I. About SamePage

SamePage helps readers find a reading buddy: someone with the same book on their shelf who is free at the same time, to read or talk about it together in person or over video. It is an iOS and Android app built with React Native (Expo).

When it is used: when you start a book and want company or accountability while reading it; once a week, when you set the times you are free to read; and when another reader sends you a request.

What a user can do:

- Keep a shelf of books they are “Currently Reading” and want “To Be Read”, adding books from a live search of Open Library.
- Set the times they are free to read this week, in 30-minute or 1-hour blocks, in their own time zone.
- Request a reading buddy for a book and choose where to meet: in person, virtual or either.
- Accept or decline requests from other readers. Accepted meetups appear on Home and the Buddies tab.
- Set meeting preferences on their profile: how they like to meet, their neighborhood, how far they will travel and the kinds of places they are open to.

II. Tasks in the prototype

Each task can be completed start to finish in the prototype.

Add a book to your To Be Read shelf

1. On Home, tap + next to "Add to your To Be Read Bookshelf" (or open the Books tab and tap **Add**).
2. Search by title or author.
3. Tap **Add to To Be Read** on a result. The book appears on Home and in the Books tab.

Set your free time this week

1. Open the **Calendar** tab, or tap **Edit Your Availability** on Home.
2. Tap a day in the Mon–Sun table, then tap the time blocks when you are free. The table fills in as you tap.
3. Optionally switch between 30-minute and 1-hour blocks, or change your time zone.
4. Tap **Confirm**.

Task 3: Request a reading buddy for a book

1. On Home, tap **Request a Buddy** in the Reading Buddies card (or open the **Buddies** tab and tap **Request a Buddy**).
2. Under **Choose a Book**, tap a book from your shelf. Tap + to search for a different one.
3. Check the summary under **Your Availability**. Tap **Edit** to change it.
4. Under **Where to Meet**, choose In Person, Virtual or Either, and enter a place for in-person meetups.
5. Tap **Request a Buddy**. The "Buddy on the way!" screen confirms it, and **Your Requests** shows it waiting.

Also in the prototype: respond to a request

1. Open the **Buddies** tab. The red badge shows how many requests are waiting.
2. Tap **Accept** or **Decline**. Accepted meetups move to Reading Buddies and show on Home.

III. How to set up the prototype for testing

The prototype runs on an iPhone or Android phone from our code, using the SamePage development build or the Expo Go app.

You will need

- Node.js 22.23.3 on a Mac or PC
- A phone with the SamePage development build or Expo Go installed, on the same Wi-Fi as the computer
- Our .env file (included with our Canvas submission), which connects the app to its database

Steps

1. Clone the repo: git clone https://github.com/cs147L-26au/SamePage.git
2. In the SamePage folder, run npm ci to install dependencies.
3. Put the .env file in the SamePage folder, next to package.json.
4. Run npm run start:dev (development build) or npx expo start (Expo Go).
5. Scan the QR code with the phone's camera, or from inside Expo Go on Android. SamePage opens on Home.

Before each test session

Reset the demo data so every participant starts the same way: open our Supabase project's SQL Editor, run all of supabase/schema.sql, then reload the app. The participant uses the account "Katie H.", which starts with 3 books in Currently Reading, 10 in To Be Read and 3 buddy requests waiting.

Without the .env file, the app still runs on built-in demo data, but changes are lost whenever it reloads.

IV. Limitations

The prototype simulates a community of readers: other users, their requests and matching are faked, and there is one shared account.

Area	Limitation	During a test
Matching (Wizard of Oz)	Sending a request does not reach real readers or create a match.	To simulate a match, a team member opens the buddy_requests table in Supabase, sets the participant's request status to accepted, and the participant reloads the app. The meetup then appears on Home and the Buddies tab.
Other readers (hard-coded)	Maria, Jordan and Priya, their shelves and their 3 requests are demo data.	Reset the data before each session (see setup).
Accounts (hard-coded)	No sign-in. Every phone acts as Katie H. and shares the same data.	One participant at a time.
Live updates	Changes made on another phone appear only after reloading the app.	Reload after any Wizard of Oz change.
Meetups	No video call link for virtual meetups, no notifications, and sent requests cannot be edited or cancelled.	Facilitator explains if asked.
Profile map	The map preview from the med-fi is not built.	None needed.

Reading hours (hard-coded)	Free time can only be set between 7:00 AM and 10:00 PM. The time zone list has 13 zones plus the phone's own.	None needed.
Book data	Search, covers, ratings and years come from Open Library. Some books have no cover or rating and show a grey placeholder.	Needs internet.
Header font	A free stand-in (Instrument Serif) replaces ITC Century Std from our design, which needs a paid license.	None needed.
Database access	Anyone with the app's key can read and change the demo database.	Use demo data only, never real personal information.

V. Accessibility

The app meets the SCAG 2.2 AA standards and is built to work with screen readers and to be readable at a glance, but we have not yet tested it with VoiceOver, TalkBack, or large text sizes.

Considerations

- **Screen readers:** every icon-only button has a spoken label (back, add, help, filter, time zone). Buttons, tabs, checkboxes and chips announce their role and whether they are selected or disabled, and screen titles are marked as headings. The filter menu and time zone list keep the screen reader inside them while open. Additionally, the distance slider reads out its value, for example “10 miles”.
- **Content read aloud:** book covers read as "title by author", star ratings as "Rated 3.8 out of 5", and each day in the week table reads out its free times. The Buddies tab reads how many requests are waiting. The profile picture reads as “Profile picture of [name]”, or without a photo it reads, “Add a profile picture”.
- **Status updates:** messages like "saved", search results and errors, adding or removing a book from search, changing or removing your profile picture, and adding or removing a place are announced when they appear.
- **Labels and text size:** every navigation icon has a text label, and time labels on the Calendar were enlarged to 16 pt. Both came from our heuristic evaluation. Buttons and time blocks have minimum heights instead of fixed ones, and the button labels wrap instead of being cut off, so they grow with the phone’s text size.
- **Not relying on color alone:** the selected book gets a thick border, selected time blocks and chips are also announced as checked or selected, and the selected day in the week table is bold.
- **Contrast:** All text meets the WCAG AA ratio of 4.5:1. Buttons and the nav bar are 11.8:1, and secondary grey text is 4.9:1. We also darkened our chip green, username grey, and the title text on placeholder book covers to meet the contrast requirements.
- **Touch and feedback:** time blocks are 34 pt tall, small buttons have enlarged touch areas, and the phone gives haptic feedback when you pick a time block or save availability.
- **Error recovery:** on the To Be Read screen, removing a book asks for confirmation. In search, one tap on “Added to To Be Read” removes it and another tap adds it back. Failed saves are undone with an explanation, and Save Changes appears only after a profile edit. After you save availability, a confirmation page reads your times back. If camera or photo access is turned off, the app explains how to turn it on.

Limitations

- Not yet tested with VoiceOver (iOS) or TalkBack (Android).
- Not yet tested at the largest system text sizes. Book titles under covers are limited to two lines, though the screen reader reads the full title. The initials shown when there's no profile photo don't scale with text size.
- The week table's mini timeline is visual only. Screen reader users get a text summary of each day instead.
- Some small buttons, like "Edit" on the request screen and Add to To Be Read in search, look smaller than 44 pt, though their touch area is 44 pt.
- The profile photo is not described. It's read only as "Profile picture of [name]".
- The app is English only.