



Text-to-Speech Programs

Program	Description	What it Reads	Other Information
Kurzweil (www.kurzweil.edu.com)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3000 version offers reading, writing, test-taking, and study tools • One of the more expensive programs, though price varies – contact customer service • Kurzweil 1000 is more basic and affordable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Printed documents that have been scanned in • Internet pages via Internet Explorer or Firefox • PDF files • Most other electronic documents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the concept of Universal Design for Learning • Highlights as it reads • Allows students to highlight and annotate text • One-click access to words support tools • Writing tools, like word prediction, speak-while-typing, and spell check • Can work in conjunction with Dragon, Naturally Speaking
Read&Write (www.texthelp.com)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gold version features numerous reading and writing tools • One of the more expensive programs, though price varies – contact customer service • Read&Write 10 is more basic and affordable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screen shots • Internet pages via Internet Explorer or Firefox • PDF files • Most other electronic documents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very easy to use • Full version includes a homophone checker which displays definitions for words to help writers choose, and a customizable dictionary • Voices and speed can be adjusted • Text can be exported into mP3 format to be listened to later • Various apps allow Read&Write to be used on mobile devices
Ultra Hal Text-to-Speech Reader (www.zabaware.com/reader/)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fairly inexpensive text-to-speech program for Windows 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal documents • Ebooks • Text from digital chats • Text pasted to clipboard from any source 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program can write audio data directly to Windows WAV files so users can listen to texts on the go • Several high-quality voices to choose from, with control over speed and pitch

Read Out Loud (www.adobe.com)	Text-to-Speech program available with Adobe 6.0 and later (free)	Adobe documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different voices available • Slightly clunky, but effective for reading text in Adobe documents
CliCk, Speak (www.clickspeak.com)	Extension for Firefox web browser with mouse-driven interface (free)	Web content accessed via Firefox	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different voices and pitches available • Voices for texts in various languages
SpeakIt!	Extension for Google Chrome (free)	Web content accessed via Google Chrome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very user-friendly
WordTalk/ PowerTalk	Complimentary plug-ins that read text in Microsoft Word/PowerPoint	Microsoft Word/ PowerPoint documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programs highlight text as each word is read