Ally is a tool available to course instructors and students through Blackboard. Ally ensures that course materials and content meet web content accessibility guidelines. An accessible document is fully available and understandable for people with visual, auditory, physical, speech, cognitive, language, learning, and neurological disabilities. If content does not meet accessibility guidelines, then Ally will assess what needs improvement and guide you through modifying the material to make it more accessible.

Accessibility Score

When documents are uploaded to Blackboard, Ally will automatically scan and screen that content using **accessibility guidelines**. Once Ally is finished, an icon that looks like a dial will appear. It will be either red, yellow, or green (*see Figure 1*).

(Note: the Accessibility Score is only available to instructors. Students cannot see the score.)

- Dark Green: Document meets all accessibility guidelines
- Light Green: Document mostly meets accessibility guidelines
- Yellow: Document meets some accessibility guidelines
- Red: Document does not meet accessibility guidelines.

Figure 1

The icon will appear next to the file name on Blackboard (*see Figure 2*). Once it does, click on it and Ally will provide an **accessibility score** as well as guidelines for how to improve that score if need be.
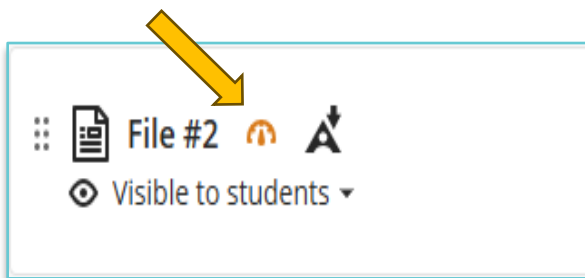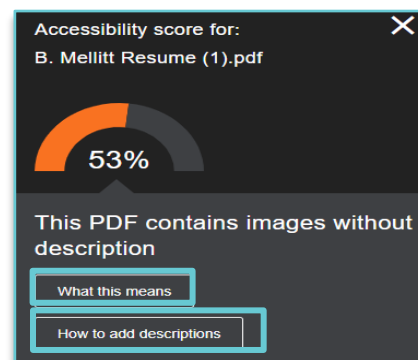

Figure 2

Figure 3

If you would like more information about how your materials accessibility can be improved, click on the **"What this means"** tab, and Ally will provide further details. Clicking **"How to add descriptions"** would reveal instructions generated by Ally on how to correct that specific accessibility gap (*see Figure 3*). Instructions will be generated specific to your document's accessibility needs. Once you have fixed the issues, you can reupload your edited document and see your new accessibility score. Click the settings button in the top right corner, then click the "Replace" icon next to the file and choose your new document.