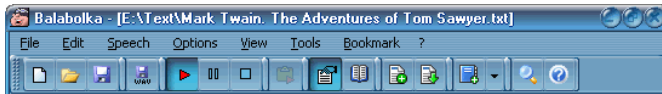


Readers: Hardware & Software



AMIS is a DAISY 2 & 3 playback software application for DTBs. Features include navigation by section, sub-section, page, and phrase; bookmarking; customize font, color; control voice rate and volume; navigation shortcuts; two views.

<http://www.daisy.org/amis?q=project/amis>



Balabolka is a text-to-speech (TTS) program. All computer voices installed on a system are available to Balabolka. On-screen text can be

saved as a WAV, MP3, OGG or WMA file. The program can read clipboard content, view text from DOC, RTF, PDF, FB2 and HTML files, customize font and background color, control reading from the system tray or by global hotkeys. It can also be run from a flash drive. <http://www.cross-plus-a.com/balabolka.htm>



BeBook offers four stand-alone e-book reader devices, from a mini model with a 5" screen to a wireless model with Wi-Fi capability. BeBook supports over 20 file formats, including Word, ePUB, PDF, Text, Mobipocket, HTML, JPG, and MP3. It has a patented Vizplex screen and 512 MB internal memory (which can store over 1,000 books) while external memory can be used with an SD card. Features include the ability to adjust fonts and font sizes, bookmarking, 9 levels of magnification with PDF sources, and menu support in 15 languages.

<http://mybebook.com/>



Blio "is a reading application that presents e-books just like the printed version, in full color ... with ...features" and allows purchased books to be used on up to 5 devices with "reading views, including text-only mode, single page, dual page, tiled pages, or 3D 'book view'" (from the web site). <http://www.blio.com/>



Book Wizard Reader by APH reads "a wide variety of types of digital talking books using [a] PC's sound card and speakers. APH's Book Wizard Reader allows [users] to read digital talking books as outlined in the specifications designed by the National Information Standards Organization (NISO) and the Digital Audio Information System (DAISY) Consortium" (from the web site). Features include phrase, local, and global navigation of a book, as well as a choice of views (depending on source structure). http://www.aph.org/products/bwr_bro.html (More information is also available at the NCAIM Center web site's AIM Products Feature Chart: http://aim.cast.org/experience/decision-making_tools/tutorials/aim_products_chart.)



Cybook by Bookeen The Cybook is available in 3 models with Wi-Fi capability, 12 font sizes, highlighting, bookmarking, portrait or landscape orientation, memory capacity 1 or 2 GB stores up to 1,000 books. The smallest model is available in 7 colors and weighs just 150 grams. The standard model comes with over 100 e-books already loaded. Supported formats: ePUB, PDF, TXT, HTML, JPG, GIF, PNG (greyscale only); one model supports MP3 format. <http://www.bookeen.com/en/>



Calibre is “an e-book library manager. It can view, convert, and catalog e-books in most of the major e-book formats. It can also talk to a few e-book reader devices. It can go out to the Internet and fetch metadata for your books. It can download newspapers and convert them into e-books for convenient reading. It is cross-platform, running on Linux, Windows, and OS X” (*from the web site*). Include books in a Calibre library by drag-and-drop or by the “add books” button. Convert documents, send e-books to reader devices, and edit preferences with one click. Calibre can also send a book via email. Supports over two dozen formats. <http://calibre-ebook.com/>



ClaroRead Plus features reading and writing assistance toolbars, text-to-speech capabilities and easy to use features that allow a user to quickly begin working with all the tools they need to be successful in today’s school and work environments. The software is closely integrated with Microsoft applications, with particular emphasis on Microsoft Word.

<http://www.enablemart.com/ClaroRead-Plus>



Classmate Reader by HumanWare is “designed to improve reading skills, developing and understanding vocabulary, while promoting phonetic recognition and fluency” (*from the web site*). The ClassMate Reader is capable of reading the NIMAS file format, as well as DAISY, mp3, wav, txt, HTML, and XML formats. Features include synchronized text and audio, highlighting, bookmarking, note-taking, and a dictionary. http://www.humanware.com/en-usa/products/learning_disabilities



CLiCK, Speak for Mozilla Firefox is an open source, freely available extension for the Firefox web browser. It is part of the CLC-4-TTS Suite of products and features a mouse-driven interface. The CLiCK, Speak extension provides text-to-speech support on all web pages. While no new information or updates have been released since 2008, it is still available for download. Ongoing support may not be available, but an installation guide, FAQs, and other resources previously developed remain available. <http://clickspeak.clcworld.net/>



Cruz Tablet by Velocity Micro from Borders has wi-fi, weighs 1 lb., a 7" screen (portrait or landscape orientation), 4GB (8GB SD card included) and uses Android OS. It's backlit screen has several levels of illumination to choose from. Reading features include 5 font sizes; touchscreen navigation; and a free application for download, organization, and use of files. The Cruz Tablet also has the capability to play background music, and comes with several games pre-installed. Supported formats: audio (MP3, AAC, WAV), video (MPEG-4, AVI, MOV), images (jpg, gif, png, bmp), and ePUB, TXT, HTML, PDB, PDF, Word, Excel.

http://www.borders.com/online/store/MediaView_cruz-tablet?cmpid=SL_20101130



Dolphin EasyReader Dolphin's web site describes EasyReader as a "software digital talking book player, allowing the user to read and listen to content through a combination of text, audio, and images" and as able to create audio using "Microsoft's 'Save As DAISY XML' Word plug-in." Features include voice, highlighting, playback volume and speed, text and background style, and magnification options. Supports Word, RTF, TXT, SVG, MathML, NIMAS, DAISY. <http://www.yourdolphin.com/productdetail.asp?id=9> (More information is also available at the NCAIM Center web site's AIM Products Feature Chart:

http://aim.cast.org/experience/decision-making_tools/tutorials/aim_products_chart.)



DSPEECH is a TTS (text-to-speech) freeware program with integrated ASR (automatic speech recognition) functionality. It is able to read aloud written text and choose sentences to be pronounced based on vocal answers of a user. It can be run from an external flash drive and can record its TTS output to an MP3 file.

<http://dimio.altervista.org/eng/>



E-Text Reader is designed to be a reading tool. It can be used for opening and reading existing documents or with content copied and pasted from any program. Pictures can be added to the text. It is an "easy to use" reader that gives users the ability to change voices, read at any speed, and to make notes in a

document being read. <http://www.readingmadeez.com/products/EtextReader.html>



gh Player 2.2 gh Player software is capable of reading DAISY, NIMAS, and txt file formats, as well as MathML. The 2.2 version includes new features such as additional navigation options, support for SVG images, and Windows Vista compatibility. Features include text highlighting with TTS, voice speed, volume, and tone control; magnification; color and style options; bookmarking and note-taking. <http://www.gh-accessibility.com/products/ghplayer> (More information is also available at the NCAIM

Center web site's AIM Products Feature Chart: http://aim.cast.org/experience/decision-making_tools/tutorials/aim_products_chart.)



GhostReader GhostReader is a multilingual speech solution for Mac OSX that allows documents to be listened to with naturally sounding voices in a language of choice. It can also be used to create podcasts or audio books by exporting to iPod ready iTunes tracks. It can be used to speak selected text in a handy reader window with play, fast forward, and rewind functionality. Text playback can be activated by pointing the cursor and GhostReader reads the text under the cursor. www.convenienceware.com



Hanlin eReader by Jinke There are 5 models of the Hanlin, which bills itself as an “e-paper reading device,” and supports over a dozen different file formats. Four of the five models offer a 6” screen while the last has a 5” screen; all offer 16-bit greyscale and paper-like e-ink display. Three of the models support multiple languages. Based on the Linux OS.
<http://www.jinke.com.cn/Compagesql/English/embedpro/index.asp>



iPad The iPad is a new kind of netbook considered as a hybrid device, with a 9.7” touch-screen (including on-screen keyboard) for use with the Internet, audio, video, email, documents, etc. Reader features include font and background adjustment, screenreader with voiceover app, mono audio option, screen magnification, and closed captioning. An iTunes account, as well as installation of iTunes software, is required. Supported formats: “.jpg, .tiff, .gif; .doc and .docx; .htm and .html; .pdf; .ppt and .pptx; .txt, .rtf; .xls and .xlsx” (from the web site). <http://www.apple.com/ipad/>



JAWS The most widely used screenreader on the market, JAWS was “developed for computer users whose vision loss prevents them from seeing screen content[.] JAWS reads aloud what’s on the PC screen” (from the web site). JAWS works with a variety of formats and applications, including Lotus Symphony and Notes, Microsoft Office Suite, MSN Messenger, WordPerfect, Adobe Acrobat Reader, DAISY, Internet Explorer, and Firefox. JAWS also offers braille output to a refreshable braille display, instead of or in combination with TTS. Other features include compatibility with dual monitor use, screen magnification, and availability in 23 languages. <http://www.freedomscientific.com/products/fs/jaws-product-page.asp>



Kindle 3 A stand-alone wireless reader with a 6” screen, the Kindle 3 has a variety of reader features, some of the most popular being TTS (when permitted by rights holder), font size, contrast, words per line, and screen orientation adjustment, and stores up to 3,500 e-books. Supported formats: “Kindle (AZW), TXT, PDF, Audible (Audible Enhanced [AA, AAX]), MP3, unprotected MOBI, PRC” and can also be made to support “HTML, DOC, JPEG, GIF, PNG, [and] BMP through conversion” (from the web site). <http://www.amazon.com/Kindle-Wireless-Reader-Wifi-Graphite/dp/B002Y27P3M>



Kindle DX A stand-alone wireless reader with a 9.7" screen, the Kindle DX version includes 3G network capability, and has almost the same features as the Kindle 3 (TTS [when premitted by rights holder], font size, contrast, words per line, and screen orientation adjustment, and stores up to 3,500 e-books). Supported formats: "Kindle (AZW), PDF, TXT, Audible (formats 4, Audible Enhanced [AAX]), MP3, unprotected MOBI, PRC" and can also be made to support "HTML, DOC, RTF, JPEG, GIF, PNG, [and] BMP through conversion" (*from the web site*). [http://www.amazon.com/Kindle-](http://www.amazon.com/Kindle-DX-Wireless-Reader-3G-Global/dp/B002GYWHSQ)

[DX-Wireless-Reader-3G-Global/dp/B002GYWHSQ](http://www.amazon.com/Kindle-DX-Wireless-Reader-3G-Global/dp/B002GYWHSQ)



Kobo Wireless eReader from Borders has built-in wi-fi, a weight of less than 8 oz., a 6" screen, 4-direction touchpad, and 1GB memory (can be extended to 4GB with SD card). Comes in four colors (black, white, silver, and lavender) and has a 'quilted' design on the back for a different feel when holding the device. Reading features include a choice of fonts and 5 font sizes; sort by title, author, date last read, etc.; bookmarking; and standard navigation features (page by page, chapter by chapter, book by book). Add books to the Kobo by downloading them from your computer via Borders' free desktop application. (The Kobo's acquisition and transfer methods mirror those of other reader

companies, where an account, a free application, and a computer are required.) Supported formats are not specified, but are listed as "e-books, PDFs, newspapers, and magazines" (*from the web site*).

http://www.borders.com/online/store/MediaView_kobowifi?cmpid=SL_20101130



Kurzweil Educational Systems

Kurzweil makes three different accessibility products. Kurzweil 1000 is reading software that makes printed or electronic text accessible to people who are blind. It converts a PC and scanner into an advanced

reading machine. Kurzweil 3000 a "reading, writing and learning software" with a variety of tools and smaller applications built in, and includes TTS in English and Spanish, voice speed and tone control, highlighting, note-taking, as well as other components such as a picture dictionary, translator, templates, and access to web-based content. Supported formats include HTML, NIMAS, DAISY 2 & 3, MathML, PDF. Version 12 offers online licensing (traditional and hybrid also available).

<http://www.kurzweiledu.com/default.html> (More information is also available at the NCAIM Center web site's AIM Products Feature Chart: http://aim.cast.org/experience/decision-making_tools/tutorials/aim_products_chart.)



Microsoft Reader (with Text-to-Speech) boasts accessibility features that are bringing e-books to more communities and providing a richer on-screen reading experience with additional TTS and Verbosity functionality. To

enable Microsoft Reader to take advantage of existing speech technologies, it is necessary to install the new Microsoft Reader Text-to-Speech (TTS) Package 1.0. This enhances texts with highlighting, bookmarks, notes, and drawings, and it is possible to view annotations and re-name or erase any of them at any time. [Activate Microsoft Reader](#) on a desktop and mobile devices and take the e-reading library anywhere. Create your own e-books from Microsoft Word documents using the [Read in Microsoft Reader add-in](#) for Microsoft Word 2000 and higher. www.microsoft.com/reader



Microsoft Word Using the macro capabilities of Microsoft Word, it is possible to add a “Speak Text” toolbar to that application.

For specific instructions, see http://www.gmayor.com/word_text_to_speech.htm.



Mobipocket Reader is software for e-books that works with a variety of hand-held devices, such as PDAs, cell phones, smart phones, and e-book readers; as well as PCs, Macs, and Linux. Mobipocket

features differ depending on support offered by the device using the software, but can include highlighting, note-taking, bookmarking, categorization, export, conversion. Many Mobipocket-provided e-books include a biography of their author.

<http://www.mobipocket.com/en/HomePage/default.asp?Language=EN>



NaturalReader 10.0/2.0 NaturalReader freeware reads selected text in HTML, Word, RTF, text, PDF formats. Version 10.0 is for Windows and version 2.0 is for Macs. Features of the free version include a floating toolbar that can be used with Word, Outlook, PowerPoint, and Explorer; adjustable voice speed with two voices.

<http://www.naturalreaders.com/download.htm>



nook is a stand-alone wireless reader measuring 7.7” x 4.9” with either Wi-Fi or 3G network capability that includes 6 font sizes, expandable memory, grayscale image upload option, note-taking, text highlighting, TTS, MP3 audio, margin touch-screen. Supported formats: “ePUB (including non- or Adobe DRM), PDB, PDF, JPG, GIF, PNG, BMP, MP3” (from the web site).

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/nook/features/techspecs/?cds2Pid=35878>



nook color is a stand-alone wireless reader measuring 8.1” x 5.0” with a 7” touch-screen and Wi-Fi capability. Features include 6 font sizes, font style options, background color options, line and margin spacing options, expandable memory, full color images, video, and games; screenreader, MP3 audio. Supported formats: “ePUB (including non- or Adobe DRM), PDF, XLS, DOC, PPT, PPS, TXT, DOCM, XLSM, PPTM, PPSX, PPSM, DOCX, XLX, PPTX, JPG, GIF, PNG, BMP, AAC, MP3, MP4” (from the web site).

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/nookcolor/features/techspecs/?cds2Pid=35878>



NVDA (NonVisual Desktop Access) is “a free and open source screen reader for the Microsoft Windows operating system. Providing feedback via synthetic speech and Braille, it enables blind or vision impaired people to access computers running Windows for no more cost than a sighted person. Major features include support for over 20 languages and the ability to run entirely from a USB drive with no installation” (from the web site). Supported formats: web browsers, email clients, internet chat

programs, and office suites including WordPad, Notepad, Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Outlook Express, Word, Excel, and free office suite Open Office. <http://www.nvda-project.org/>



PDF Equalizer ML can open and read aloud any version of a PDF file. The built-in NOTES function allows note-taking and notes can be “synchronized” with the relevant PDF page. PDF Equalizer also has a built-in text-to-MP3 audio converter and a talking dictionary.

<http://www.readingmadeez.com/products/PDFEqualizer.html>



ReadHear Mac is DTB player software for Macs by gh. Features include keyboard shortcuts, highlighting, bookmarking, continuous audio (enabling use of another program simultaneously), library, dictionary, and spell-check. Supported formats: text, NIMAS, DAISY 2 and 3, MathML, and SVG. http://www.gh-accessibility.com/products/readhear_mac



READ:OutLoud Read:OutLoud is a component of Solo software that is capable of importing and reading files in the following formats: NIMAS, txt, rtf, pdf, HTML, and XML. Features include text-to-speech, highlighting, a built-in browser, templates, and a dictionary. http://www.donjohnston.com/products/read_outloud/ (More information is also available at the NCAIM Center web site’s AIM Products Feature Chart: http://aim.cast.org/experience/decision-making_tools/tutorials/aim_products_chart.)



ReadPlease

ReadPlease 2003 “Reads any text you see on your screen—all-purpose text-to-speech software” (*from the web site*). Works with Windows OS. Use by copying and pasting text from Word, RTF, or text documents. Features of the free version include change of font size and background color and

adjustable voice speed with three Microsoft voices. A simple program, its advantage is its ease of use. www.readplease.com



Read&Write GOLD is software designed to help K–12 students with reading, writing, research, and test-taking. Features include TTS, two-color highlighting, and other components including a dictionary, pronunciation tutor, a customizable toolbar, speech input, a speech-enabled calculator, and word predictor. Works with Word, text, PDF, DAISY, and NIMAS formats. text <http://www.texthelp.com/> (More information is also available at the NCAIM Center web site’s AIM Products Feature Chart: http://aim.cast.org/experience/decision-making_tools/tutorials/aim_products_chart.)



Sony Reader Touch Edition PRS-350 Sony’s 2010 reader has touch-screen navigation combined with an e-ink paper-like screen with greyscale color/image display and a 5" display. Memory capacity of 2 GB allows storage of up to 1,200 books. Features include highlighting, note-taking, two dictionaries, and five translator dictionaries. The device itself is available in two colors. No wireless capability and comes without an AC adaptor (transfer files via USB port). Portrait or landscape screen orientation. Supported formats: ePUB, PDF, BBeB, text, RTF, JPG, PNG, GIF, BMP. See the [Sony PRS-350](#)

web page for more information.



Stanza is a free application for iPhone, iPad, and iPod Touch. Download any of over 100,000 books and periodicals from Lexcycle's online catalogue. Works with iTunes or Calibre software for transfer between device and a Mac or PC. Features include bookmarking, font size and color options, portrait or landscape view, and formatting options such as justification, line spacing, and hyphenation. Stanza has built-in support for English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, Russian, Danish, Portuguese, and Swedish. Supported formats: text, ePUB, DjVu, Comic Book Archive (both CBR & CBZ), eReader, PDF files. <http://www.lexcycle.com/>



Text Reader 1.2 opens plain text files and then exports them either to AIFF files or directly to an iTunes playlist (optionally encoding them with iTunes' default preferences). Adjust rate and pitch of speech of an AIFF file as it is saved. <http://www.codepoetry.net/projects/textreader/>



TextSpeech Pro 1.0 TextSpeech Pro reads books, documents, emails with a choice of natural human voices. Reads any document (PDF, Word, HTML, text, XML, etc.) aloud, and includes Cepstral voices (as an included or optional component to the software). Synthesize speech from text and use the high-quality voices (Deluxe version) in most Mac OS X applications. Export text to a variety of audio file formats (Deluxe version). <http://www.textspeechpro.com/>



UniversalReader Plus

is a very easy-to-use reading utility. It works with virtually any application. Use it to read email, Word documents, and web pages. Select content to be read, click on the floating toolbar, and it starts to read. It takes about two minutes to install and even less time to learn how to use.

<http://www.readingmadeez.com/products/UniversalReaderPlus.html>



Window-Eyes screenreader is "a leading software application for the blind and visually impaired, which converts components of the Windows operating system into synthesized speech allowing for complete and total access to Windows based computer systems" (*from the web site*). Works with Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Outlook, HTML, text, PDF, flash; supports braille display. Features include ten voices; remote access; beginner, intermediate, and advanced menu levels; ability to read text under a mouse pointer as it moves; and more. <http://www.gwmicro.com/Window-Eyes/>



WordTalk 4.2 is a free plug-in developed for use with all versions of Microsoft Word (from Word 97 on), which can help people with reading difficulties use Microsoft Word more effectively.

<http://www.wordtalk.org.uk/Home/>



WYNN is a literacy software tool designed to enhance success for individuals with reading challenges and writing difficulties. By using a bi-modal approach—simultaneous highlighting of the text as it is spoken—WYNN transforms printed text into understandable information that benefits readers of all ages. There are two versions of the tool, WYNN Wizard and WYNN Reader. WYNN Wizard, the premier product, includes optical character recognition (OCR), the ability to scan printed pages and convert them into electronic text. Speech synthesis enables this scanned text to be read aloud. WYNN Wizard can read word processing documents, PDF files, text files, and the Internet. WYNN Reader includes all features of WYNN Wizard except OCR. www.freedomscientific.com/LSG/products/wynn.asp