

Digital Technology in Daily Life

Workshop 2
January 2026



Links



https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lyRBGk9vxAniJqF_8CkDhF0A6sEsUZXBYuY6xoEVOeU/edit?usp=sharing

Workshop Outline

Workshop 1: Searching

- Browsers and AI augmented search

- Specific searches – finding an apartment

- Resource searches – Steps to Justice

Workshop 2: Reading

- Reading the news online

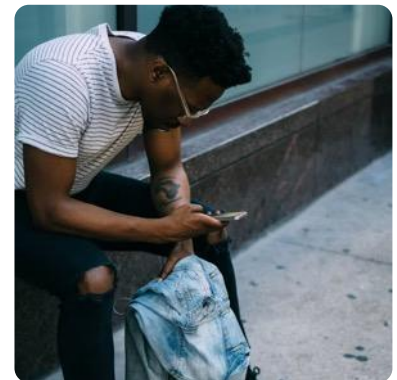
- Using the library and the Libby app

Workshop 3: Creating

- Making a budget

- Using Flipp to create shopping plans and budgets

- Digital storytelling and maps





Survey

Where do you read the news?

What we'll be looking at:

- Explore news sources
- Learn some tips that can help with reading
- Reading on a computer or with an app on a mobile device
- Brainstorm activity ideas around reading the news

Reading the news on a computer

Reading the news on a computer offers different possibilities.

- Use a web browser
- Use tabs
- Recognize ad content
- Recognize sponsored content
- Differentiate between factual and opinion pieces of news
- Use reader view

Some examples of news sites:

- [CBC News](#)
- [Canadian Press](#)
- [CP24](#)
- [CTV News](#)
- [Global News](#)
- Regional news sites
- [IndigiNews](#)



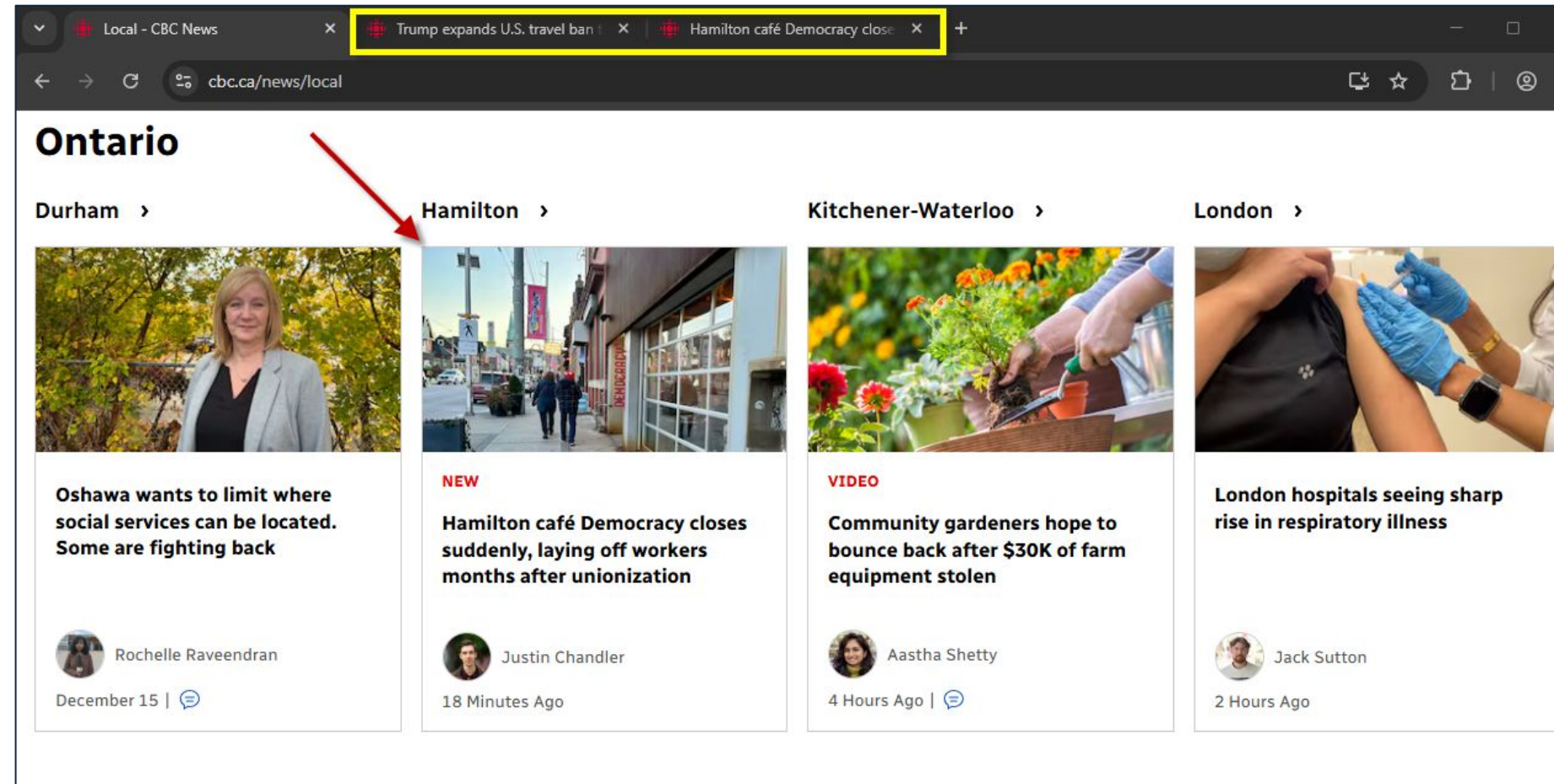
Reader view can also be used on a smartphone ([Safari](#), [Chrome](#), [Firefox](#))

Recognize and navigate tabs

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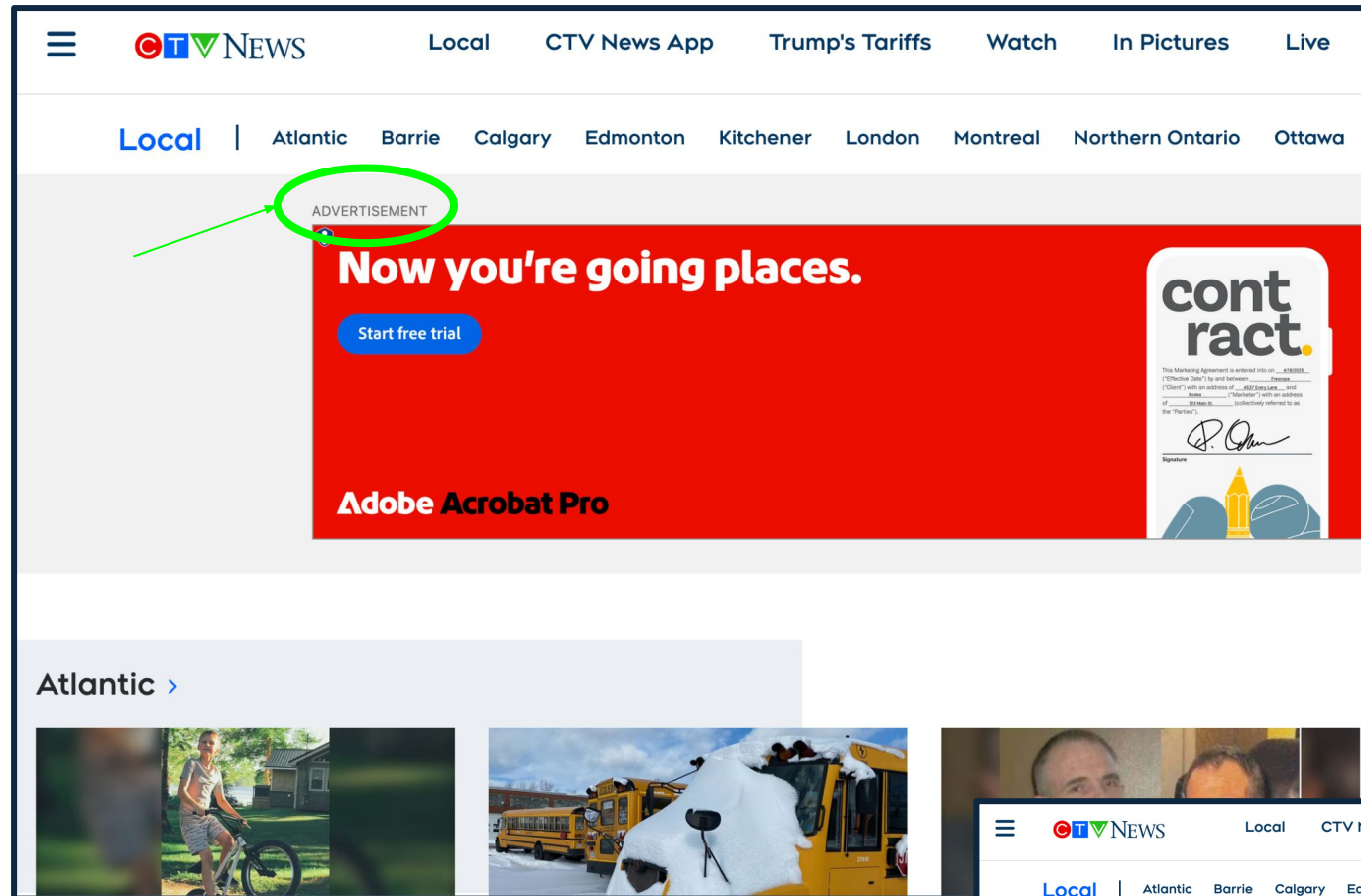
Pressing "Ctrl" while clicking on a link opens it in a new tab.

("Command" on a Mac.)

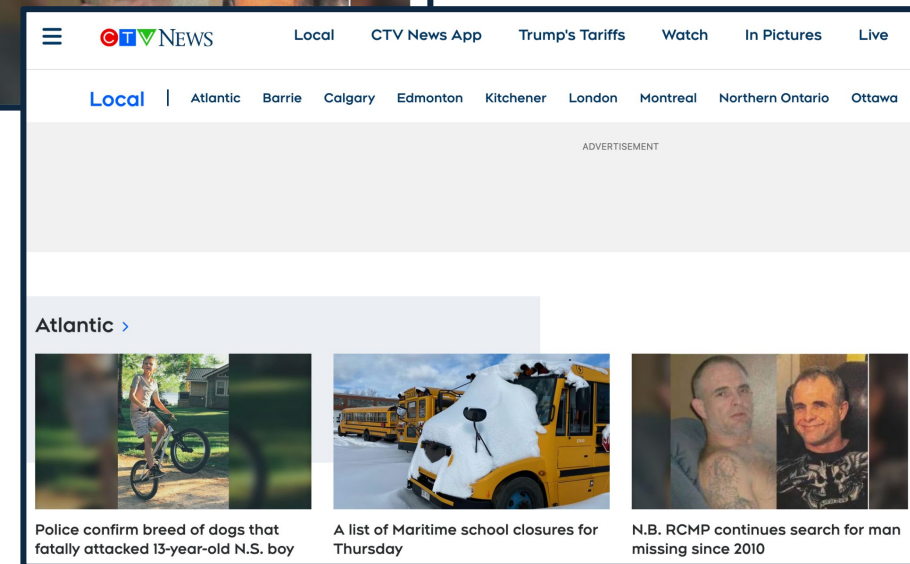


<https://www.cbc.ca/news/local>

Recognize advertisement



- * Remove ads in private mode (most browsers) or with Reader view



Recognize sponsored content

National News

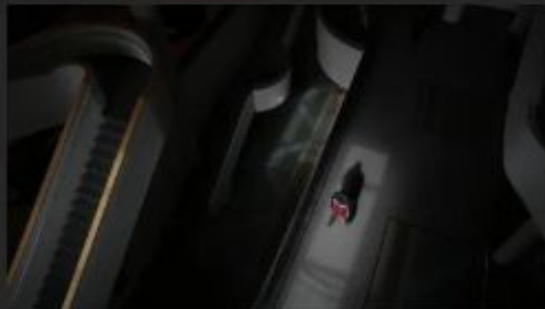


Rogers puts \$50M to address excessive screen time among teens and tweens



RCAF commander reports progress on filling recruitment, retention gaps

Sponsored Content



Events Coming Up in January



Building Canada's Digital Future: Why High-Performing, Trusted, and Energy-Efficient Networks Matter More Than Ever

Reading mode / Reader view

An option on most browsers that removes distractions and enable changes to the font, the font size, the background colour, the letter spacing and the line height. On some browsers it's also possible to activate text-to-speech.

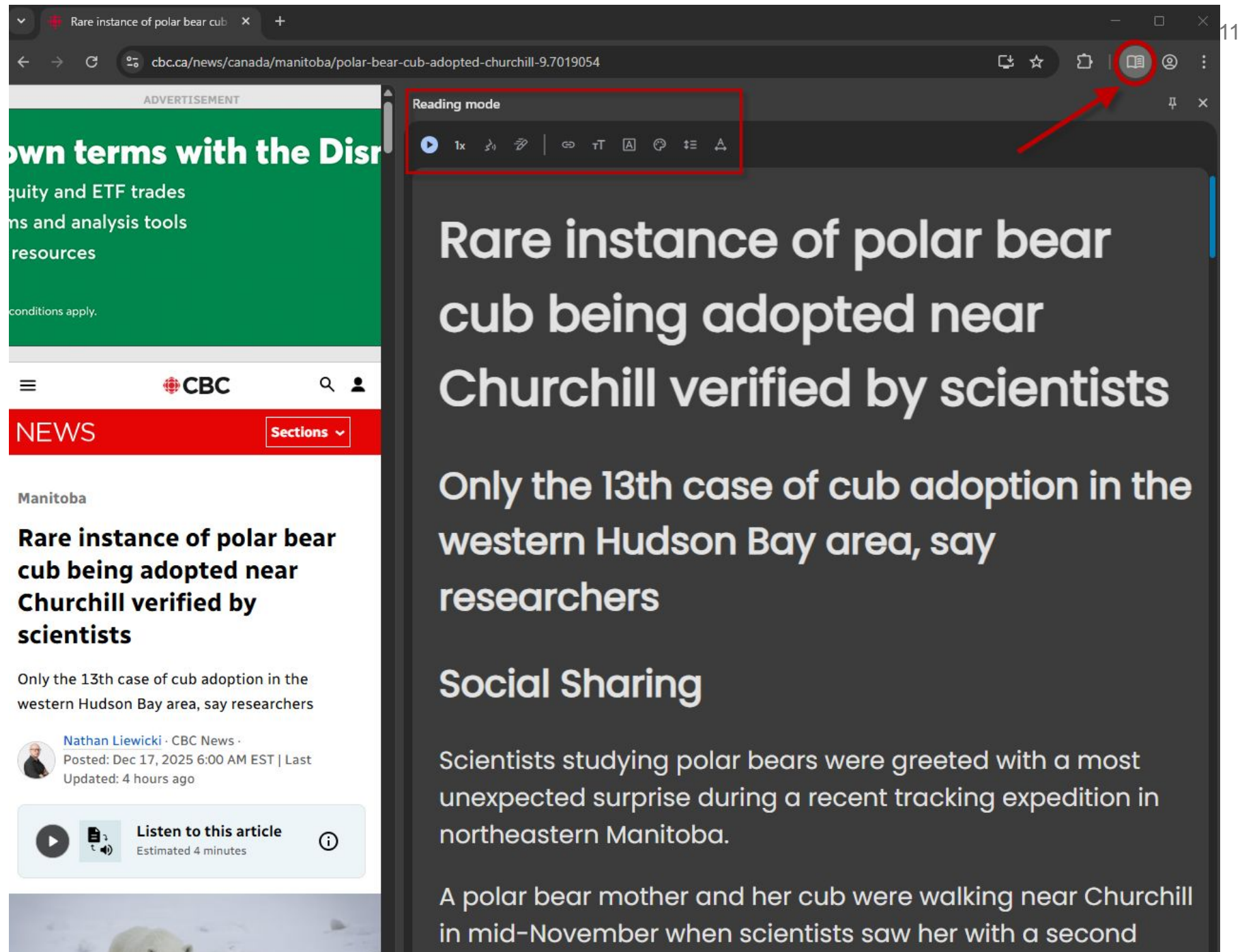
How to enter reading mode on major browser:

[Firefox](#)

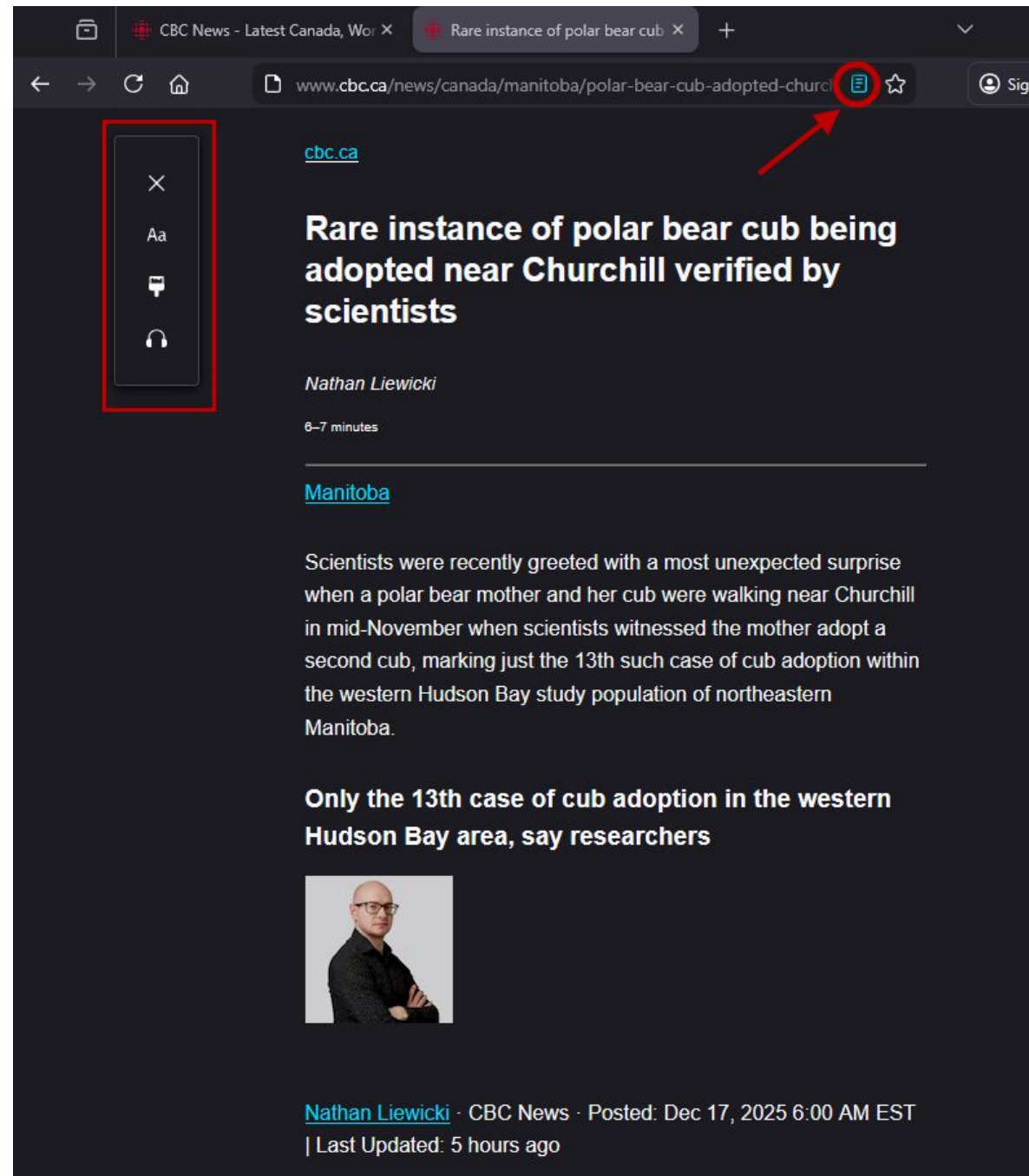
[Chrome](#)

[Edge](#)

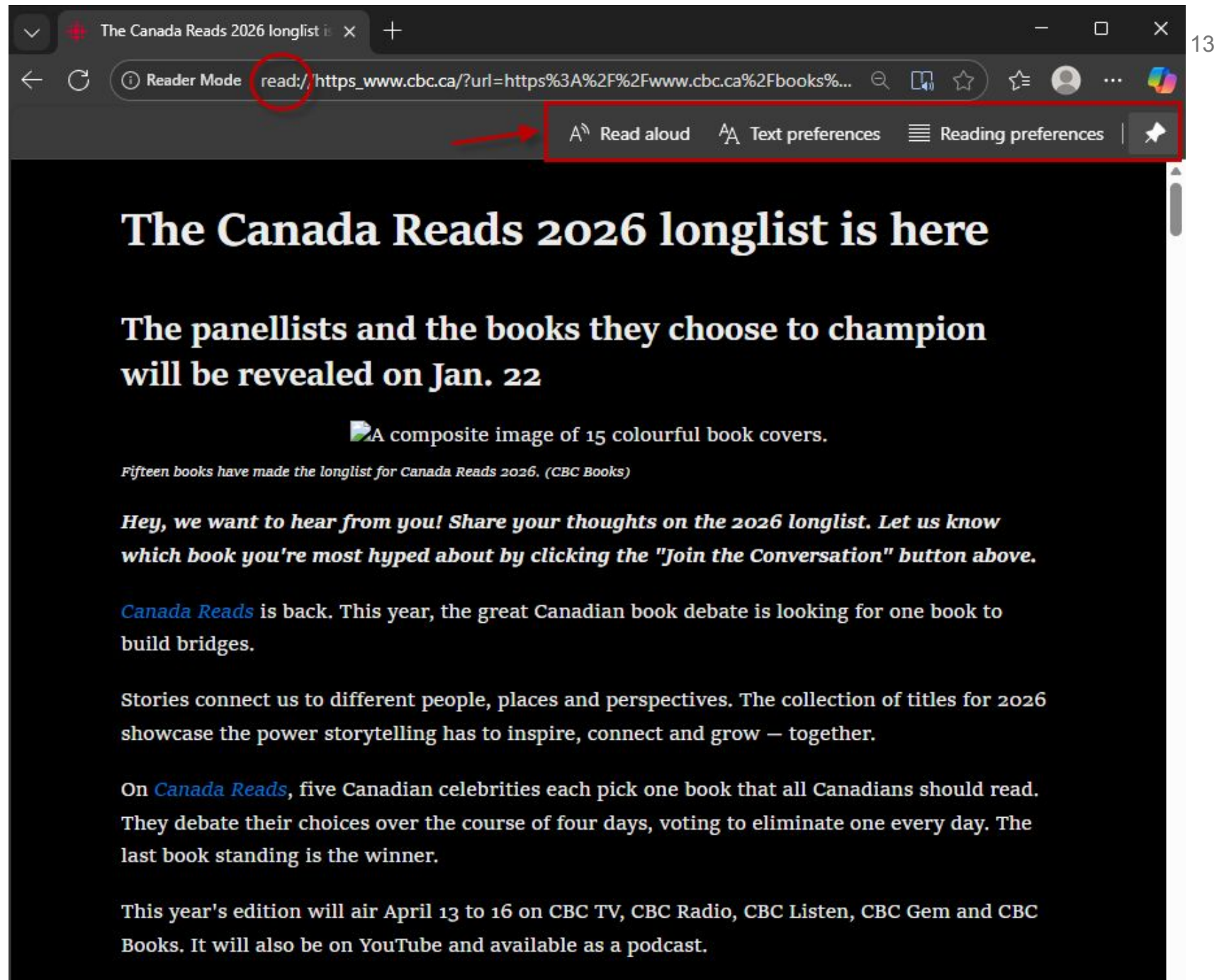
Example of Reading mode in Chrome



Example of Reading view in Firefox



Example of Reader mode in Edge



News apps

Learners will probably use their smartphones to access the news.

Some news apps you could explore:

- CBC News (*may require an account*)
- CP24*
- CTV News*

* unable to select text

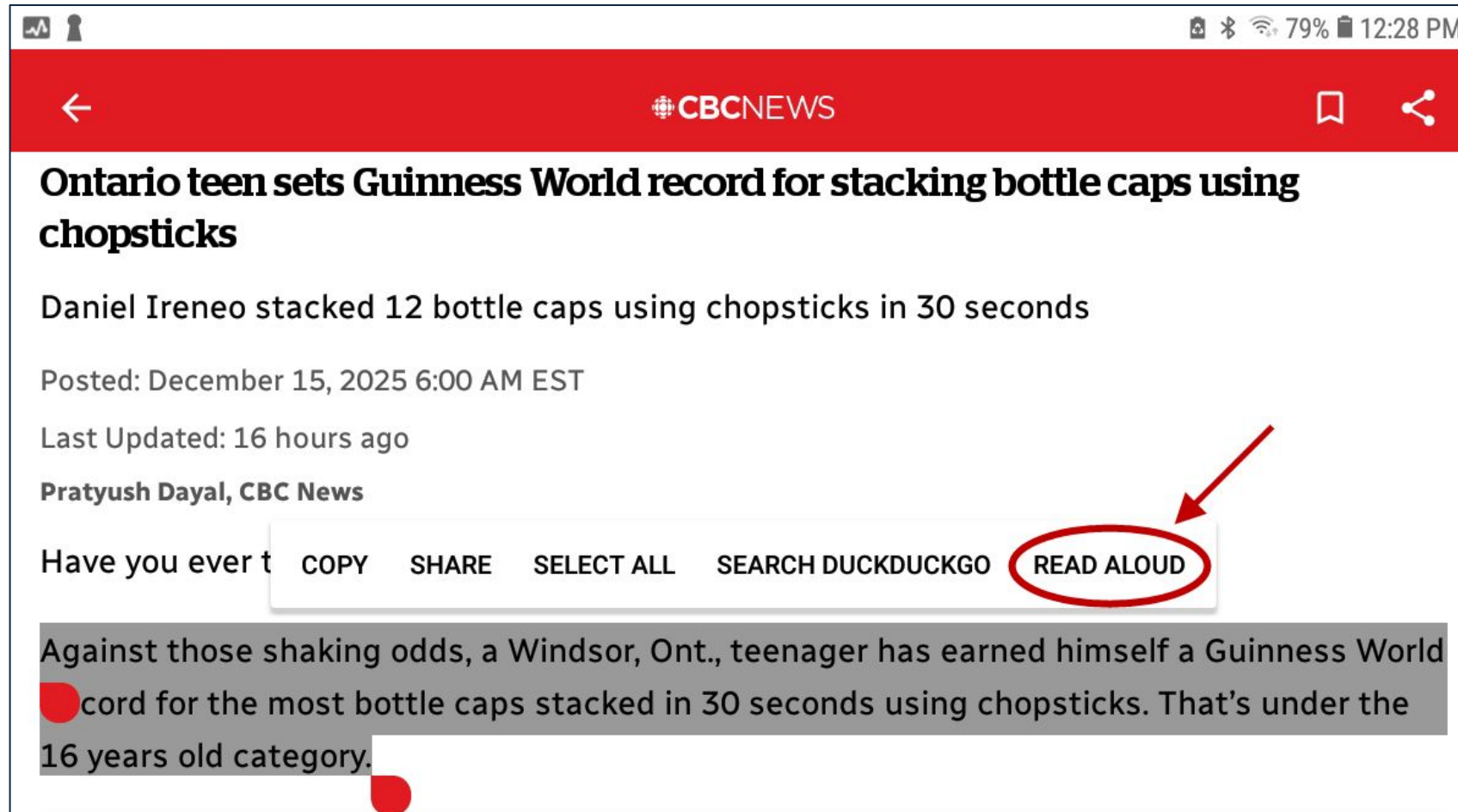
Skills:

- Use text-to-speech
- Use the icon “Share” to share with others
- Recognize ad content



Reading the news in the browser of a smartphone also offers the possibility to use Text-to-speech.

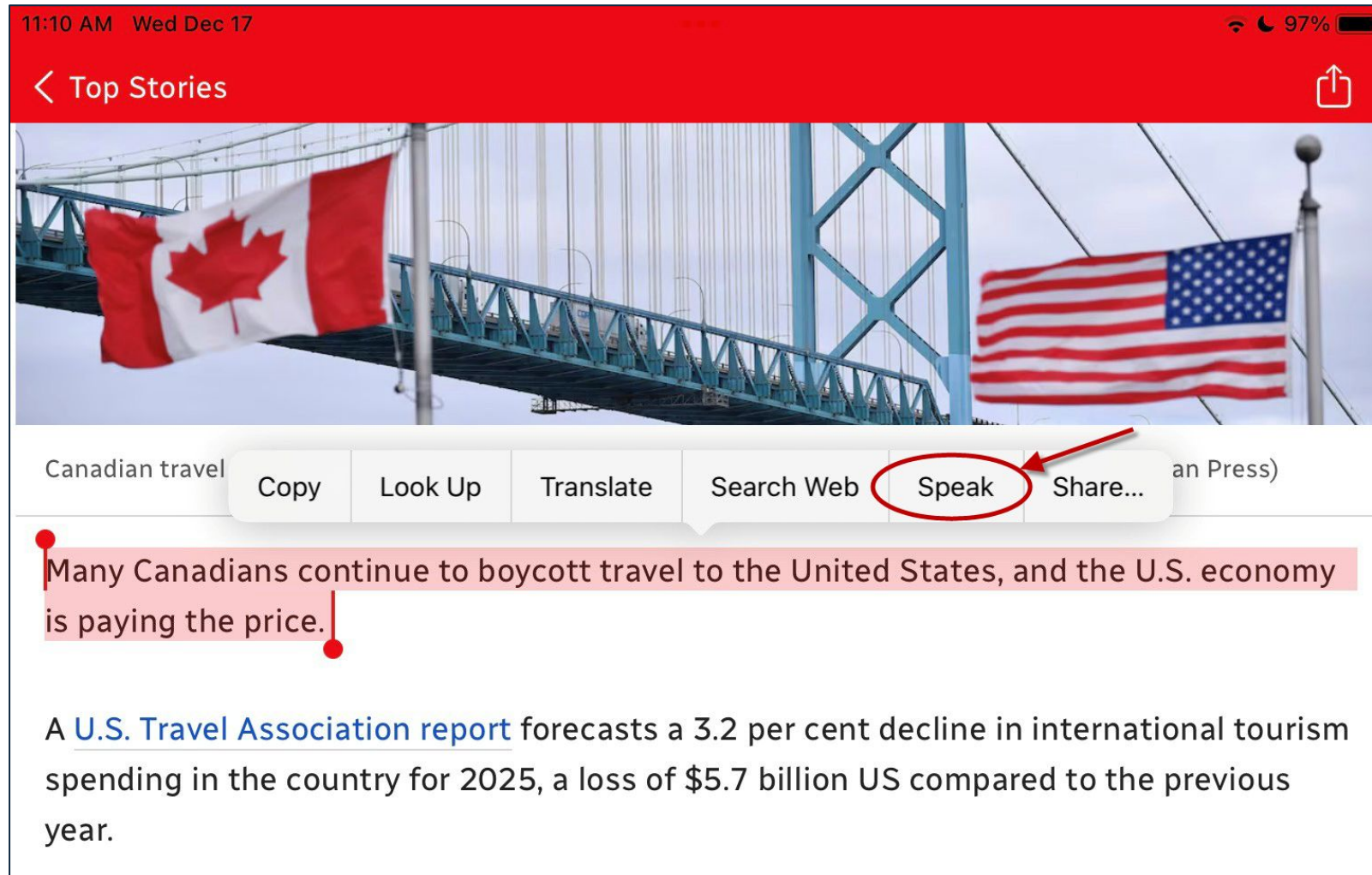
Read aloud - Android



[Accessibility -> Select to Speak](#)

Speak - iOS

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Accessibility -> Read & Speak

Activities around reading the news

With your learners, what kind of activities do you do that include reading the news?

Some ideas:

- News story of the day
- Find the headlines from 3 different sources, are they different?
- Does the story have a video?
- Do you see any ads? What are they?
- Links to related stories?



Literacy skills



Reading

Skimming and scanning – identifying information of interest

Reading comprehension – following the structure of an article

Recognizing text features – titles, headings, links to other news, authors

Vocabulary

Browser

Tabs

Advertisement

Sponsored content

Text-to-speech

...

Digital and critical thinking skills

Digital skills

Typing and keyboard skills

Use a web browser - navigating

Navigate tabs

Understand links

Understand visual literacy –
interpreting images, charts, and
videos

Install an app

Understand settings on mobile
device

Use accessibility tools on computer
and mobile devices



Critical thinking skills

Recognize ads

Recognize sponsored content

Recognize factual and opinion pieces

Some lessons around reading the news



Media Smarts

Writing the news

The citizen reporter

Getting to know your library

What we'll be looking at:

- Information that can be gathered from a library website
- Browsing a library catalog

**Do you do library related activities
with your learners?**

Getting to know your library

What can learners do on a library's website:

- Browse:
 - Information on borrowing
 - Library services
 - Community information
 - Alerts
- Browse the catalog:
 - Search fields
 - Formats
 - Collections
 - Put holds and renew books



Getting to know your library

**Do a virtual scavenger hunt
on the library's website
and in its catalogue:**

Examples of information to look for:

- What are the library's hours of operation?
- What identification is required to obtain a library card?
- What is the maximum number of books I can borrow?

Examples of information to look for in the library catalogue:

- Find a book on a specific topic
- Find the number of copies available
- In which section is it located?

Let's try it

Using the Libby app



The Libby app lets library patrons manage their holds and loans for resources available through Overdrive.

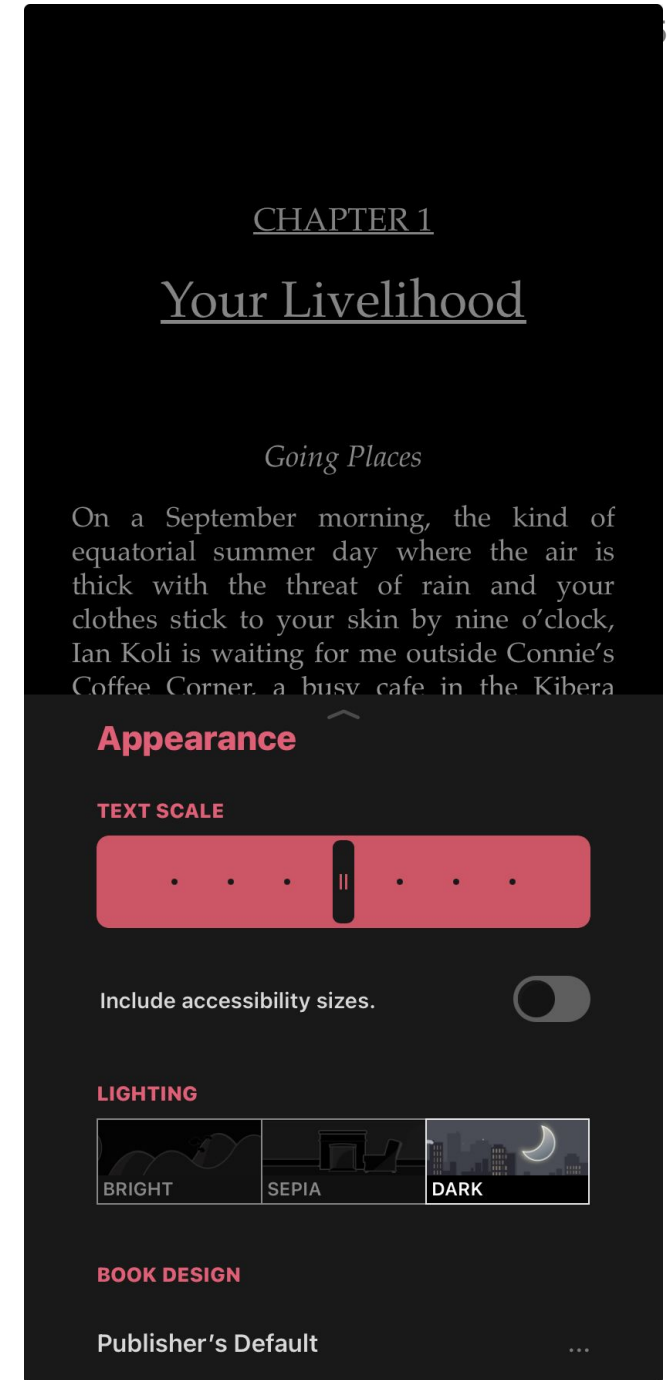
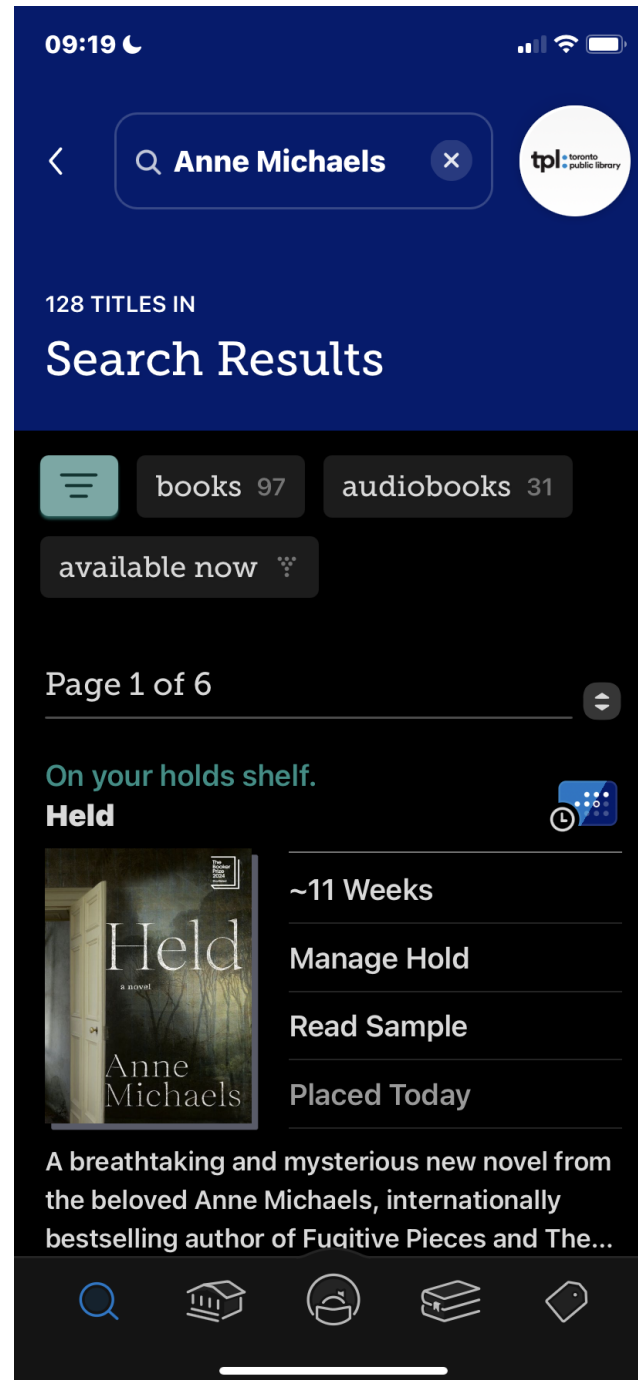
It can also be used to read the resources on a mobile device.

Most libraries provide access to Overdrive.

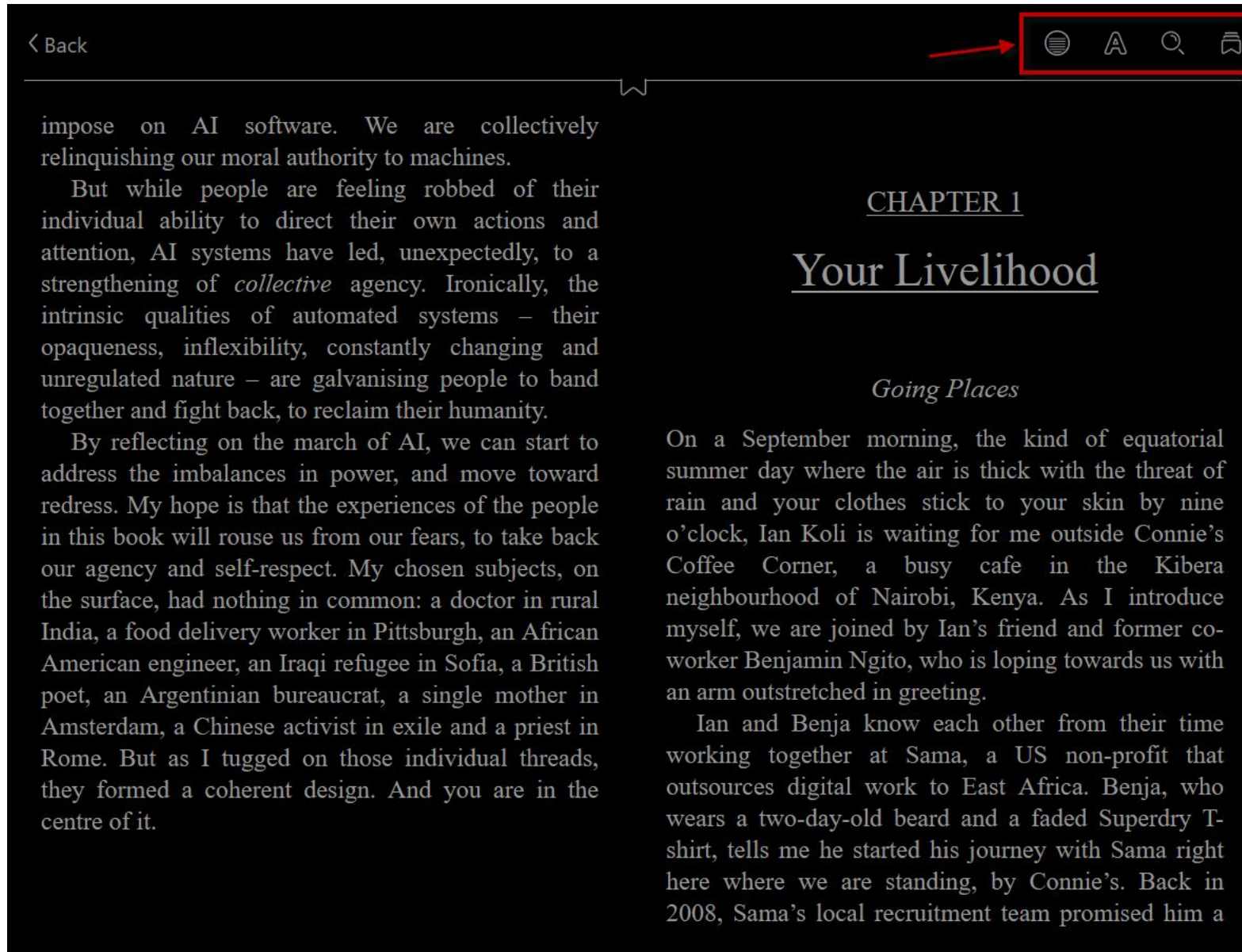
* A library card is required

Using the Libby app

- Search your library Overdrive catalogue
- Manage holds and loans
- Read books and magazines (including audio books)
- Bookmark pages
- Adjust font type and size
- Find definitions



Using Libby on a computer



[Using Libby with screen readers](#)

(NVDA, JAWS for example)

Using the Libby app

[Getting started with Libby](#)

[Videos](#)

[Libby how-to from Toronto Public Library](#)

Literacy and digital skills

Reading

Skimming and scanning – identifying information of interest

Recognizing text features – titles, headings, links, etc

Digital skills

Typing and keyboard skills

Use a web browser - navigating

Navigate tabs

Understand links

Fill out an online form

Browse a catalog and use keywords

Familiarize yourself with different formats

Vocabulary

Browser

Tabs

Dropdown menu

Vocabulary concepts related to a library catalogue

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Next

Workshop 3: Creating

Making a budget and using Flipp to create shopping plans and budgets

Digital storytelling and maps

Thank you

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