file title when Illustrator is opened and buttons in some (not all) pop-up windows. For example, links are read, but the text in the pop-up is not read:



F6 and F7 commands did not work.

#### 14. Is Dragon NaturallySpeaking compatible with the website?

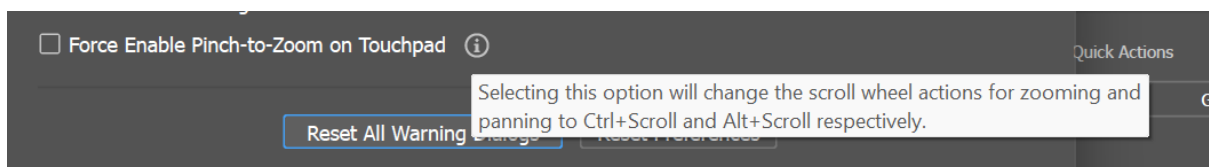
Dragon has limited compatibility, users can click on some areas using a combination of keyboard and voice commands, but most areas are inaccessible.

Saying keyboard shortcut commands like 'Press C' allowed to change between functionalities.

Dragon also may have been overwhelmed by the software and kept trying to open dictation box. But dictation box could also be opened when relevant too.

#### 15. Are tooltips clear and enabled by default?

Some tooltips appeared when user hovered over certain elements (they would remain shown until a user moved the mouse away from the information icon):



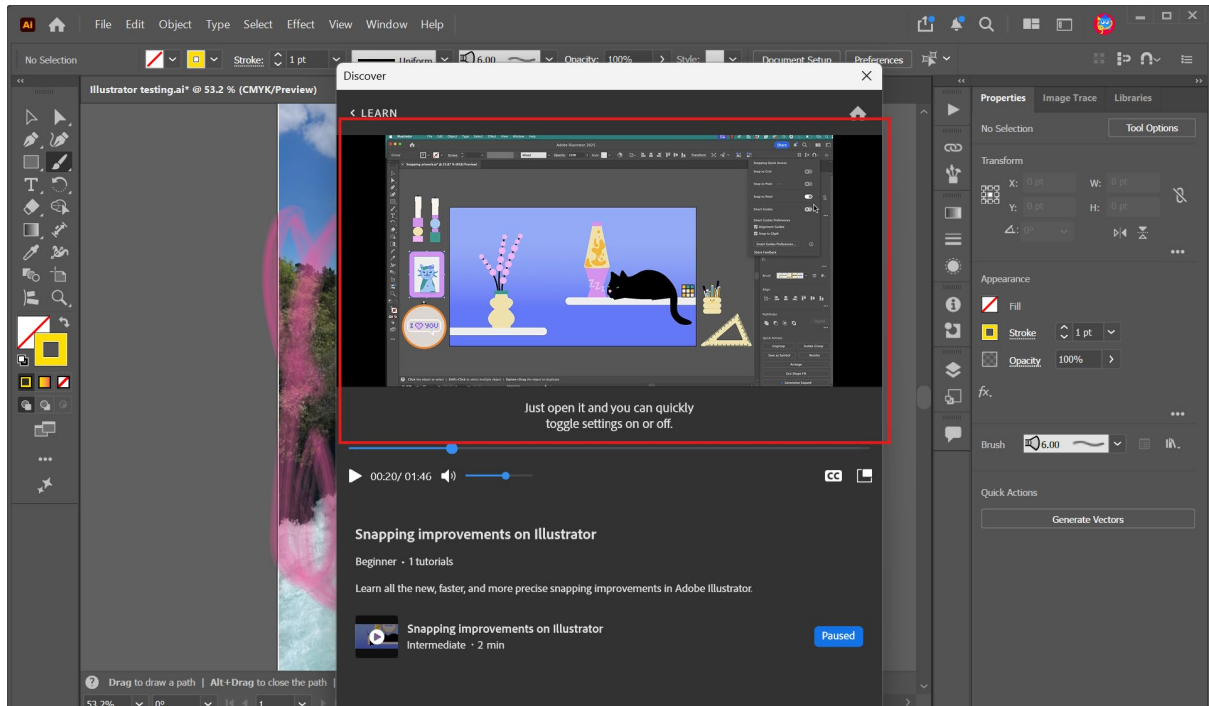
Some of them are very big and covered other content.

Not all tooltips are accessible when navigating by keyboard as a lot of content is generally inaccessible.

These tooltips do not contain information required for the operation of the item, but can usefully explain and inform users about the functionalities.

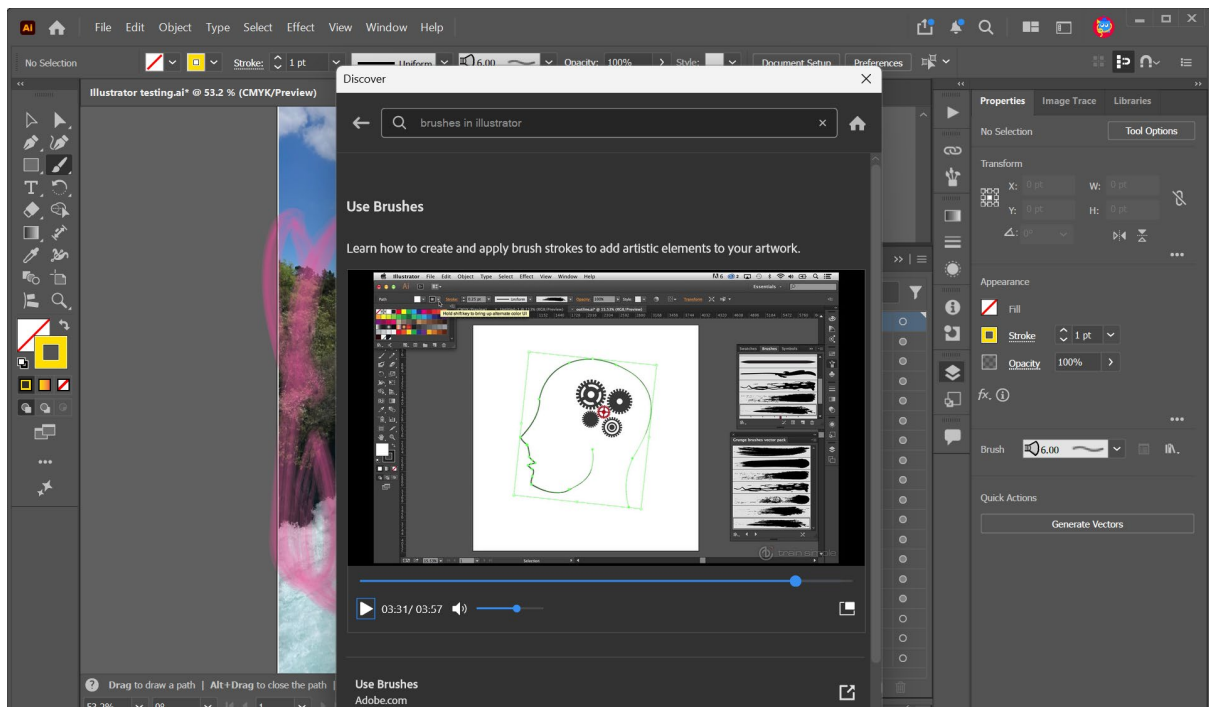
## 16. Accessibility of audio/visual content:

There were some video tutorials available. They would open in a pop-up window:



Most of these video tutorials had closed captions enabled which appeared human corrected. However, there were no audio descriptions or transcripts.

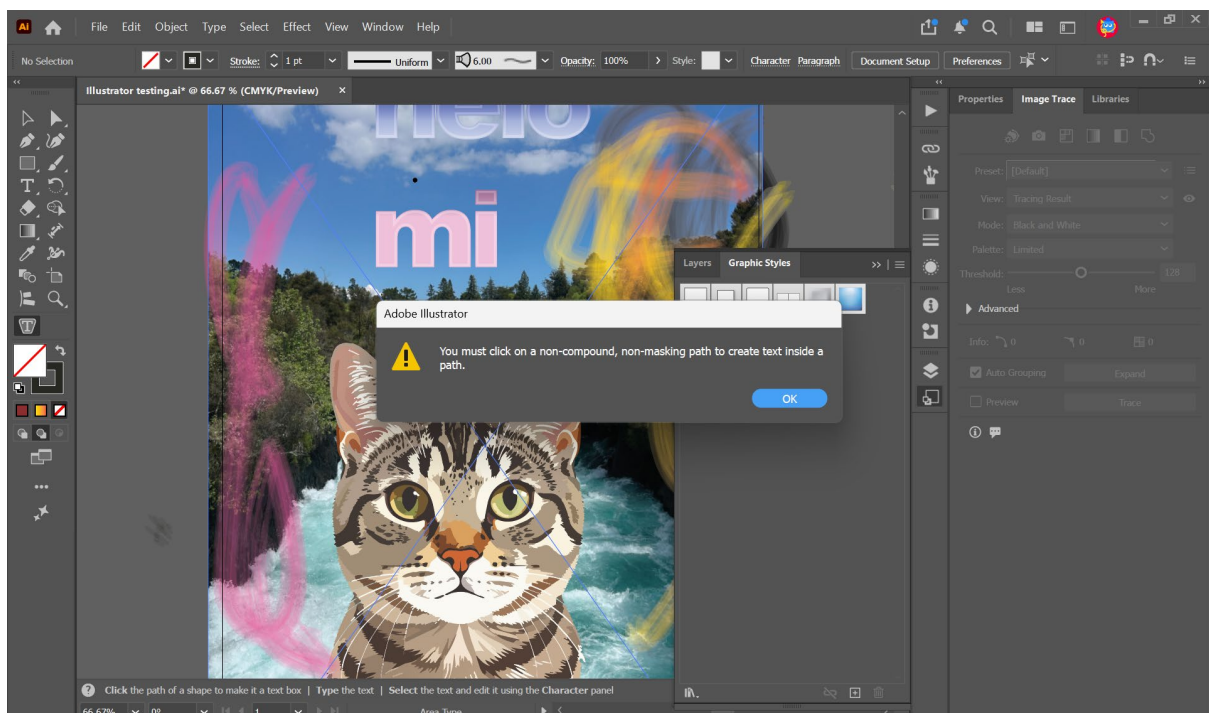
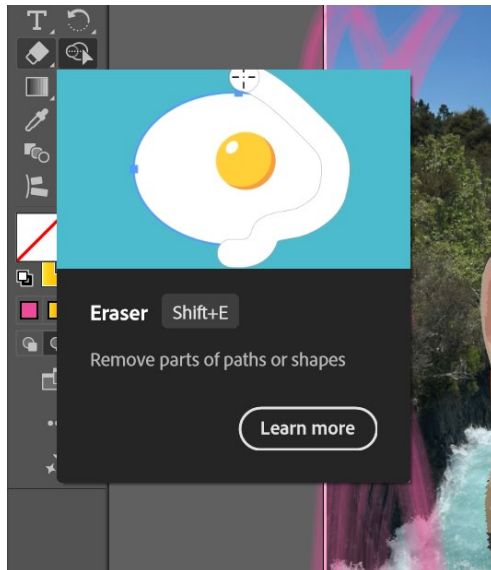
However, there were some videos that did not have even captions:



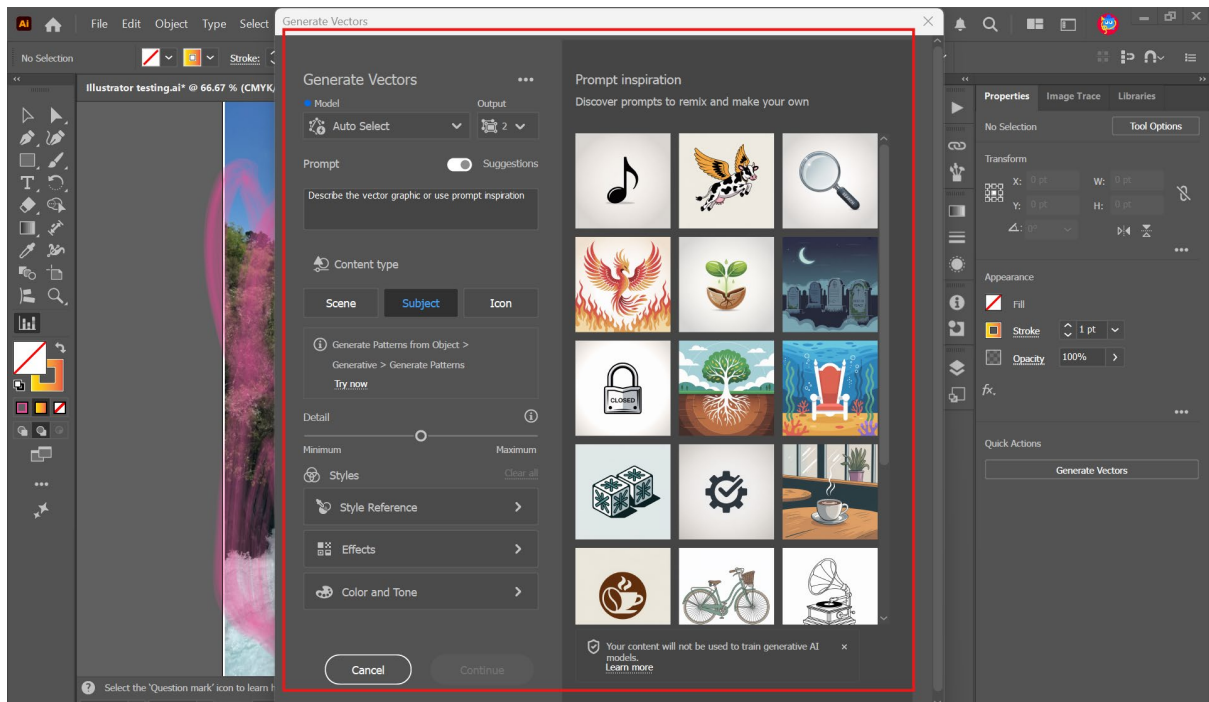
These videos could also be said to contain images of text

**17. Is there an indication or warning of links which will open a new tab or a new browser tab/window?**

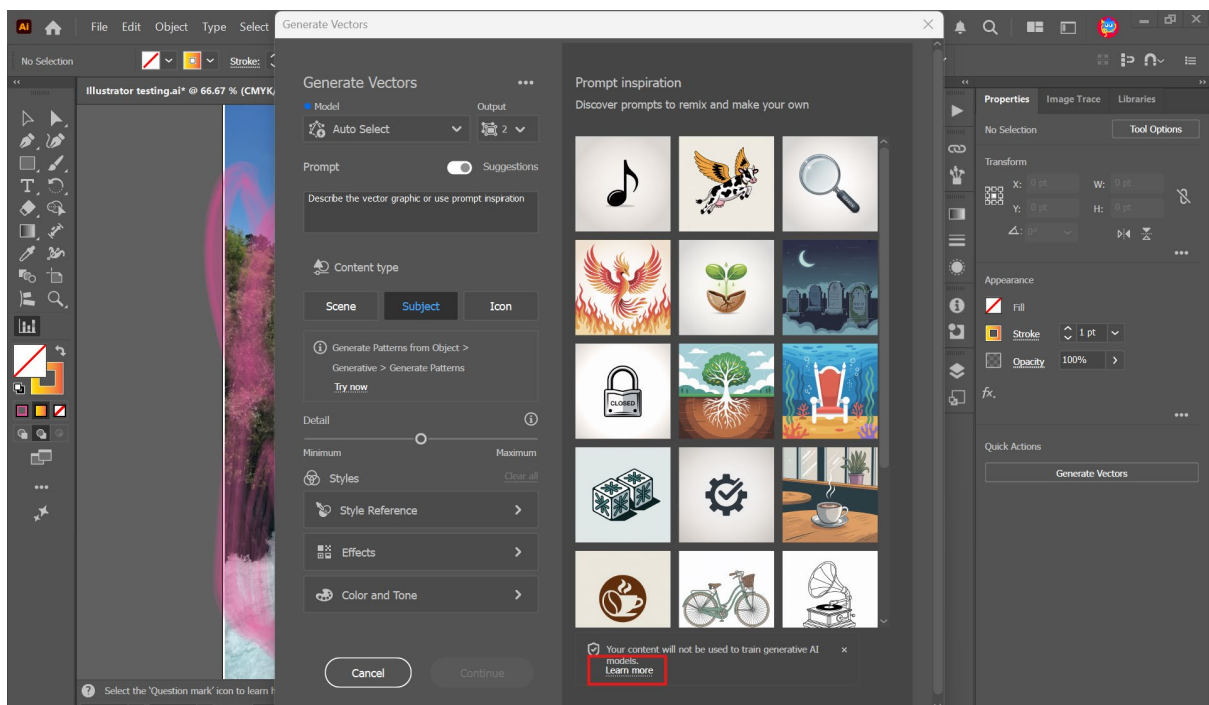
There were many pop-ups appearing without notice, for example:







Some links opened new windows without warning, for example:

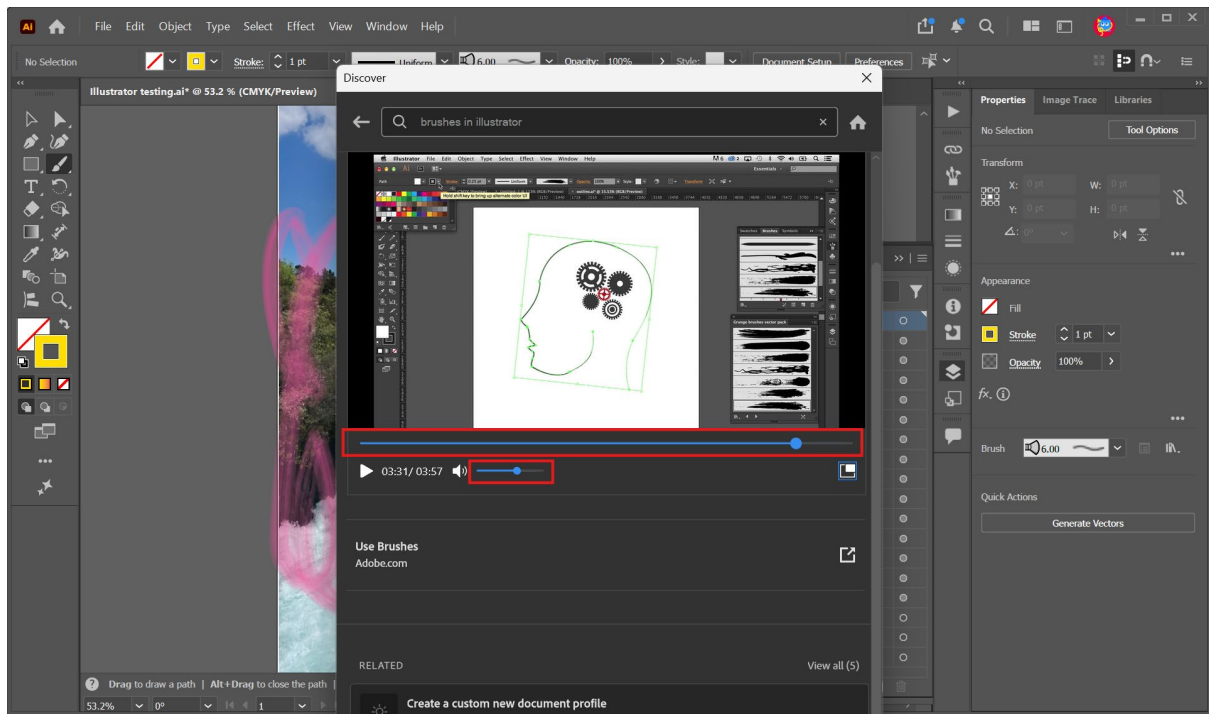


**18. Are there any time limits prescribed for the viewing/inputting of content by Administrators and/or Users?**

There did not seem to be any time limits.

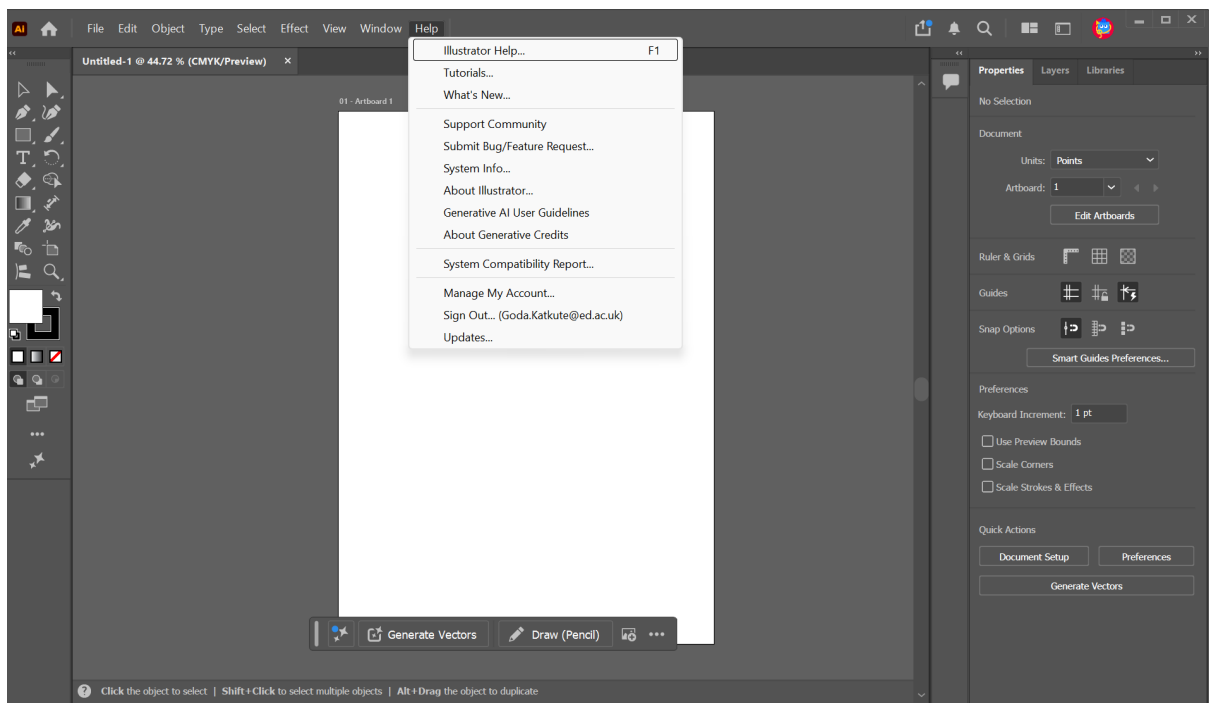
**19. Is there any functionality on the site that requires the user to use a drag function, without any alternative way to interact with this element of the site?**

There were functionalities that required dragging and did not have alternatives (for example, the picture crop adjustments or video time/sound settings):



## 20. Is there a specialist help section provided online by the system to help the user with accessibility issues?

There is a help section but there is no information on accessibility. The help section always appears in the same place. There is no accessibility statement.



## Summary

Spellcheck is enabled automatically in some but not all fields, but can be adjusted.

There were error/information messages in pop-up format, some of them disappeared after a few seconds, they were not fully read by a screen-reader.

Users can access Illustrator through Adobe Creative Cloud on Software centre, they can login using their Microsoft accounts, there is a forgotten password option.

Customisation is limited. There are continuous capitals and italics used. There were no naked URLs, many links had suitable hypertext, but some could have more informative hypertext. Contrast was limited, especially where font/content is small.

Magnification is limited, as only images can be magnified and menus cannot. Only Windows Magnifier can be used to magnify menu options too.

Information was conveyed by colour only.

There were moving loading icons and moving gifs/videos that users could not pause without closing the pop-up.

Most of the content seemed inaccessible by keyboard, with only a few areas being accessible. Dragging function was required. Focus order was logical and there were no keyboard traps. Focus indicator is not always visible. Keyboard shortcuts are available and can be customised, but still do not make content fully accessible.

Read&Write had some issues.

ZoomText worked well.

Most non-text content was not read by screen-readers as JAWS compatibility is limited. There were some images of text too.

JAWS screen reader was mostly incompatible, only a few areas were read. F6 and F7 commands did not work.

Dragon was mostly incompatible, only some content could be reached.

There were various tooltips, most of them are inaccessible by keyboard and assistive technology. Some of them cover other content.

There was video content, some but not all videos appeared to have human corrected captions, not of them had no audio descriptions or transcripts.

Links opened new windows without warning, pop-ups appeared without warning.

There were no time limits, but some pop-ups would close automatically without user input.

Dragging functions did not seem to have alternatives.

There was no information on accessibility. Accessibility statement needs to be added. Help section was available in the header menu, which was always visible.

## Areas to follow up

- Ensuring that spellcheck is enabled in all areas
- Ensure error/information messages are not in a pop-up format
- Ensure error messages are more informative e.g. format of colour codes
- Ensure users are warned (with visual and audio warning) about links opening new windows and pop-ups appearing
- Ensure error/information messages do not disappear without being closed
- Improve customisation options
- Improve magnification options, ensuring that all content can be magnified at least to 200% without loss of content and up to 400% with reflow
- Remove the use of continuous capitals
- Remove the use of italics
- Increase font size where this is small
- Ensure all colour contrasts meet minimum requirements, especially where the fonts are small
- Ensure all links have meaningful hypertext
- Ensure information is not conveyed by colour only
- Ensure all movement can be paused or turned off
- Improve keyboard compatibility by:
  - Ensuring all content can be reached by keyboard
  - Ensuring dragging has keyboard alternatives
  - Ensuring keyboard focus indicator is always visible
  - Add a skip to main content option is appropriate
- Ensure that all non-text elements have suitable alternative text and is accessible by screen-readers
- Ensure tooltips are accessible by keyboard and assistive technology
- Ensure tooltips do not cover other content
- Ensure videos have human-corrected captions, transcripts and audio descriptions
- Ensure that there are alternatives to images of text
- Improve compatibility with JAWS
- Improve compatibility with Dragon
- Improve compatibility with Read&Write
- Add an Accessibility Statement

For more information on this report or to ask any questions please contact Goda Katkute via email: [Goda.Katkute@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Goda.Katkute@ed.ac.uk)