

This learning guide is designed for use by Professional Learning Communities, learning coaches and teacher leaders or as a self-paced study to enhance and support teacher practice in learning more about how learning technologies can support student success.

Learning Technologies: Information for Teachers

This guide is intended to facilitate conversation after viewing the video, *Speech recognition in the classroom*.



General synopsis

Students and educators demonstrate how speech recognition (also known as speech-to-text or voice recognition) can convert spoken words into digitized text, allowing students to communicate ideas and information more efficiently and effectively.

Key understandings


- Speech recognition is a technology that can transfer spoken words into digitized text, allowing students to communicate ideas more efficiently and effectively.
- Effective use of speech recognition shifts the focus from the mechanics of composition to that of expression of thoughts and knowledge.
- While speech recognition allows students to freely express their thoughts and ideas without the constraints of spelling and handwriting, students still need to plan, organize, and structure their thoughts into coherent phrases and sentences.
- Making speech recognition available to all students removes the stigma for individual students who might otherwise deny themselves the support they need.
- When all students are encouraged to explore available learning technologies, individual students who may not be identified with a specific learning need may discover that the technology provides them with useful support.
- Technologies such as speech recognition are not meant to replace effective instruction. Instead, the use of technologies such as speech recognition can create an opportunity for students who struggle with writing to engage in writing instruction and composition at a more advanced level.

Questions for discussion

- In what ways does this video clip challenge or affirm what you believe/understand about writing?
- Do you have students who may benefit from the use of speech recognition? In what ways do you believe they would benefit?
- Current research tells us that there is a close relationship between students' level of engagement and their learning. What evidence of that did you see in the video clip?
- How would you respond to another educator, parent or student who objects to the use of technologies such as speech recognition because it is cheating and an excuse not to learn in the "same way that everyone else does?"



Acknowledgement:

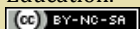
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For more information

- *Making a Difference: Meeting diverse learning needs with differentiated instruction*
Chapter 6
<http://education.alberta.ca/teachers/resources/cross/making-a-difference.aspx>
- Edyburn, Dave L.
Assistive Technology and Mild Disabilities
[https://googledrive.com/host/0BxFAYVOZ453RTEQyX1hqX2xmV1k/Day%2006%20\(weekend%20reading!\)/ATMildDisabilities.pdf](https://googledrive.com/host/0BxFAYVOZ453RTEQyX1hqX2xmV1k/Day%2006%20(weekend%20reading!)/ATMildDisabilities.pdf)
- Lee, Dr. Christopher
A Chance to Read – Access Granted (video)
<http://www.readingrockets.org/shows/launching/chance>
- Rose, David H., & Meyer, Anne
ASCD
Teaching Every Student in the Digital Age: Universal Design for Learning (2002)
<http://www.cast.org/teachingeverystudent/ideas/tes>
- Wahl, Lisa, & Duffield, Julie
WestEd
Using Flexible Technology to Meet the Needs of Diverse Learners
http://www.wested.org/online_pubs/kn-05-01.pdf

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