

2.5 Website launch and accessibility

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 15 marks

KEY WORDS hosting • domain name • accessibility • licence

Objective

Test a website for real users before launch, including accessibility and publishing checks.

You must be able to:

- distinguish hosting from a domain name
- apply practical browser, mobile, link, and keyboard testing
- identify accessibility and licensing requirements

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

■ Test like a visitor

Hosting puts site files on an always-on server. A **domain name** points visitors to that server.

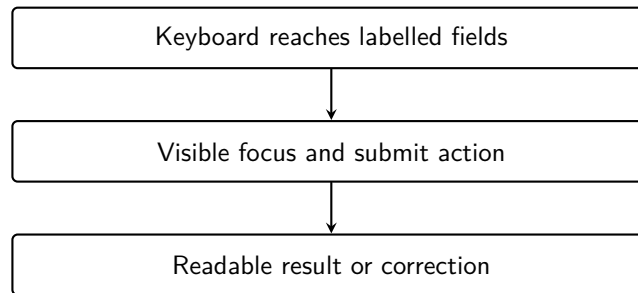
Before launch, test every link on a phone and another browser. Unplug the mouse and use Tab: every link, menu, and form control must be reachable, and the current focus must be visible.

■ Key knowledge: Run an accessibility acceptance test

Record expected and actual results. A test passes only when the visitor can complete the task, rather than when the page merely looks correct.

■ Worked example: Run an accessibility acceptance test

The task is to send a club enquiry using only the keyboard. The tester uses Tab to reach every field, sees a visible focus indicator, enters data and activates the submit button. Each field has a visible label connected to the control. The success message is readable and a bad input gives a useful correction. The team records any failed step, fixes it and repeats the task on the revised page.



2 Practice

2.1 State the purpose of web hosting. [1]

2.2 State one test that should be done on a real phone. [1]

2.3 Explain why keyboard-only testing can find a problem that visual checking misses. [2]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 A charity site looks good in its creator's browser, but its contact form goes nowhere and the menu cannot be opened with Tab. Explain why it is not ready to launch. [4]

3.2 Recommend two launch checks for images used on a public website. Justify them. [4]

3.3 A form looks correct, but Tab skips its submit control and fields have no labels. Give two fixes and state a concrete retest. [3]

Solutions

2.1

- It puts the site files on a server visitors can access.

2.2

- Check layout, links, forms, or readability on the phone.

2.3

- A page can look correct while controls cannot be reached without a mouse.
- Keyboard testing checks access for keyboard users.

3.1

- The contact form does not complete its promised function.
- Keyboard users cannot reach or operate the menu.
- This is an accessibility failure even if the page looks good.
- It must be tested and fixed in realistic browsers and devices before launch.

3.2

- Check that each image has useful alt text.
- This provides information if an image cannot be seen.
- Check that each image licence permits publishing.
- This avoids using someone else's work without permission.

3.3

- use a keyboard-accessible native button or repair the control's keyboard behaviour; associate visible labels with the fields; complete the form using only the keyboard and check focus and submission.