



Idak • Learning Disabilities Association of Kingston

The right to learn, the power to achieve

Introduction to Assistive Technology "Strategies and Tools" - Part 2 Fall, 2018

v6

v6

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2018-10-15

WRITING/EXPRESSIVE



What Ways Can Technology Help?

- **Listen** to words as I type them (text-to-speech)
- **Dictate** my words and turn into text (speech-to-text).
- **Predictive** typing (word suggestions to choose from)
- Check my **grammar**, find **synonyms for me**
- Get help with **spelling**: (e.g., ask Siri, dictionary and thesaurus lookup with a voice request)

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WRITING/EXPRESSIVE



What Ways Can Technology Help?

- **Listen** to work I have completed so I can "hear" where punctuation should be added.
- Use **mind maps** to create a graphical representation of my thoughts
- Export an **outline** from a mind map to start my writing
- Add (searchable) **handwriting**, and **draw** notes
- **Annotate** documents and pictures

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Word Processors

General Use



- Use standard built-in tools such as - voice dictation, speak text, define word, word prediction, limited drawing tools, Siri/Alexa assistance



• Microsoft Word (free)



• Apple Pages (free)



• Microsoft OneNote



• Apple Notes (free)

• Google Docs (free)



• FiiNote (free)

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Word Processors

Specialized Apps



Specialized tools: have some, or all, of these features:

- choice of voices/fonts/background colours/text colours
- picture dictionary
- homophone/confusables checking
- (phonetic) spell checker
- text-to-speech



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Specialized Online Word Processors



read&write

Read&Write - Adds a convenient toolbar to Google Docs to enable easy access to reading tools, such as prediction, picture dictionaries and summary highlighters. *



Enables easy entry of math symbols into Google Docs when using Read&Write. *



• **Voice Dream Reader / Voice Dream Writer** (bundle \$27.99, or \$20.99 and \$13.99)

(* \$ or Subscription service.)

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Word Processors

Specialized Apps - for Younger Writers

- customizable keyboards
- word walls
- custom vocabulary
- pictures
- word prediction
- text-to-speech



- Clicker Sentences \$44.49



- Clicker Connect \$44.99



- Clicker Docs \$44.99

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Writing Tools

- Grammar and Writing Style
- Free and \$ Apps



- Ginger Page: English Grammar Checker (\$5.49)



- Grammarly (web-based version, free)
<http://www.grammarly.com/grammar-check>

- HEMINGWAY Editor (online) free:
<http://www.hemingwayapp.com/>



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Audio Recording Tools



- AudioNote (free / \$6.99)

Some features:

- record audio,
- take notes time linked with the audio,
- skip within audio by tapping on related text



- Voice notes (free) - Android

- quickly and easily record short notes as well as important ideas and set reminders using speech recognition.

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Speech to Text Tools



- Dragon Anywhere -free trial and \$subscription



- Tap the microphone icon on any keyboard on IOS devices - then start



- Speechnotes - Speech To Text



- Chromebook: Tap on the microphone in the system tray to dictate.

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Document Annotation and Note Taking



- Notebook (free) Scan Annotate and Organize (free)



- GoodReader (\$)

- Notability (\$8.49)



- Good for sketch-noting and audio recording Note Taking with Synced Audio; has notebooks for organizational storage; good for all ages



- PDF Expert \$13.99

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Organizational: todo lists, notes, reminders



- Apple Notes

Dictate notes, read text to me with word and sentence highlighting, annotate photos and notes, make checklists, add an audio file, or create a drawing. Scan printed pages or add photos and videos. Work collaboratively with someone else.



- Google Keep



- Microsoft OneNote

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Mind Map Tools

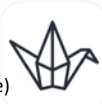


- **Popplet** (free/\$6.99)
simple to use; can share and brainstorm at same time - colour coding :)



- **Inspiration / Kidspiration Maps**
(Free/\$13.99) IOS app, also available online; can convert maps to outlines for use later in Pages app.

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- **Padlet** (Free)
-good for elementary and for sharing. Simple, device agnostic.



- **MindMeister** (Free and paid) - can export outlines to Google Docs, Chrome extension and online



- **Mindomo** (Free)

To Think About...

- Think about what's built-in on the devices you already have
- Be mindful of what needs WiFi to work, and what can work on its own
- Check out "free" first - try the "lite" versions of apps and watch YouTube video reviews to see what the app is like before you purchase
- Read a number of reviews of apps BEFORE you purchase them
- Lots of good apps out there - subscription services need to be extra good to compete and be worth the price
- Become informed about your own technology's capabilities
- Check what technology and apps are available at school - e.g., using Google or Microsoft infrastructure
- Check what devices your school will let you bring to school
- Start small - try only one or two new things at a time
- CHECK OUT PRIVACY of your online work — don't leave any identifying info; and check what kids can also see and do while there!
- Make a backup of your important work

Resources

- **Khan Academy Kids** IOS and Google Play
<https://www.khanacademy.org/>
Platform: Android, iPad, iPhone, iPod Touch, Kindle Fire, Fire phone
- **Edtech Tool** - view apps by selecting criteria and platform
<https://www.commonense.org/education/reviews/all?page=1&sort=changed&platforms=24>

- **iPad Apps for Learners with Dyslexia (2017)**
<http://www.callscotland.org.uk/downloads/posters-and-leaflets/ipad-apps-for-learners-with-dyslexia/>
- **Using the iPad to Support Dyslexia (2015)**
<http://www.callscotland.org.uk/downloads/posters-and-leaflets/using-the-ipad-to-support-dyslexia/>
- **iPad Apps for Learners with Dyscalculia/Numeracy Difficulties (2017)**
<http://www.callscotland.org.uk/downloads/posters-and-leaflets/ipad-apps-for-learners-with-dyscalculianumeracy-difficulties/>

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