# Technology supports that you can explore for a more exciting and dynamic learning experience

## Reading / Immersive reading (comprehension, reviewing, memory retention, conversion to audio format)

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| [**Text to Speech Button**](https://support.office.com/en-us/article/use-the-speak-text-to-speech-feature-to-read-text-aloud-459e7704-a76d-4fe2-ab48-189d6b83333c) **-** Microsoft Word (built-in) | The TTS button is a hidden add-on feature that can be accessed from the down arrow on the Quick Access Tool Bar over the Ribbon. Reads selected text in a Word document | Easy to use, offers instant voicing of text that is created or copy/pasted into a Word document. It requires only a simple addition from Word Options: More Commands add-on menu |
| [**Immersive Reader**](https://education.microsoft.com/courses-and-resources/resources/all-about-immersive-reader)(Text-to-Speech) **–** Office 365 Word, OneNote, Outlook etc | Text to Speech, Speed control, Font size, Font spacing, Reads math aloud | Sustains attention, improves comprehension, improves word recognition, dyslexia support |
| [**VoiceOver**](https://www.imore.com/how-enable-voiceover-mac) - Mac (built-in) | Built in text-to-speech reader with support for refreshable Braille display | VoiceOver voices all the keyboard/trackpad actions like reading content on the screen, describing screen elements, selecting menu options and providing complete control of your Mac |
| [**NVDA**](https://www.nvaccess.org/) (free for Windows) | Supports MS Office programs including Word, Excel, also web browsers, email, mouse hover audio, supports refreshable Braille displays | Free, direct installation on PC or run from a USB stick, supports Windows command prompt and console applications. Built-in speech synthesiser with extra voices |
| [**Natural Reader**](https://www.naturalreaders.com/) **(**basic version free for Windows, Mac, mobile devices) | Text-to-Speech or text to audio conversion from MS Word, PDF files, Webpages, e-books into speech/audio. Syncs with smart devices | Increases ability to read with ease. On-screen reading includes highlighting, colour contrast, font adjustment etc. Helps analyse, understand, retain information and convert text into audio format to listen anywhere anytime |
| [**Balabolka**](https://balabolka.windows10compatible.com/) Text-to-Speech portable app (free for windows) | Screen reader, save text as audio, can work from a USB stick | Converts text into WAV, MP3, WMA and others. Download preferred voices for TTS. Portable on a USB stick |
| [**DSpeech**](https://www.portablefreeware.com/?id=1125) Text-to-Speech portable app (free for Windows | Screen reader, save text as audio, can work from a USB stick | Converts text into WAV, MP3, WMA and others. Download preferred voices for TTS. Portable on a USB stick |
| [**TextHelp Reading Features**](https://www.canterbury.ac.nz/media/documents/student-support/read&write-Gold-10-reading-features.pdf)(Windows, Mac, Google Chrome, mobile devices)  **Available on UC PCs on campus** | Screen reading, screen masking, word and picture dictionary, homophones translation | One-click access to online dictionaries, screen reading, understanding confusable words and translating text |

## Writing (spelling, grammar, punctuation, word- prediction etc)

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| [**Grammarly**](https://www.grammarly.com/office-addin/windows) for effective writing( free for Windows, Google Chrome) | Checks grammar, spelling, punctuation, spacing, sentence structure | Helps write English more effectively and to a higher standard. Constantly learning and improving language |
| [**Ginger**](https://www.gingersoftware.com/) **(**basic version free for Windows and mobile devices) | Contextual spelling and grammar check, word prediction, personal trainer and text reader | Helps write English with correct grammar and spelling. Advanced version offers instant proofreading, rephrasing of sentences and personal trainer helps to learn from mistakes |
| [**TextHelp Writing Features**](https://www.canterbury.ac.nz/media/documents/student-support/read&write-Gold-10-writing-features.pdf)(Windows, Mac and mobile devices)  **Available on UC PCs on campus** | Spelling, word prediction, dictionary, verb checker , fact finder, scanning, screen masking and speech options | Provides alternative word options, definitions, similar sounding words are explained and has a translation tool too. |

## Voice Recognition / Speech-to-Text / Hands-free word processing (from RSI to learning disabilities)

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| [**Dragon Naturally Speaking**](https://www.nuance.com/en-nz/dragon/dragon-for-pc/home-edition.html)(Windows, Mac and mobile devices) | Voice driven, hands-free word processing, responds to verbal commands with Microsoft Office suite | Fast and accurate transcription of live as well as recorded speech. Creates, edits and formats documents |
| [**Voice Typing**](https://support.google.com/docs/answer/4492226?hl=en) in Google Docs | Voice driven, hands-free creation of text | Free voice recognition and transcription feature. Works in Desktop version of Chrome and only in Google Docs |
| [**TalkTyper**](https://talktyper.com/)with Google Chrome - Windows only | Online conversion of dictation into text | Text can be edited, saved, translated, emailed, printed, tweeted |
| [**Text-to-Speech in Windows 10**](https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/4027176) Voice recognition in Windows 10 | Converts spoken words into text anywhere on your PC with Windows 10. | Built-in, no installation required |

## Research, visual thinking & information management

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| [**TextHelp Research Features**](https://www.canterbury.ac.nz/media/documents/student-support/read&write-Gold-10-research-features.pdf) (Windows and Mac)  **Available on UC PCs on campus** | Search for information, extract text/ images from any application, sort information and generate automatic bibliographies | Helps in researching a topic, collecting data and images, recording source details and exporting information as a Word doc |

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| [**Inspiration**](http://www.inspiration.com/)Mind Mapping (For Windows, Mac and iOS) | Uses diagrams, images and charts to plot, plan, remember and organise information | Useful for brainstorming, capturing thoughts and ideas in the form of a chart – good for further analysis, reordering and synthesis of information |
| [**mindmaster**](https://www.edrawsoft.com/en/download.html)or [**FreeMind**](https://www.nchsoftware.com/chart/index.html?kw=freemind%20download&gclid=CjwKCAiAqqTuBRBAEiwA7B66hcLG5R8dV-1jkz2uaWOH2gphnwmdapnA9sOOfQSkYzQJY2uFb99ghxoCjT8QAvD_BwE)  (basic version free - Windows and Mac) | Uses diagrams, images and charts to plot, plan, remember and organise information | Useful for brainstorming, capturing thoughts and ideas in the form of a chart – good for further analysis, reordering and synthesis of information |

## Cloud-based technology

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| [**Google Drive**](https://www.google.com/drive/)15Gb free space | Safe, secure and instant access for sharing and collaboration, facilitates team work | Store, share and organise files, access Google Docs, Sheets, Slides and Forms, save, edit and share MS Office files, integrates with Evernote, access from anywhere on any device |
| [**Dropbox**](https://www.dropbox.com/business/landing-t61fl?_tk=sem_b_goog&_camp=1018334780&_kw=dropbox|e&_ad=389683579649|1t1|c&gclid=Cj0KCQiAn8nuBRCzARIsAJcdIfOR6lg1d8oTS2D_Ixr29pangNps6E9ST57I7mPXgGlPsKHJe1X5iCMaAguHEALw_wcB)(2Gb free space) | Safe, secure and instant access for sharing and collaboration, facilitates team work | Create, store and share Google Docs, Sheets, Slides, Microsoft Office files etc. Access on PC, mobile device or any web browser |

## Apps for mobile devices (reading, notetaking and dictation)

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| [**ClaroRead, ClaroSpeak, ClaroPDF**](https://www.clarosoftware.com/) (Windows and iOS) | Has a high-quality text to speech converter | Screen reading in sync with text highlighting, colour transformations and font settings |
| [**AudioNote**](https://luminantsoftware.com/apps/audionote-notepad-and-voice-recorder/)  (Windows, Mac iOS and Android) | Notepad and voice recorder / organise, sync information, note search, audio recording, speech-to-text, handwriting to text, integration with MS office etc | Type, handwrite, sync with audio recording, highlight during playback, draw and export notes by email |
| [**Microsoft OneNote**](https://www.onenote.com/download)(free for Windows, Mac and mobile devices) | Notepad, voice recorder, organize, sync information, note search, audio recording, speech-to-text, handwriting to text, MS office integration etc | Note-taking, audio recording, reordering info, collaborating, accessing info remotely and working across multiple platforms |
| [**Evernote**](https://evernote.com/) (free basic version Windows, Mac iOS and Android) | Notepad, voice recorder, organize, sync, note search, audio recording, speech-to-text, handwriting to text, integration MS office integration | Handy tools to type, handwrite, highlight, erase, cut, copy, delete, or reformat |
| [**Notability**](https://www.gingerlabs.com/)  (Windows, Mac iOS and Android) | Notepad and voice recorder / Organising and syncing information, note search, audio recording, speech-to-text, handwriting to text, integration with MS office etc | Note-taking with accompanying audio recording, reordering information, collaborating, accessing information remotely and working across multiple |
| [**Dragon Anywhere**](https://www.nuance.com/en-nz/dragon/dragon-anywhere.html)(mobile devices) | Easy-to-use voice activated transcription | Mobile, on the fly conversion of text to speech, five times faster than typing |
| [**Live Transcribe**](https://www.android.com/accessibility/live-transcribe/)app for android | Can transcribe speech to text in  real time & save transcript | Provides instant captioning for people who are dear or hard of hearing |

## Google Accessibility (literacy support, screen reader for Chrome & apps in Google Drive)

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| [**Read&Write for Google Chrome**](https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/readwrite-for-google-chro/inoeonmfapjbbkmdafoankkfajkcphgd?hl=en) | Quick access floating bar with multiple features | Screen reading with highlighted text, a range of powerful tools including dictionary, word-prediction, create audio notes and gather research information |
| [**Select & Speak**](https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/select-and-speak-text-to/gfjopfpjmkcfgjpogepmdjmcnihfpokn?hl=en) | Select & Speak uses iSpeech’s human-quality text-to-speech feature to read any selected text in the browser | Simply highlight text and click to start or stop. Works with wide range of languages |
| [**Google Docs**](https://www.google.com/docs/about/) | Screen reader support, voice typing, create accessible documents, iPhone and iPad accessibility | Useful tool for team work, real-time collaboration, access from anywhere and on any device through Google Drive |
| [**Google Sheets**](https://www.google.com/sheets/about/) | Screen reader support, voice typing, create accessible documents, iPhone and iPad accessibility | Useful tool for team work, real-time collaboration, access from anywhere and on any device through Google Drive |
| [**Google Slides**](https://www.google.com/slides/about/) | Screen reader support, voice typing, create accessible documents, iPhone and iPad accessibility | Useful tool for team work, real-time collaboration, access from anywhere and on any device through Google Drive |