

Now let's take a look at what we can do to make this text more accessible. The text itself right now is rendered as a big block and what in5 does is add some automatic Alt Text to it. And you can see that there's Alt Text here. And I've formatted this text in a very formulaic generic way to make it really easy to see where things stop and start. So it says first paragraph sentence one, and then sentence two, et cetera. So we can see how much of this is automatically captured. Because there are reasonable limits on how much Alt Text you can put onto an element. We don't want it overcrowded. We don't want Google punishing us for trying to cram things in here. So there is a 255 character limit in terms of what in5 is going to pull from a text frame. Now this text frame is basically all the text you see on the right hand side. And yet it's going to stop at... I think this is sentence two. So it's like halfway through sentence three. So right about here. And there's all this text that isn't getting picked up. It's not going to be read by a screen reader, and it's not going to be indexed by Google.

So what can we do to improve that? Well, the first thing we could do is break our text into smaller pieces.

Well, let me open the exercise file for that. Let's look at how we can break the text into smaller pieces. Now it's actually simple because we have a free extension and once installed, you can find it in the scripts panel. It is called, and hopefully I can see it on screen here, Split Text. And so all I need to do is select this text frame and double-click the script. And then I have several choices in terms of how I can split this up and break it into multiple text frames. And I'm just going to use paragraphs. So it should break every piece into its own text frame. Go ahead and click OK. And now as I select this, you can see each of these pieces of text are their own frame. Now I can go and apply this to every page. And break up all the text there.

Now, what in5 is going to be able to do is pull a lot more text because it's going to be able to tag each one of these text frames. And then of course, in any of these instances, if you didn't want it automatically pulling text. Let's say you have a whole paragraph, but it could actually be described with a sentence that would fit in Alt Text. You can always go into the Object Export Options and add custom Alt Text here. So that's always a possibility. But now let's just go ahead and export this with the text broken up and take a look at what that would look like. So to do that, I would go to in5 > Export HTML5 and save it when it asked me to. I'm still rendering the text as images, so nothing to change there. And I would just click OK. Let's take a look at the output.

So here's the output from this particular file. I'm going to right-click and say Inspect. And here is the Alt Text from the first paragraph. We're still only getting a little way into... we're past sentence three this time because it's just this text frame, it doesn't include the header. But now we can look at all these other text frames in here. For example, here's the smaller header. The entirety of that text has been included. And each text frame is that way as well. So you can see there's a lot more of the text that's made it into the output. We've kept the text rendering as images. So it looks exactly the way it does in the InDesign. And at the same time, we're pulling a lot more of that text in for screen readers.