Georgia Tech Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation

ASK Webinar Series: Writing and Reading Solutions for the Workplace

August 19th, 2020

Presented By:

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CREATING THE NEXT®

Today's Presenters

Carolyn Phillips – Director of Services & Education - CIDI, Director - Tools for Life

Ciara Montes – AT Support Specialist, Tools for Life

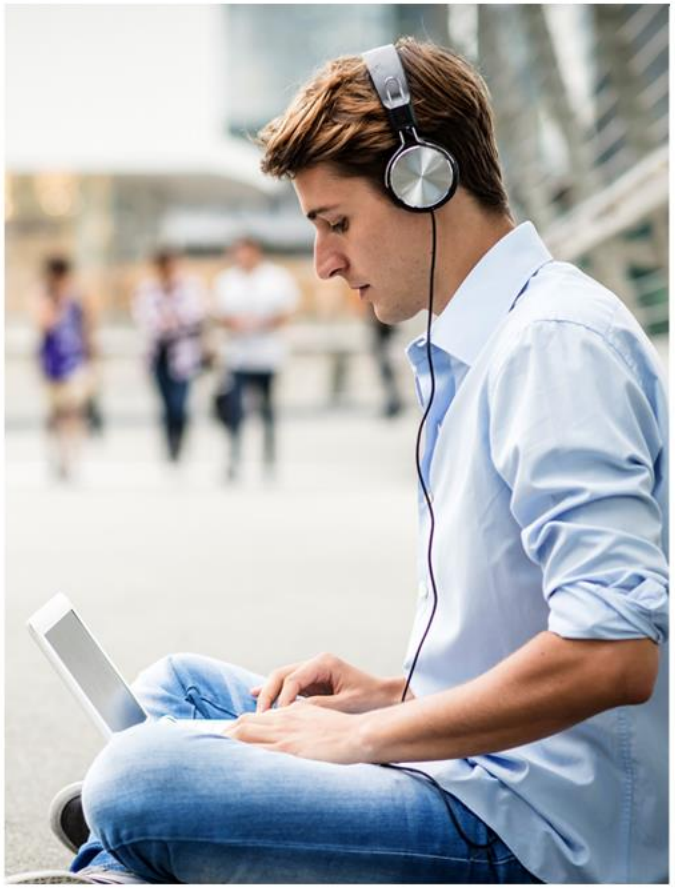
ASK Webinar Series

TOOLS for LIFE
Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

- We are developing the Assistive Software Knowledgebase (ASK) a centralized, online resource on assistive software and mobile apps used as workplace accommodations. It will provide the general product information as well as other information to help an employee maximize his or her use of the software.
- This is one of our first presentations in an every-other-week series on the use of different types of software and mobile apps in the workplace.
- This development project is funded by grant #90IF0125 from the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR), within the Admin. for Community Living, U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services.

Learning Objectives

- Participants will be able to discuss at least 3 software solutions that can assist with writing.
- Participants will be able to discuss at least 3 software solutions that can assist with reading.
- Participants will be able to explain at least 3 built-in accessibility features that can assist with reading and/or writing.
- Participants will be able to successfully navigate the ASK Database & Tools for Life AppFinder.



Our Favorite Software & Apps for Writing

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Grammarly

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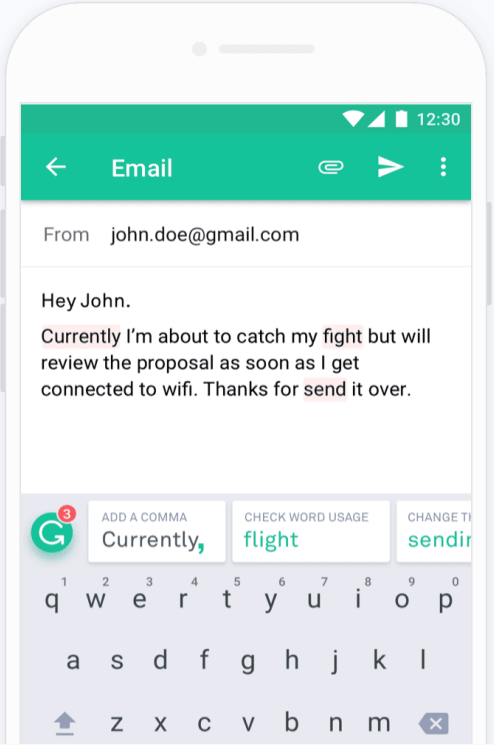
- A writing assistant that provides feedback in real-time on grammar, spelling, tone, etc
- Compatible with most emails, MS Office, Google Suite, and has a keyboard option for mobile devices
- Free & Paid for versions
- Available on iOS, Android, and as a Chrome Extension

grammarly



Speech Recognition

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Speech recognition software enables people to talk to their computers and watch their spoken words appear in documents, email, instant messages and more—three times faster than most people type—with up to 99% accuracy.

It lets users dictate and edit in programs like Microsoft® Word, Excel® and Outlook®, surf the web using Internet Explorer® and Mozilla® Firefox®, and command and control virtually any Windows application—just by speaking.

DRAGON NATURALLYSPEAKING

Examples of dictation software include Dragon for PC, Dragon for Mac and WordQ+SpeakQ .

THINK. WRITE. GO.
wordQ +speakQ
www.strategictransitions.com

Where to Find Speech Recognition

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1) Built-in Speech Recognition technology: Today, many devices have **built-in Speech Recognition software**. This includes desktop and laptop computers (Windows and macOS), smartphone and digital tablets (Android and iOS), and Chromebooks (Chrome OS). If you have any of these devices, you probably don't need to buy special software. Often microphone and the Speech Recognition tools come with the device, but you may need an Internet connection.

2) Speech Recognition apps: Along with using built-in dictation tools, you can also download **Speech Recognition apps** on smartphones and digital tablets. One example is Dragon Dictation (iOS).

3) Chrome tools: A number of **tools for Chromebooks and the Chrome browser** also offer Speech Recognition , like Co:Writer Universal, WordQ and Read&Write for Google Chrome. When used in the Chrome browser, Google Docs also has its own Speech Recognition tool called Voice Typing.

Ginger Software

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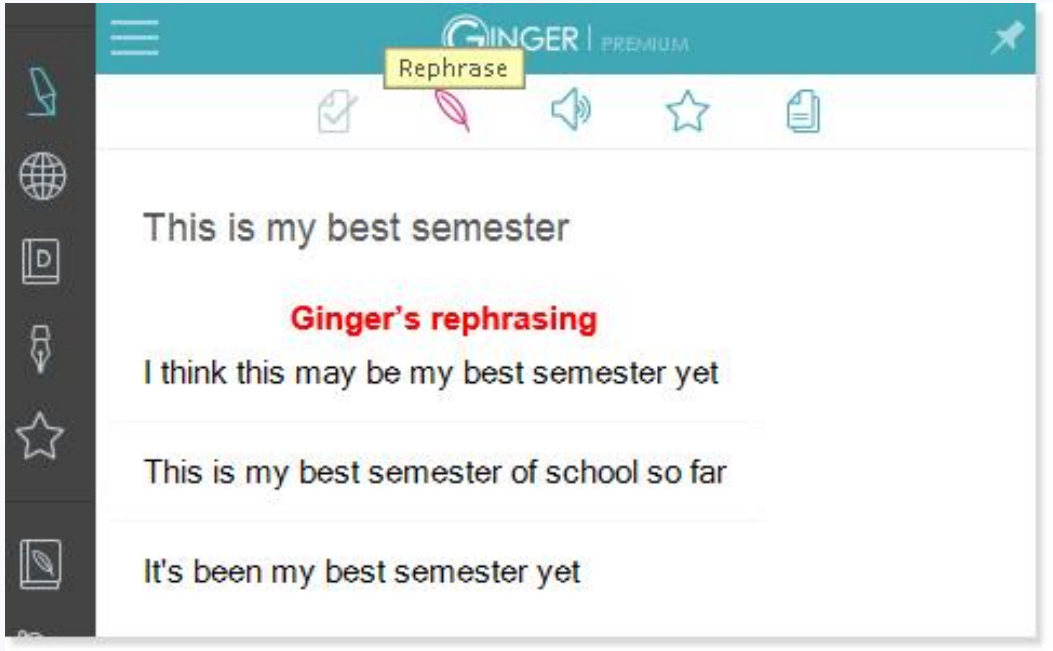
- Ginger Grammar Checker is a free program you can add to your browser (Chrome, Safari, Firefox) that will check your grammar, spelling, and sentence structure as you write online.
- You can also download it into your computer to check your grammar when you are using your computer offline.
- Corrects text as user types
- Available on Google Chrome, Android, and iOS



ClaroSpeak – Writing & Reading

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Lots of helpful features: high-quality text-to-speech, formatting controls, a wide range of fonts and styles and cloud storage integration.

ClaroSpeak offers visual highlighting in-sync with the spoken words, a great range of color and font settings to allow for optimum reading and word prediction to help with writing.

Proofreading text through listening, helping with reading and literacy development and creating audio files from any text.

Ghotit Real Writer & Dyslexia Keyboard

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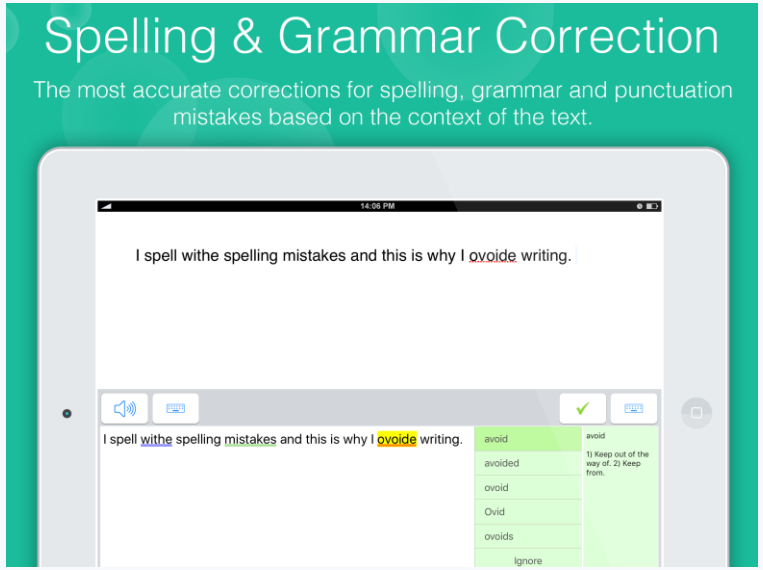
- Assists people with dyslexia and dysgraphia in English writing and text correction.
- Features include a context-sensitive spell checker, word prediction, text editor, and ability to share files.
- Compatible with text to speech
- Keyboard works in most iOS applications where writing is allowed.



Poll Question #1

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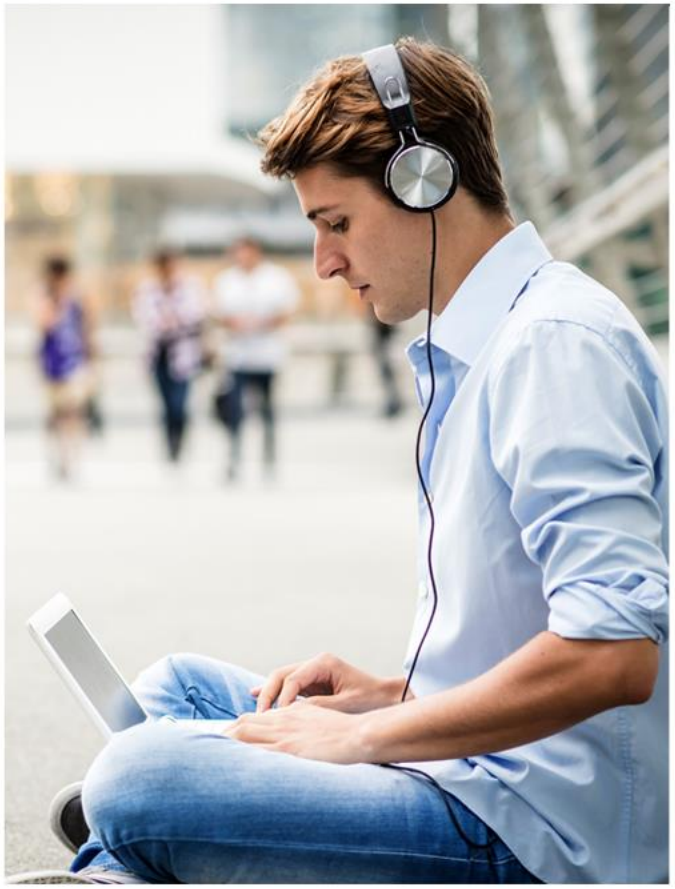
What software or app is your favorite for writing solutions?



Our Favorite Software & Apps for Reading

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BeeLine Reader

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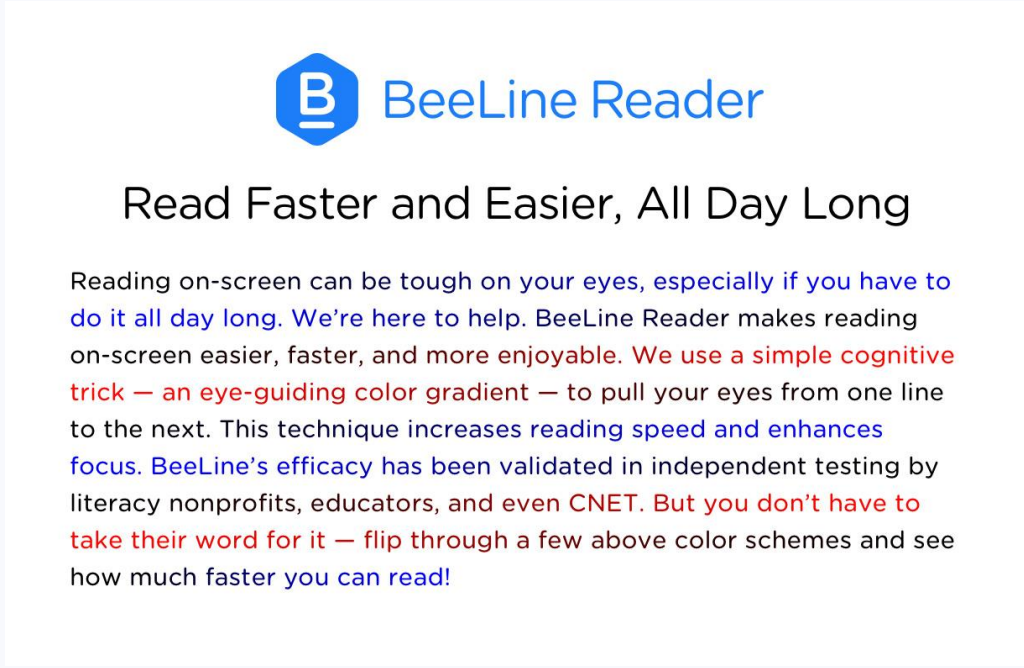
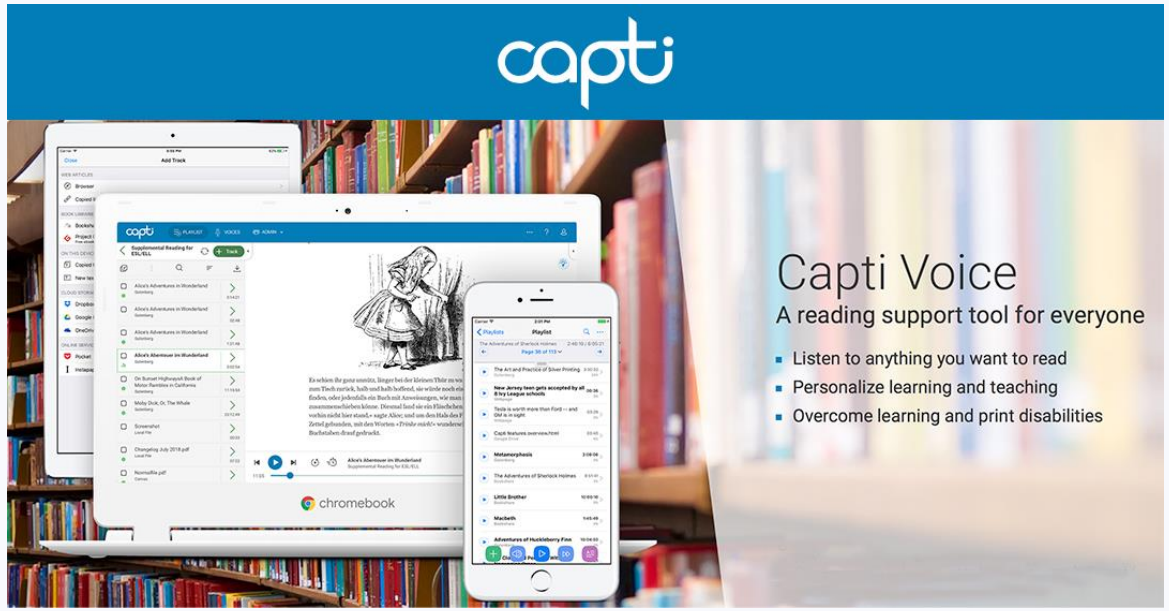
- Reader that uses eye-guiding color gradients to help make reading faster
- Improves reading speed and reading ability
- Free access to affected teachers and students due to COVID-19
- Available on most platforms



CaptiVoice

- A reading tool that allows users to listen to any text, customize text color and font, and improve reading skills.
- Paid for and free versions
- Compatible with Bookshare, most file sharing platforms and web browsers.
- Offers multiple languages
- Available on iOS, Google Chrome, Windows, and thru website.



ClaroRead

Supports Reading and writing.

Designed to be simple, easy-to-use and flexible, and supports concentration

ClaroRead Plus - scan and convert paper books and documents so you can read them aloud

Read&Write

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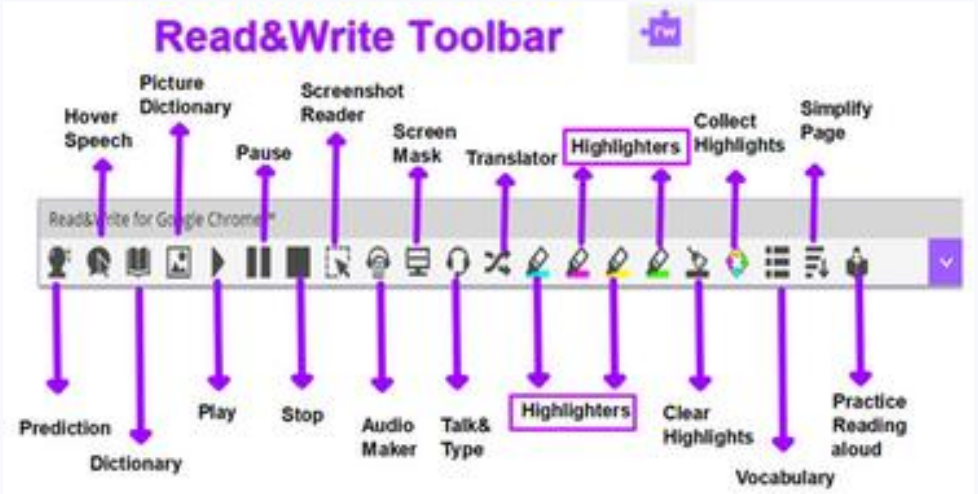
- Read&Write makes documents, web pages and office applications more accessible.
- Easy to use toolbar helps employees with everyday literacy tasks - from composing a quick email to writing reports, proofing lengthy documents or searching for information on the web.
- Option to use free trial
- Has a new focus Read&Write for Work
- Toolbar that is discrete
- Available for download or as Chrome Extension



Voice Dream Reader

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- Accessible reading tool that can be tailored to suit any reading style from completely auditory to completely visual or a combination of both
- Features include OCR, reading modes, audio & visual controls, and annotations
- Supports most file types including ePub and DAISY
- Available on iOS and Android

Microsoft Seeing AI

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- **Seeing AI** app from **Microsoft Seeing AI** is a free app that narrates the world around you.
- Describes nearby people, text and objects.
- Available on iOS

Seeing AI iOS App
PATHS TO LITERACY

GoodReader

- A PDF reader that has file management capabilities.
- Allows user to read, annotate, and edit PDFs.
- Compatible with Dropbox, Google Drive, OneDrive
- Available on iOS only

Speech Central: Voice Reader

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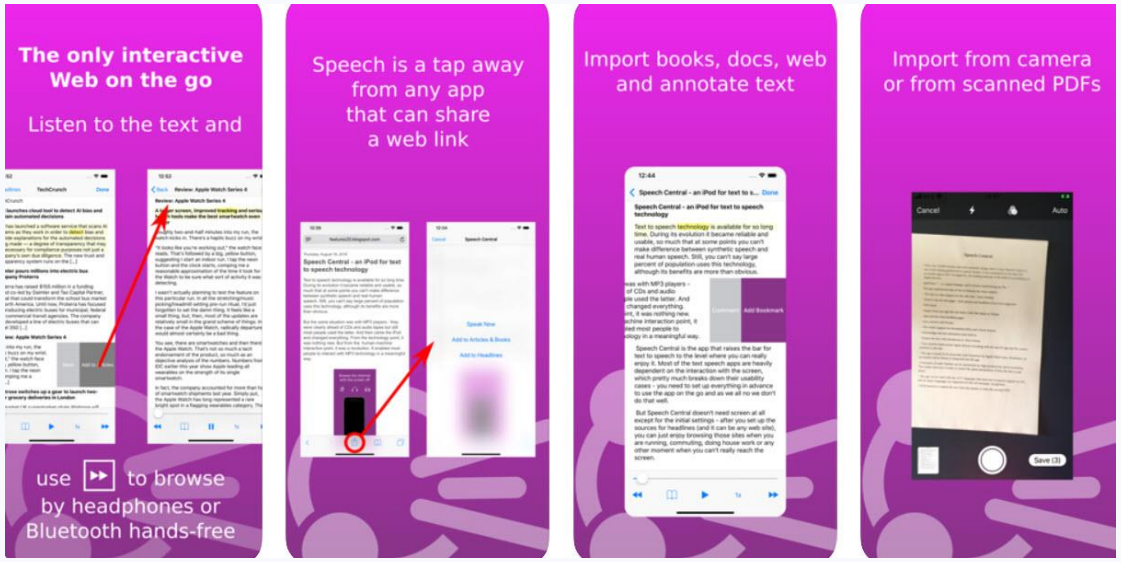
- Text-to-speech app that is geared to be accessible toward people with visual impairments
- Ability to import books, documents, websites, and annotate text
- Can import photos of documents and scanned PDFs
- Available on iOS, Android, and Windows



Poll Question #2

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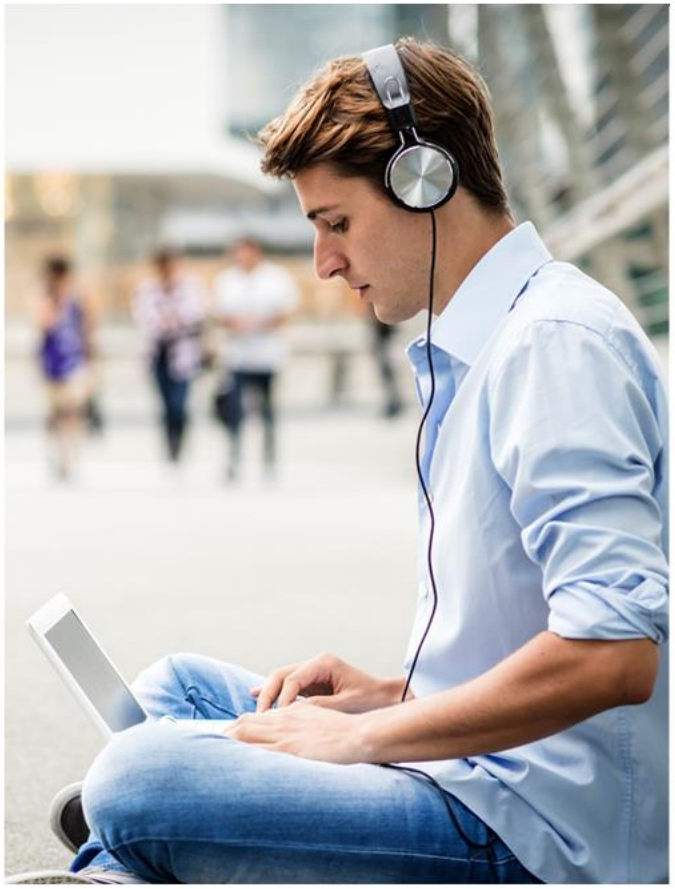
What software or app is your favorite for reading solutions?



Built in Accessibility Features

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Poll Question #3

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What built in accessibility features do you use daily?

Windows Ease of Access Features

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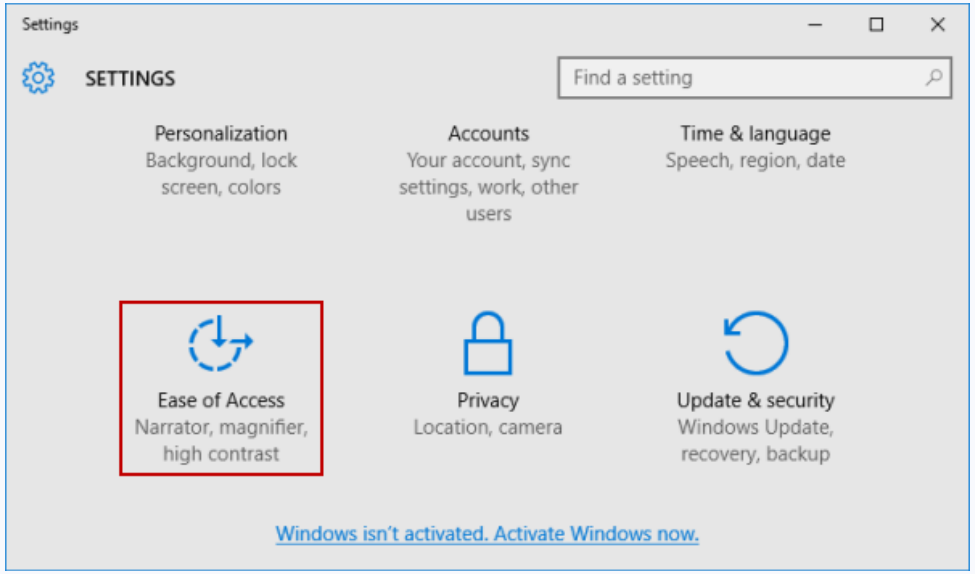
- Narrator allows the user to access the PC without a mouse.
  - Read and write emails
  - Edit documents
  - Browse internet
  - **Windows Logo Key + Ctrl + Enter**
- High Contrast mode that is customizable to the user's needs
  - **Alt + Left Shift Key + Print Screen**
- Tutorials are available for all accessibility features online.



Microsoft Word

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- Spell Check
- **Dictation** allows users to use their voice to write
- **Editor** works as a grammar and spell checker
- **Read Aloud** feature will read highlighted text to the user

Mac/iOS Features

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1) VoiceOver describes exactly what's happening on your iPhone, iPad, Mac, Apple Watch, or Apple TV, so you can navigate your device just by listening.

Apple's built-in apps support VoiceOver, which will talk you through tasks you do with them.

2) Upsize the text in apps - When you activate Larger Dynamic Type on iPhone, iPad, or Apple Watch, the text inside apps like Mail, Messages, and Settings is converted to a larger, easier-to-read size.

3) Voice Control opens up an intuitive new way to navigate iOS, iPadOS, and macOS — using only your voice. Improved dictation and richer text editing features help you write more efficiently, while simple vocal commands let you quickly open and interact with apps.

4) Speak Screen can read text from newspapers, books, web pages, or email on your iPhone or iPad.

Mac/iOS Features

5) Size boost of what you're reading!
Move your cursor over any text — a paragraph, a caption, a headline — then press **Command** for a bigger, high-resolution version of what you selected.

6) Hover Text also lets you choose the fonts and colors that work best for you.

7) Type a note to Siri.

Siri helps you with the things you do every day on your iPhone, iPad, or Mac. But you can also use Siri without speaking commands. Just set Siri to **"Type to Siri"** mode and use either a physical or onscreen keyboard to ask questions, set reminders, and schedule meetings.

Tools for Life AppFinder

- Recently updated!
- Search By:
  - Categories
  - App Name
  - Device Type
  - Price

AppFinder

About | Our Other Favorite Apps Databases | Helpful Links

Welcome to the Tools for Life Database - Our Favorite Apps for Living, Learning, Working and Playing!

Search By:

Name:

OR

Notetaking
Organization
PDF reader
Personal Care and Safety
Productivity
Prompting
Readers
Relaxation
Scanner
Science
Screen Reader
Sign Language
Social Distancing
Speech
Spelling
Talking Calculator
Teleworking
Therapeutic Aids
Vision
Writing

Price:
Free | Up to $4.99 | Up to $9.99 | All

Device Type:

- Android
- iOS
- Microsoft
- Blackberry
- Chrome Extension

Questions?

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