

Chilean higher education entrance examination for learners who are blind

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ABSTRACT

In the context of the admissions process for Chilean state universities, there is a knowledge-measuring instrument called the University Selection Test (PSU, for its Spanish acronym). This instrument of evaluation is designed to measure the level of knowledge in various learning sub-sectors such as Language and Communication, Mathematics, History and Social Sciences, and finally Science. For each learning sub-sector, students use a paper facsimile with questions that each have 5 possible answer choices, which are recorded on a separate answer sheet. Based on a contextual analysis of the problems that people who are blind have with participating in the regular admissions process for Chilean universities, the purpose of this study was to design, implement and evaluate a digital pilot system that adapts the Chilean university entrance system, PSU, in the area of Language in Communication for people with disabilities based on audio and haptics. This pilot allowed for the inclusive, equitable and autonomous participation of people with visual disabilities in the university admissions processes. The results demonstrate the creation of a system called AudioPSU, which provides the necessary autonomy and respects the working time that each user needs to respond to the questions in the PSU. In addition, the system is shown to help users to map the structure of the PSU facsimile for Language and Communication. Finally, initial results show that AudioPSU allows for the integration of people with visual disabilities in the admissions process for Chilean universities.

Full papers will be published in the Conference Proceedings and will be available to delegates at the conference on Sept. 10.

Full papers will be released on-line in the ICDVRAT archive on March 15.