Utilizing ReadSpeaker’s Suite of Learning Tools for Inclusive Teaching and Learning

Joe Messanella - Business Development
Business Development
ReadSpeaker
“When I read aloud, two senses catch the idea: first, I see what I read; second, I hear it, and therefore I can remember it better.”

- Abraham Lincoln
Inclusive teaching and learning practices are instrumental in creating and maintaining a learning environment in which all participants are fully engaged and respected.

In this session, we’ll showcase how ReadSpeaker's text-to-speech technology can benefit learners by

- turning text-based content into audio
- providing a suite of learning tools that supports inclusive teaching and UDL
- leveling the online environment for today's learners
ReadSpeaker has OVER 20 YEARS’ EXPERIENCE developing text-to-speech technologies and services to audibly read text in a synthetic yet natural, human sounding voice, entirely managed on its own technology infrastructure.
“Since we are a quality matters campus we wanted to go with a superior product, both in terms of student and faculty experience, as well as from a technology perspective. The SaaS model and the ease of installation and use of ReadSpeaker’s solutions confirmed our decision. It was an easy installation; we tested, implemented and were up and running in a matter of weeks. ReadSpeaker’s knowledgeable and readily available support team was definitely a plus.”

David Schober | Manager, User Services
Center for Online & Hybrid Learning and Instructional Technologies (COHLIT)
ReadSpeaker for Blackboard

Transforming the Learning Experience

ReadSpeaker - a Blackboard Signature Partner

ReadSpeaker is an official Blackboard partner, providing a Blackboard building block in order to integrate ReadSpeaker into the Blackboard Learn environment.

- Easy to integrate, ReadSpeaker can be used by students to read aloud course content in both HTML and document format.

- Will not read html pages uploaded as a file
  Links out to other platforms

- ReadSpeaker is available per course in Blackboard Learn, so administrators can turn on/off the listen functionality on a course-by-course basis.
Suite of Learning Tools for Blackboard

Enterprise web reading for websites and LMS
Instantly create an audio version of your web content and website with ReadSpeaker webReader

Online document reading
Make your documents accessible to more people by letting your users view and listen to them with ReadSpeaker docReader

TextAid by ReadSpeaker
Read-aloud reading, writing, and studying tool

Works on all devices/browsers
No downloading - works on the fly
The New webReader

- Html5 reader works with all devices/browsers
- Provides a download mp3 option
Word Lookups

Select a word and find its definition in the dictionary.
Text being read is displayed at the bottom of the page in large font size.
Instant translation into 12 languages
Can the player open and be controlled using a keyboard?

You can start the ReadSpeaker by using the keyboard via an accesskey. In the implementation we suggest to use "L" as accesskey.

Since the control panel is built in html, you can use tab/shift+tab to navigate in the control panel and press enter to activate a certain button or link.

How to use the accesskey depends on your browser,
- Internet Explorer: Hold down the ALT key, press the number or letter of the access key, release both keys then press ENTER.
- Firefox: Hold down both SHIFT and ALT plus the access key. There's no need to hit ENTER.
- Chrome: Hold down both SHIFT and ALT plus the access key. There's no need to hit ENTER.
- Safari on a Mac: Press the CTRL or Control key together with the number or letter of the access key. There's no need to hit ENTER.
- Opera: Pressing SHIFT and ESC together lists all access keys available on the page. You then just press the key. So to get to the home page on this site you go SHIFT ESC, release them then press 1.
A learning platform integrated with text-to-speech learning tools will be more effective and accessible than one that does not!

The presence alone of the listen icon in your website/lms will send a clear message to the Public as well as the OCR that your Campus puts a premium accessibility.
### Why ReadSpeaker text to speech for Education are being adopted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hybrid courses and online enrollments</th>
<th>40 to 60% of first-year college students require remediation</th>
<th>Bimodal presentation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Campuses are adopting ReadSpeaker to align digital content with Universal Design of Learning principles and ADA compliance.</td>
<td>Our 100% cloud based learning tools will help students focus and retain difficult material.</td>
<td>• Helps learners better understand online written content by speech-enabling and highlighting it at the same time. • Text-to-speech is proven to increase student retention, comprehension, and memory.</td>
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### Who Does ReadSpeaker Support?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accessibility Challenges</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Cognitive Difficulties</th>
<th>Language Challenges</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Off-campus students with limited access to the lab | • Readers Fatigue  
• Low Vision  
• Dyslexia  
• ADHP  
• Cognitive Disorders  
• Easily distracted  
• LD and avoiding disclosure (just a small % of LD students register with DSS) | • English Language Learners  
• First Generation Students | • Low Income  
• 1st year students needing support through that initial year  
• Non-trads who are busy holding down a job while studying |
The NCES reports that 11% of post-secondary students have a learning disability, 16% over 30, and 22% of veterans (2011)

NCLD - fewer than 1 in 20 students with disabilities identify themselves as having SLD”

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Disability Types</th>
<th>NCES%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning/ Cognitive Disabilities</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attention Deficit w/wo hyperactivity</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiological Condition</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Impairment</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobility Impairment</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard of hearing or Deaf</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traumatic Brain Injury</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blind or low vision</td>
<td>3%</td>
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</table>
TextAid Literacy Support

Reading and Writing
- Copy and paste in any text to have it read
- Listen to text in uploaded documents
- Read scanned documents and images
- One-click web-reading with the 'TextAid Web Reader'
- Have the text highlighted as you read
- Adjustable reading speed
- Read in 21 languages
- Reading ruler and screen masking help you focus on the text
- Talking Calculator reads numbers and calculations
- Customizable text display provides more comfortable reading, with different fonts including OpenDyslexic
- Have the text read back to you as you type. Includes spell check.
- Download an audio file to listen to at any time

Researching
- Translate text into 21 languages.
- Save text and documents to your personal library and retrieve it at any time
- Perform a web search on selected words or text

ReadSpeaker TextAid gives teachers extensive management and reporting tools:
- Coordinators can manage groups and users, share documents, activate/deactivate certain features, and appoint other coordinators.
- Access to full, detailed statistics for all users.

100% Web-based
AT HOME, IN THE CLASSROOM, OR ON-THE-GO, ANYTIME ACCESS ENCOURAGES CONFIDENCE-BUILDING INDEPENDENCE.
Request for Academic Accommodation

This form should be completed by the student and submitted to the Director of Disabilities Services, Widener University, One University Place, Chester PA 19013. Please note that requests for academic accommodation must be accompanied by documentation of your disability, in accordance with the applicable Widener University Guidelines for Documentation, which can be obtained from Disabilities Services’ website: (www.widener.edu/disabilitieserv/).

Student name: Joe Messanella
Student ID number: 345766
Academic program/ Major: sales
Phone and/or email contacts for student: 703 657 7801

(Rest way(s) to reach student)
Dictation
When you add something new to the LMS or campus, the campus experiences change. Your students and faculty will need to know what ReadSpeaker is and what it can do for them!

The more faculty promote the product and study it’s use, the more students will use the product to be successful. We provide:

- Flyer for posting
- Email Messaging
- LMS Support Page
- Faculty and Student Introductory Videos
- Workshop Training Tutorial PowerPoint
- VPAT ReadSpeaker Enterprise Highlighting
ReadSpeaker Support

Available for personalized assistance

Email or Phone Call
Response from Technical Support within 24 hours

Support within 24 hours
Return on Investment Data

As attrition becomes more of a focus, just by helping a few students “Stay in School” would more than pay for the ReadSpeaker subscription fees.

Online access to usage information
- Real usage!
- Allows for objective assessment of value of service
SNHU Usage

Statistics for the year 2018 showing usage statistics for different months. The chart indicates a peak in usage during the summer months (June, July, and August) and a trough during the winter months (December). The data reflects usage patterns over the course of the year, with a note that the load character count may take up to several minutes depending on the amount of data.
Texas Teachers Usage – online Teaching certification program – post Bachelor degree
### Pricing for LMS - includes docReader!

**Campus website 15% annual fees**

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<tr>
<th>Academic pricing</th>
<th>FTE (Full-Time Equivalent students)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Large online programs priced on enrollments!</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ReadSpeaker Enterprise with Highlighting and docReader</th>
<th>5,001-8,999</th>
<th>9,000-15,999</th>
<th>16,000-31,999</th>
<th>32,000-54,999</th>
<th>55,000-72,000</th>
<th>72000 +</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Students</td>
<td>$0.96</td>
<td>$0.90</td>
<td>$0.72</td>
<td>$0.60</td>
<td>$0.54</td>
<td>$0.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>price per student</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Set-Up</td>
<td>$995</td>
<td>$1,080</td>
<td>$1,728</td>
<td>$2,640</td>
<td>$3,400</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10% of annual fee</td>
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Questions?

Thank you for your time!

Contact information:

Joe Messanella
Business Development
ReadSpeaker
joe.messanella@readspeaker.com