Trends in K–12 Assistive Technology – Part 2

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Covered in Trends… Part 1:

● Trends in AT
  ○ Instructional Technology vs Assistive Technology
  ○ Accessible Digital Text
  ○ Universal Design for Learning
  ○ Common Assistive Technology Tools and Terms
    ■ Text to Speech
    ■ Speech to Text
    ■ Word Prediction

● Built in Assistive technology on the PC and Mac computers
Overview of Trends... Part 2

- Built in Assistive Technology Tools for the Chromebook and Google Work Space
  - Docs
  - Extensions
- Built in Assistive Technology for the iPad
  - Accessibility features
  - Apps
- Online accessible digital text resources
Built in Assistive Technology Tools for Chromebooks and Google Workspace
Chromebook Accessibility

Features include:

• Text-to-Speech
• Screen reader
• High contrast and magnifier
• On-screen keyboard with word prediction
Tools for Google Docs

Accessibility Tools
• Voice Typing
• Spelling and Grammar check
• Smart Compose
• Define
• Translate Document

Other Tools
• Explore (search Google and your Drive all at once)
• Word Count
• Keep Notepad
• Preferences – automatic substitutions
• Compare Documents – new
Chrome Extensions

Don Johnston

Co:Writer Universal

• Cloud-based, cross-platform functionality
• Word prediction
• Text-to-Speech
• Speech to Text

Snap and Read

• Read aloud (TTS) accessible and inaccessible text (OCR), simplify difficult vocabulary, and translate.
Chrome Extensions

Text Help

Read and Write

- Cloud-based, cross-platform functionality
- Word prediction
- Text-to-speech and speech-to-text
- Vocabulary and study skills supports
- Screen Mask
- ScreenShot Reader (OCR)
- PDF Reader (OCR)
Chrome Extensions

Speechify

- Highlight text and read

- Limited user control but offers good reading voices
Chrome Extensions

Grammarly

- Grammar and spell checker extension
- Now works within Google Docs
- Basic Free version or paid
Chrome Extensions

Screencastify

• Instantly record your browser window with this extension
• Can be used for trainings and saved to Google Drive or YouTube
• Can be used to demo lessons, for example working out math problems
Built in Assistive Technology Tools for the iPad Settings and installed Apps
What can my iOS device do?

Phones and iPads have different functionality

• Vision, hearing and touch accessibility
• Word Prediction
• Siri (STT)
• Guided Access
• Accessibility Shortcut
• Speak, Cut, Copy, Paste
• Keyboards options
• Languages include prediction
Features of NOTES app

- Annotate on a picture or picture of document
- Mark Up Tools
  - Pencil
  - Text Boxes/Onscreen Keyboard
  - Highlight
Apple Clips

- Free App for iPad and iPhone
- Live captioning
- Benefits of captioned videos:
  - Accessible for D/HH
  - Captions promote literacy
  - Increases comprehension, and memory particularly for English language learners

(Gernsbacher, 2015)
Notable iOS Apps

- CoWriter
- Read&Write
- Doodle Buddy
- SnapType
- Adobe Fill & Sign
- Claro PDF
- Kidspiration & Inspiration
- Panther Math Paper
- Speechify
- Google & Apple Suite
- AAC apps
Accessible Text Resources

Accessible Text:

- Learning Ally
  - Learning Ally Audiobooks App
- Bookshare
  - Dolphin EasyReader App
  - Capti Voice App
- Texas State Library Talking Books Program
  - BARD Mobile App
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Assistive Technology

Questions?
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References and Resources

• National Center on AEM
• CAST
• About Universal Design for Learning
• Chrome Accessibility
• Apple Accessibility
• Windows Accessibility
• TextHelp
• Don Johnston, INC