

Ally Vision and Roadmap

September 2022

Agenda

- Vision and Mission
- Ally within inclusive environments
- Highlights from previous releases
- Roadmap

Forward-Looking Statement

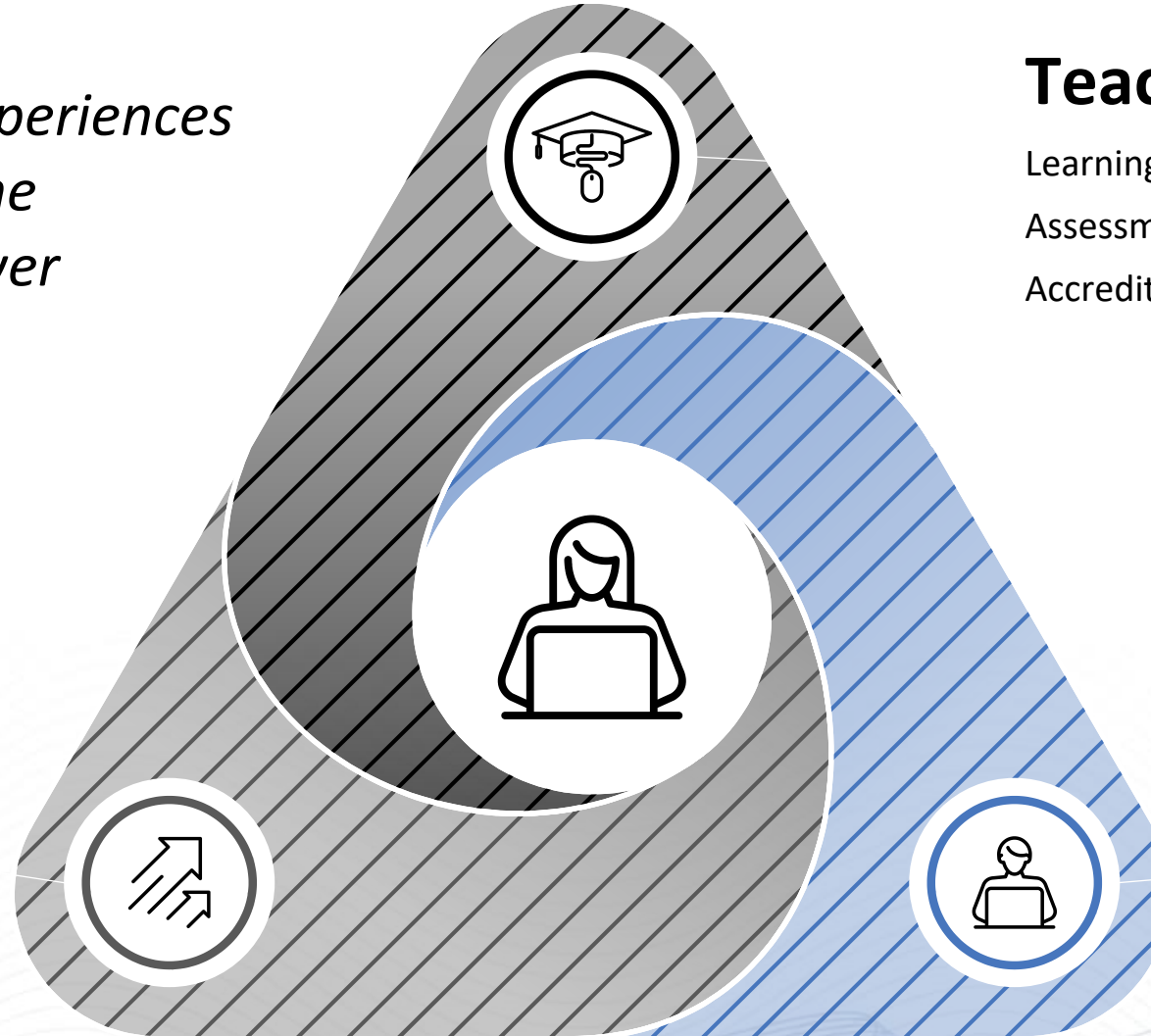
Statements regarding our product development initiatives, including new products and future product upgrades, updates or enhancements represent our current intentions, but may be modified, delayed or abandoned without prior notice and there is no assurance that such offering, upgrades, updates or functionality will become available unless and until they have been made generally available to our customers.

Vision and Mission

*Anthology solutions
deliver intelligent experiences
inside and outside the
classroom to empower
learner success.*

Enterprise Operations

Student Information
& Enterprise Resources
Enterprise Performance



Teaching & Learning

Learning Effectiveness
Assessment Management
Accreditation & Self Study

Engagement

Enrollment & Retention
Career Development
Alumni & Advancement

Diverse 21st Century Learners



Visible disability



Invisible
disability



International
students



Professionals seeking
more education



Temporary
disability



Mobile



First-time college
students and their family



Parents



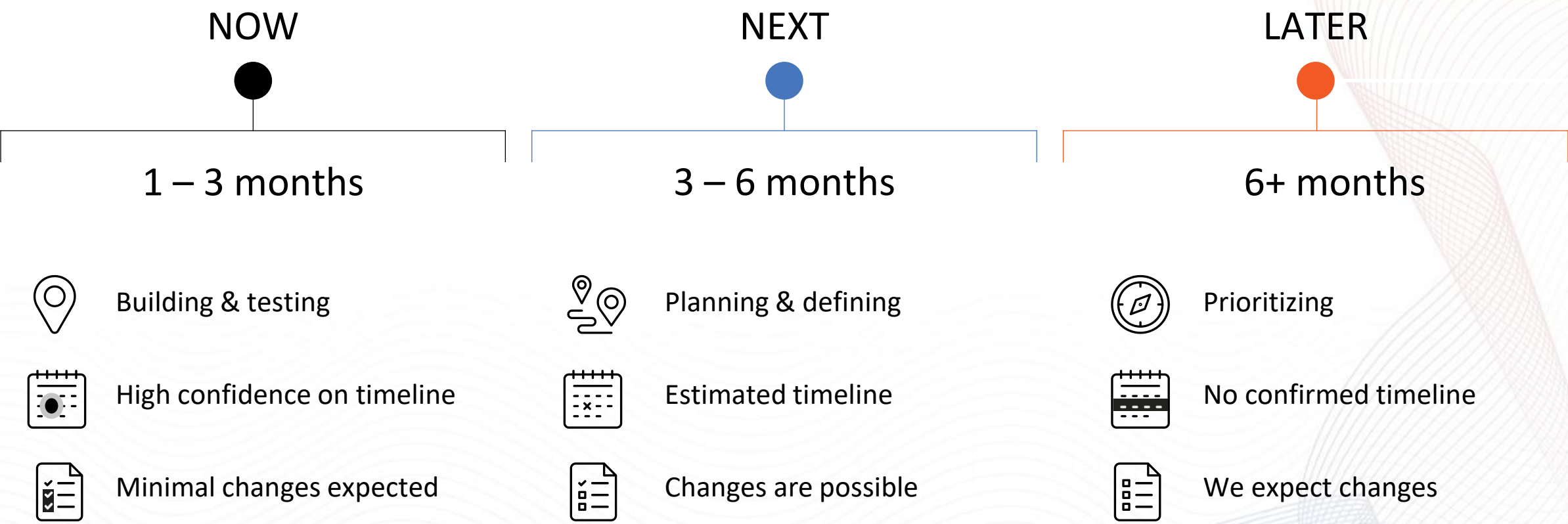
Commuters

Inclusive Environments



Ally Roadmap

How We Approach the Roadmap?



Available Now

Recently Released Features

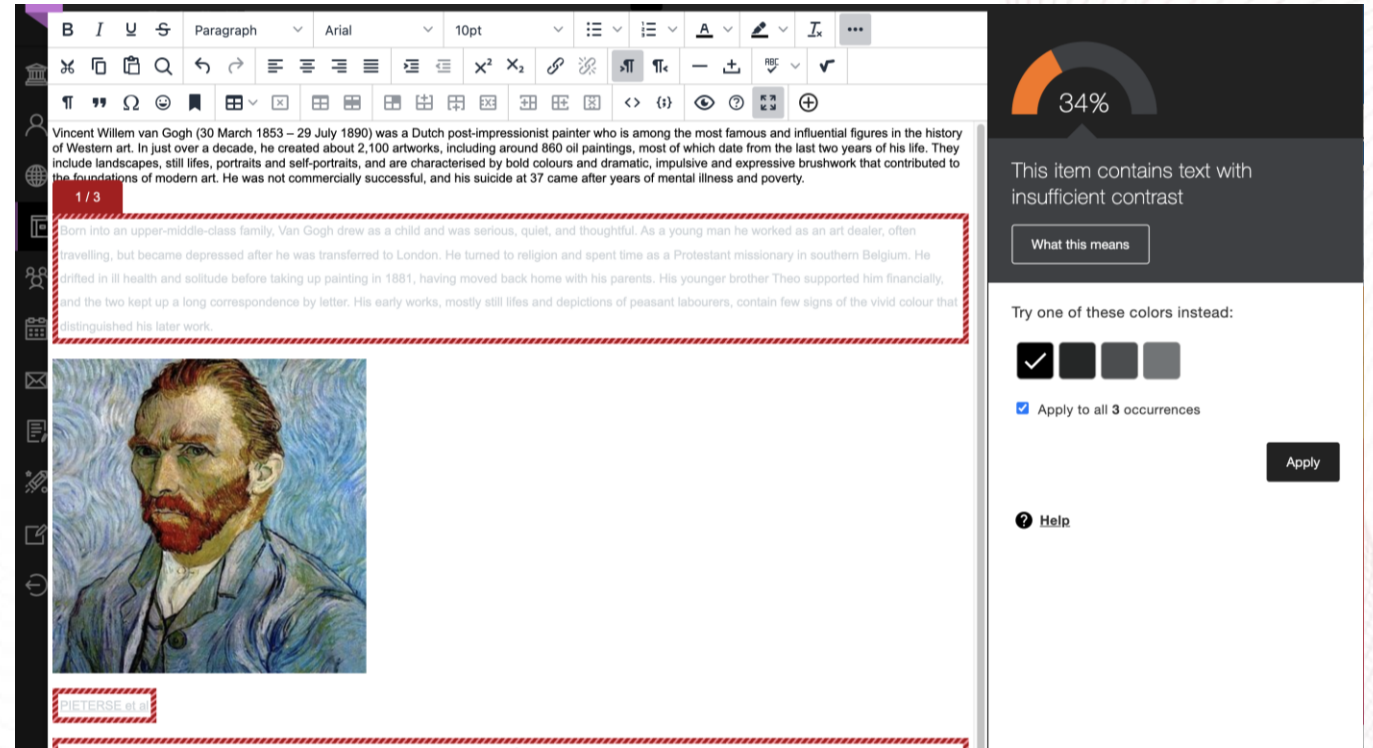
ANTHOLOGY + BLACKBOARD

Instructor Feedback for WYSIWYG content

- Feedback **directly embedded** in content editor
- **Live score** while editing
- **Highlights** within the editor
- **Batch** remediation
- Option to keep built-in LMS accessibility checker

NEW - Support for Learn Ultra

NEW - Support for Moodle Atto Editor



The screenshot displays a WYSIWYG content editor interface. The top toolbar includes standard text formatting options like bold, italic, underline, and paragraph alignment. The main editing area contains a paragraph of text about Vincent van Gogh, which is highlighted with a red dashed border. A red box in the top left corner of the text area indicates a score of 1/3. To the right of the editor, a sidebar shows a progress gauge at 34% and a message: "This item contains text with insufficient contrast". Below this message is a button labeled "What this means". Further down, the sidebar suggests alternative colors with a "Try one of these colors instead:" section, showing a checked box for the current color and three other options. A checkbox for "Apply to all 3 occurrences" is also present, along with an "Apply" button and a "Help" link.

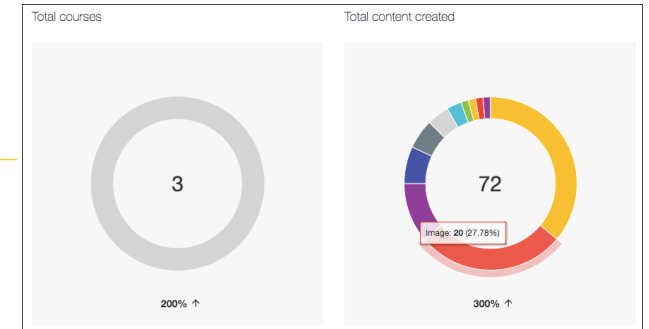
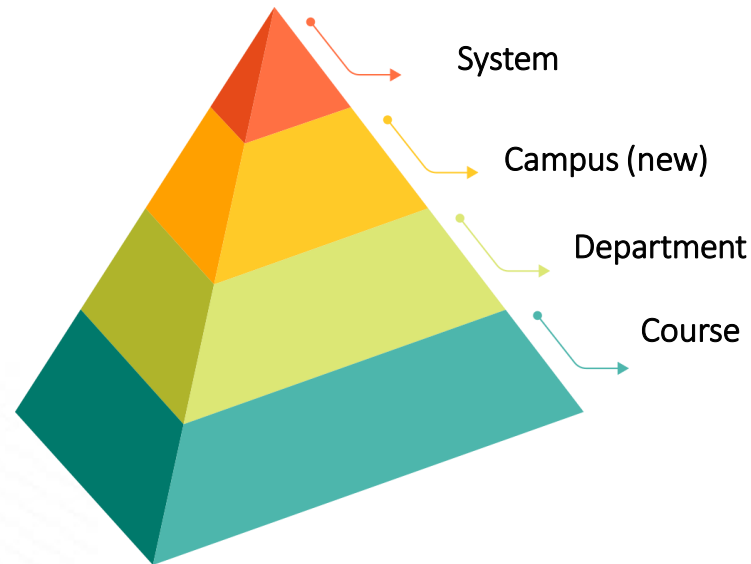
Instructor Feedback for Broken Links for Ally for Web

- **Identify** links where resources are no longer available
- Feedback and content updates to provide creators a **better understanding** of broken link issues

The screenshot displays the Blackboard Ally for Web interface. At the top, a red notification bar indicates "2 This webpage contains links to destinations that don't exist". Below this, a message box suggests not showing the message again. The main content area shows "Your session opens." followed by "The Launcher" section with a link "More on the launcher". The "Join from your mobile device" section lists two steps: "1. Open a browser on your mobile device." and "2. Navigate to your online course." Below these steps, two links are listed: "Mobile Link #2" and "Mobile App Link #2", both of which are highlighted with red dashed boxes. On the right side, an "Accessibility score for: Join a Session" is shown as 29%, with a "What this means" button and a "How to fix link URLs" button. At the bottom right, a "Last successful crawl for this domain: 5/21/22, 11:50 AM" is noted.

Reporting for additional org units' levels in D2L

- **Larger systems** including other org units like Campuses in their structure
- Flexible to **any** org unit
- Support **reporting** on custom org unit structures



Microsoft Immersive Reader integration

Integrate Microsoft digital learning tools

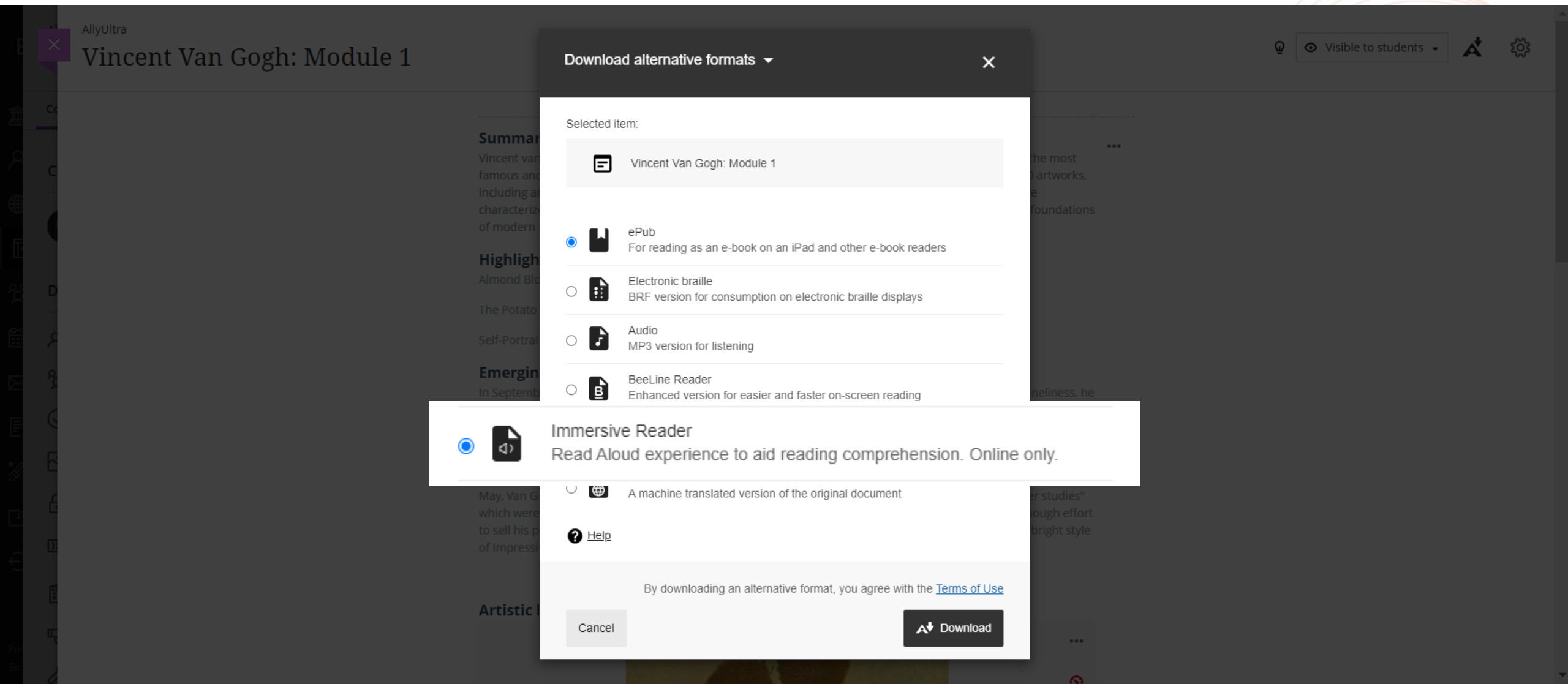
New Alternative Format!!

Improve learning processes

Empowering learners within inclusive environments



New Alternative Format: Immersive Reader





Summary of Van Gogh's life

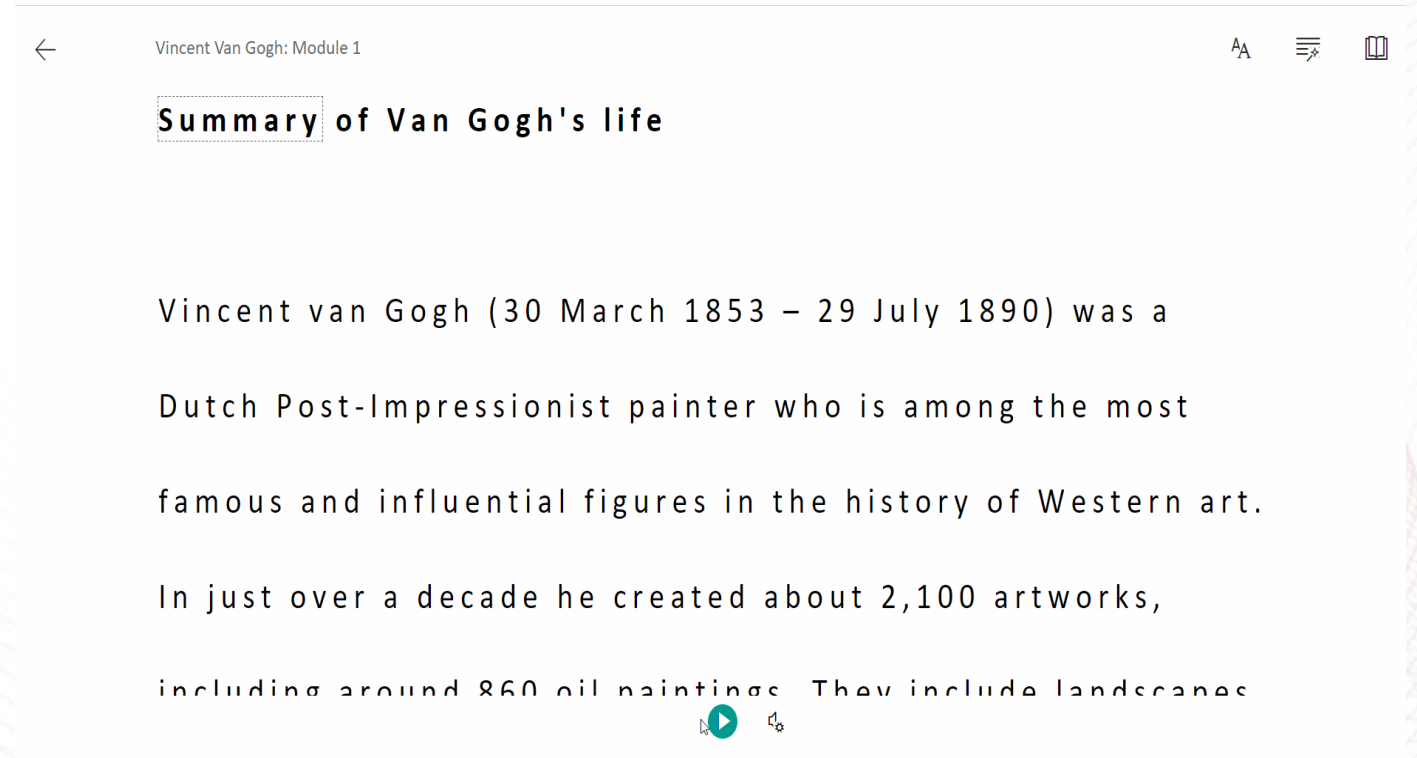
Vincent van Gogh (30 March 1853 – 29 July 1890) was a Dutch Post-Impressionist painter who is among the most famous and influential figures in the history of Western art. In just over a decade he created about 2,100 artworks, including around 860 oil paintings. They include landscapes



Microsoft Immersive Reader Alternative Format

- No additional cost
- No additional plugins or installations

Available from 31st August





More improvements

- Grant access to **specific roles** in the institutional report.
- **Better detection** of seizure-inducing GIFs.
- **Enhanced experience** using RTE while Ally processes content in real-time.

Coming Up Next

NOW



1 – 3 months

NEXT



3 – 6 months

LATER



6+ months

Launch WYSIWYG feedback from Course Accessibility Report

- **Fix** WYSIWYG issues from the Course Report
- Available for **ALL LMS**

The screenshot shows a WYSIWYG editor interface. At the top, a red notification bar indicates "1 Image without a description". The main content area displays a course page with links for "Your Teacher", "Netiquette Rules for Algebra 1", "Course Announcements", and "Course Icon Legend". Below these links is the heading "Algebra 1: Foundational Concepts Modules" and a paragraph of text. A list of module links follows: "Module 1: Simplifying Expressions", "Module 2: Solving Equations", "Module 3: Solving Inequalities", "Module 4: Relations and Functions", "Module 5: Linear Functions", and "Module 6: Systems of Equations". At the bottom, there is a "Files" section with a thumbnail of a document titled "Syllabus for Introductory Spanish.docx".

The right sidebar shows the "Accessibility score: 87%" with a green progress bar. Below this, a message states: "This item contains images that are missing a description". A button labeled "What this means" is present. Further down, there is a section titled "Add image description" with a text input field and an "Add" button. Below this, there is an "Or" section with a button labeled "Indicate image is decorative". A note below this button states: "This image is used for decoration only and a description is not needed". At the bottom of the sidebar, there is a "Help" link.

Support HTML files and new experience in D2L


- Use the WYSIWYG feedback in HTML files added in the D2L **new experience**
- **Access** the Score Gauge while editing
- Also **available** for Quizzes









D2L | Brightspace | Change Management









Content Assignments Discussions Quizzes Classlist Grades Class Progress Course Tools ▾ Help ▾

Edit HTML File

History of the Ancient World Select a Document Template ▾


Description  80%

Paragraph ▾ **B** *I* U        Calibri,sans-... 11pt ... 

History of the Ancient World: A Global Perspective

This course traces the development of civilizations around the world, from the appearance of the first cities in various places around 3500–3000 B.C. until the establishment of the first true European empire under Charlemagne and the golden ages of the Abbasid Caliphate in Baghdad and the Tang dynasty in China, all during the 9th century A.D.

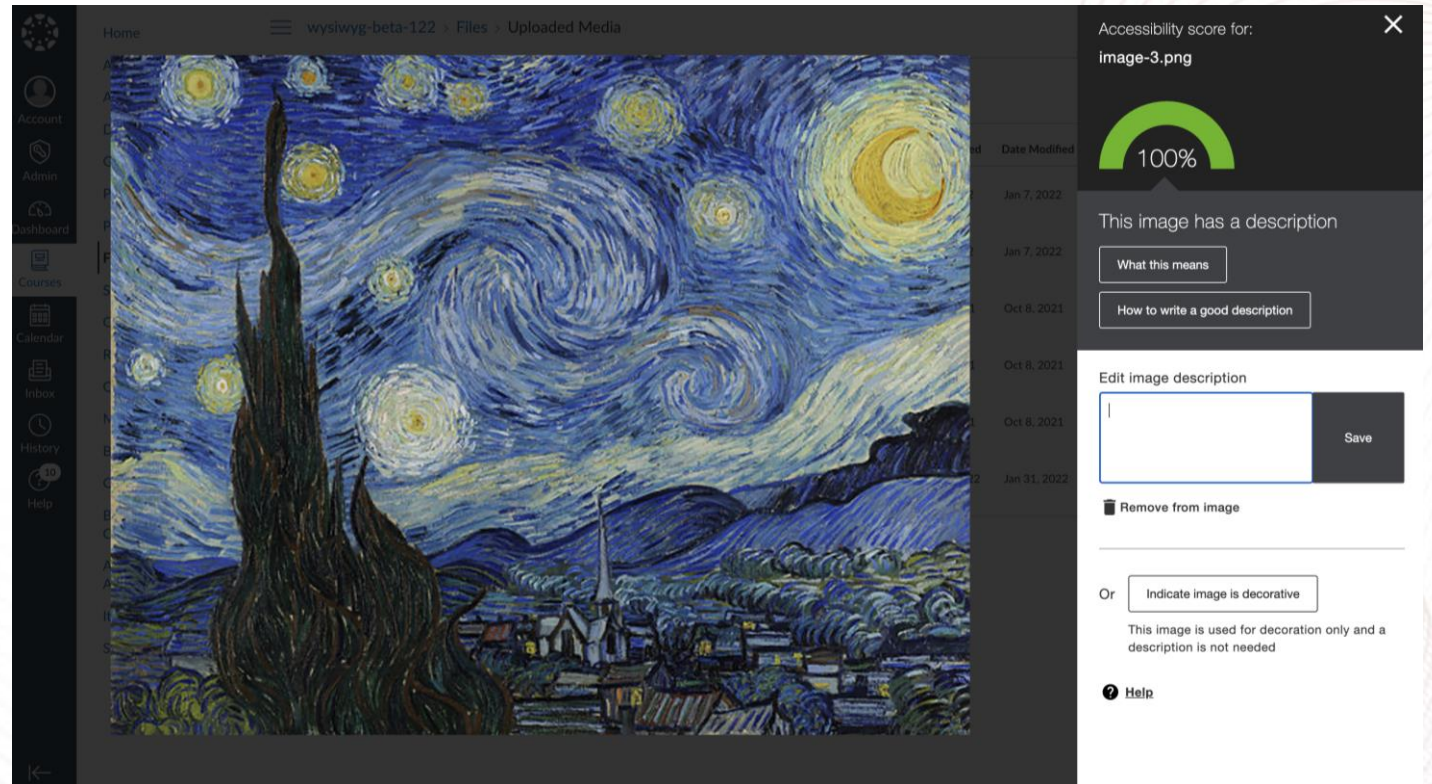


Work in Progress



Improved Management of Alternative Text for Images

- Storage of alt-text directly in **content/HTML items** for new and existing images
- Improves course **copy/rollover** retention of alt-text



Help improve 'Alternative text for standalone images'

Have you ever experienced issues with providing alternative descriptions for (standalone) images, and in particular when copying courses?

We're conducting research to validate options for next iteration of Alternative Descriptions for images.

Sign up if you're interested to take part:
tinyurl.com/allyalttext

Accessibility score for:

1.whales (1).jpg



This image is missing a description

What this means

How to write a good description

Add image description

Add

Or

Indicate image is decorative

This image is used for decoration only and a description is not needed

 [Help](#)

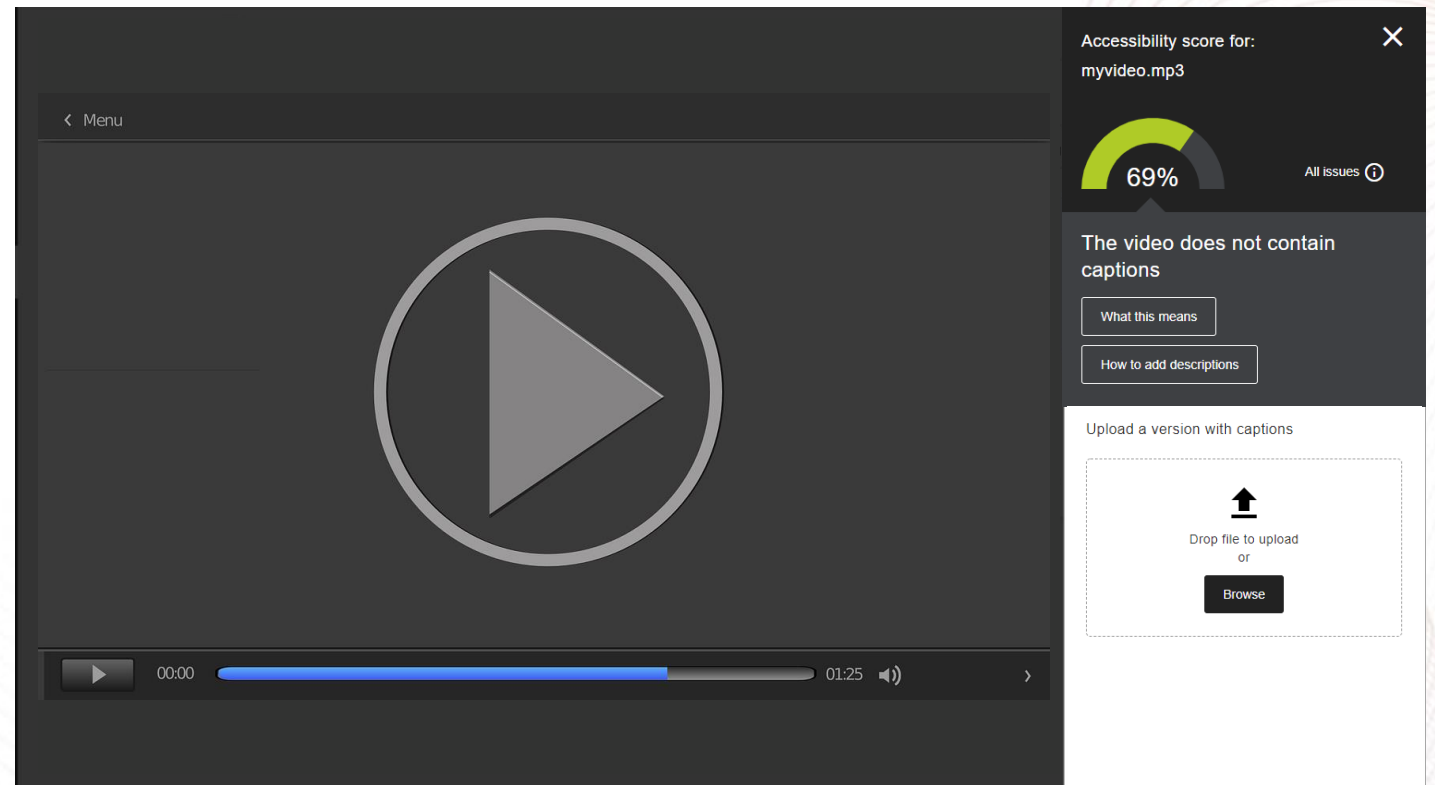
Instructor Feedback for WYSIWYG content improvements

- Score indicator in **view mode**
- Additional **guidance** and quick-fixes
 - Empty headers

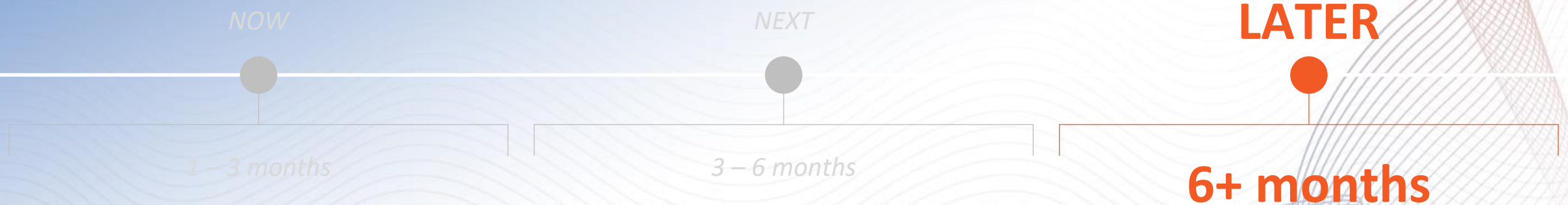
The screenshot displays a WYSIWYG editor interface. At the top, a dark header bar shows a red square with the number '1' and the text 'Text fragment with insufficient contrast'. Below this, the editor content area includes a red '1/1' indicator, a red dashed box around the heading 'Summary of Van Gogh's life', and a paragraph of text about Vincent van Gogh. Below the text is a section titled 'Highlighted work' featuring an image of 'Sunflowers' by Vincent van Gogh. To the right of the editor, a dark sidebar displays the 'Accessibility score: 91%' with a green gauge. Below the score, a message states 'This item contains text with insufficient contrast' with a 'What this means' button. Further down, it suggests 'Try one of these colors instead:' with four color swatches and an 'Apply' button. A 'Help' link is at the bottom of the sidebar.

Video Scoring and Guidance

- Scanning and **scoring** of video content in the LMS/VLE and 3rd party providers
- Provide **guidance** to fix issues
- **Upload** captions to videos



Long-term Highlights



Intelligent Experiences

- **Improve** reporting capabilities
- API improvements
 - **New** API endpoints
 - **Integration** with reporting tools
- **Automated** reporting
- CSV enhancements
 - **Departmental scores** and other applicable data points.
 - Greater control over data included in the CSV exports



Improved STEM Support – Mathematical Equations

- Scanning and conversion of mathematical equations for:
 - Word / PPT documents
 - WYSIWYG content
 - PDF documents

$$w_{ij} = \frac{\tilde{w}_{ij}}{\sqrt{\sum_j \tilde{w}_{ij}^2}}$$



We hear our community

Do you have **ideas** and **feedback**?
Be part of our Idea Exchange

ANTHOLOGY + BLACKBOARD



ANTHOLOGY Idea Exchange

Now Available!

Blackboard Ally is now Anthology Ally

