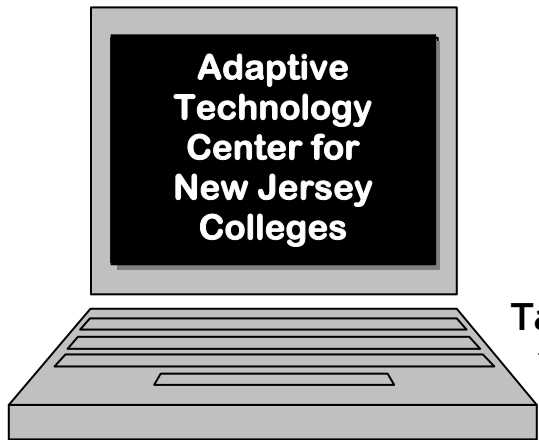


# Assistive Technology Solutions for Students with Learning Disabilities



## Writing Solutions

**Talking Word Processing:** Word processing programs with text-to-speech features read aloud text as students type. This helps students edit and proofread their written work. Some include dictionaries that talk.

Product	Vendor	Website
Read & Write	textHELP	<a href="http://www.texthelp.com">www.texthelp.com</a>
Write:OutLoud	Don Johnston, Inc.	<a href="http://www.donjohnston.com">www.donjohnston.com</a>
WordQ 2	WordQ	<a href="http://www.wordq.com">www.wordq.com</a>
SOLO	Don Johnston, Inc.	<a href="http://www.donjohnston.com">www.donjohnston.com</a>

**Graphic Organizers:** These programs are used in the pre-writing stage to help students organize their thoughts. With the click of the mouse, a concept map can be turned into a text outline.

Product	Vendor	Website
Inspiration	Inspiration	<a href="http://www.inspiration.com">www.inspiration.com</a>
Draft:Builder	Don Johnston, Inc.	<a href="http://www.donjohnston.com">www.donjohnston.com</a>

**Portable Notetakers:** These sturdy, lightweight keyboards are a more affordable option than a laptop computer for taking notes in class. They interface with a student's computer and printer, so files can be transferred and/or printed easily.

Product	Vendor	Website
Dana	AlphaSmart, Inc.	<a href="http://www.alphasmart.com">www.alphasmart.com</a>
Neo	AlphaSmart, Inc.	<a href="http://www.alphasmart.com">www.alphasmart.com</a>
Fusion	Writer Learning Systems	<a href="http://www.writerlearning.com">www.writerlearning.com</a>

**Speech Recognition:** Students dictate into a microphone and their words appear on the computer screen. Speech recognition software requires very powerful computers with a lot of memory, adequate time to train both the computer and the user, and users who are very comfortable with computers.

Product	Vendor	Website
Dragon Naturally Speaking	Nuance	<a href="http://www.nuance.com/naturallyspeaking">www.nuance.com/naturallyspeaking</a>
IBM ViaVoice	Nuance	<a href="http://www.nuance.com/viavoice">www.nuance.com/viavoice</a>

iListen	Mac Speech	<a href="http://www.macspeech.com">www.macspeech.com</a>
SpeakQ	Quillsoft	<a href="http://www.wordq.com">www.wordq.com</a>

**Word Prediction:** Word prediction software helps students who have significant spelling and/or word finding problems. As a student starts to type a word, the software presents a list of predicted words from which the student can choose. Clicking on the word adds it to the sentence, and typing final punctuation transfers the sentence into an open word processing document. Topic dictionaries can be set up with specialized vocabulary for specific course work.

Product	Vendor	Website
Co:Writer	Don Johnston, Inc.	<a href="http://www.donjohnston.com">www.donjohnston.com</a>
Read & Write	textHELP!	<a href="http://www.texthelp.com">www.texthelp.com</a>
WordQ 2	Quillsoft	<a href="http://www.wordq.com">www.wordq.com</a>
SOLO	Don Johnston, Inc.	<a href="http://www.donjohnston.com">www.donjohnston.com</a>

**Test Taking:** These programs provide students with electronic versions of tests. Questions and answers can be highlighted and read aloud for students who struggle with reading; answers can be typed on the computer for students who have difficulty with handwriting. The completed test is then printed out for submission.

Product	Vendor	Website
Test Talker	Freedom Scientific	<a href="http://www.freedomscientific.com/lsg">www.freedomscientific.com/lsg</a>
Kurzweil 3000	Kurzweil Educational Systems	<a href="http://www.kurzweiledu.com">www.kurzweiledu.com</a>

## Reading Solutions

**Electronic Text Readers:** Electronic text readers also read aloud and highlight text, but they can read only text that is already in an electronic format, for example, internet sites or word processing files. E-readers do not contain the optical character recognition software that is needed to scan in printed text, but at \$199 they are a low cost solution for reading aloud eText.

Product	Vendor	Website
TextAloud	NextUp Technologies	<a href="http://www.nextup.com">www.nextup.com</a>
ReadPlease	Read Please Corporation	<a href="http://www.readplease.com">www.readplease.com</a>
Reading Bar 2 for Internet Explorer	Read Please Corporation	<a href="http://www.readplease.com">www.readplease.com</a>
SOLO	Don Johnston, Inc.	<a href="http://www.donjohnston.com">www.donjohnston.com</a>
WordQ 2	WordQ	<a href="http://www.wordq.com">www.wordq.com</a>
AspireREADER	CAST	<a href="http://www.cast.org/products">www.cast.org/products</a>
PDF Aloud	textHELP	<a href="http://www.texthelp.com">www.texthelp.com</a>
Premier Assistive Technology Literacy Tools	Premier Assistive Technology	<a href="http://www.readingmadeez.com">www.readingmadeez.com</a>

**Digital Book Readers:** Digital book readers are portable CD players that read DAISY-compatible audiobooks. They provide CD navigation functions and playback features. These portable players are recommended for students and adults in grades 7 and up.

Product	Vendor	Website
Telex Scholar	RFBD	<a href="http://www.telex.com/Talkingbook/Default.aspx">www.telex.com/Talkingbook/Default.aspx</a>
Victor Vibe	RFBD	<a href="http://www.visuaide.com">www.visuaide.com</a> <a href="http://www.rfbd.org">www.rfbd.org</a>
Victor Wave	Humanware	<a href="http://www.humanware.com">www.humanware.com</a> <a href="http://www.rfbd.org">www.rfbd.org</a>
VictorReader Stream	Humanware	<a href="http://www.humanware.com">www.humanware.com</a>

**Software Playback Systems:** Software playback systems are full-featured software packages designed to play RFB&D's AudioPlus CD books on a desktop or laptop computer. They are specially designed with the blind and visually impaired community in mind and have a well designed user interface for individuals with learning disabilities.

Product	Vendor	Website
eclipseReader	Innovative Rehabilitation Technology, Inc.	<a href="http://www.eclipsereader.com">www.eclipsereader.com</a>
Victor ReaderSoft <small>*available as a free download with membership to Bookshare.org</small>	RFBD	<a href="http://www.visuaide.com">www.visuaide.com</a> <a href="http://www.rfbd.org">www.rfbd.org</a> <a href="http://www.bookshare.org">www.bookshare.org</a>
ghPlayer	gh	<a href="http://www.ghbraille.com">www.ghbraille.com</a>

**Scan/Read Systems:** Scan/read software reads aloud printed text after it has been scanned into a computer. Textbook pages, class handouts, and tests can be made accessible to students with print disabilities. A clear visual display highlights the text as it is being read. A built-in talking dictionary, a study skills tool bar, and a writing tool bar are additional helpful features.

Product	Vendor	Website
Kurzweil 3000	Kurzweil Educational Systems	<a href="http://www.kurzweiledu.com">www.kurzweiledu.com</a>
WYNN	Freedom Scientific	<a href="http://www.freedomscientific.com/lsg">www.freedomscientific.com/lsg</a>
Read & Write Gold	TextHelp	<a href="http://www.texthelp.com">www.texthelp.com</a>

**Handheld Talking Dictionary:** This portable talking dictionary helps struggling readers by quickly finding and reading aloud definitions and synonyms.

Product	Vendor	Website
Speaking Language	Franklin	<a href="http://www.franklin.com">www.franklin.com</a>

