

Reading with eyes, ears or fingers

The necessity of accessible books for print impaired persons

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Print impaired persons

- people who are blind, visually impaired
- reading disabled (example: dyslexia)
- physical disability (example: impossibility of holding a book)

Many different ways of reading...

- A common need : access to the same books as the general population
 - education
 - professional life
 - leisure

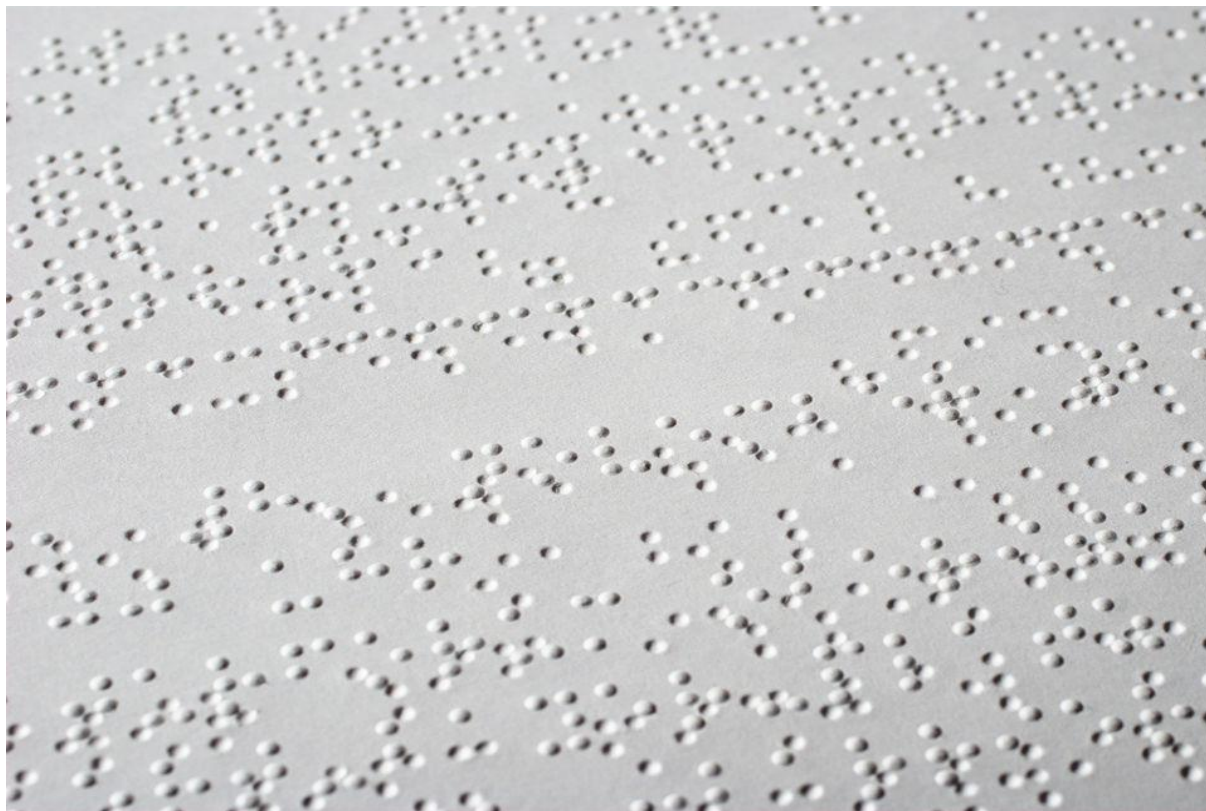
Access to reading is a condition for

- **Taking an active part in the society**
- **Empowerment : being able to change one's environment**
- **Many career opportunities in the information age**

Different ways of reading

- Reading with fingers
- Reading with eyes
- Reading with ears

Braille



Braille

- **Still relevant after nearly 200 years**
- **Only solution for direct access to text for blind persons**
- **Plays a strong role in education of visually impaired kids**

Printing braille on paper from files with a braille printer



Refreshable braille displays



Reading with ears

- The audiobooks
- Human narration
- Text to speech

Advantages of audiobooks

- No need to learn a specific way of reading
- Capacity to stock large number of books
- Can address the needs of different categories of print impaired persons

Reading with eyes

- large print
- specific presentations for dyslexic users
- specific interfaces for persons with physical disabilities

Specific presentations for dyslexic users

- choice of typeface (Arial, Opendyslexic...)
- Space between letters / words / lines
- different colors for lines
- Simplified text (short phrases...)

Interfaces for persons with physical disabilities : the joy player



Many ways of reading... files

- Braille / audio / large print (...) are all produced from a digital file
- Strong need for structured files
- Strong need for a pivot format : EPUB3

Thank you for your attention

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