

Comparison of Text/Screen Readers

Program	Platform	Cost	File Type Read	Voice Choice	Start within text	Highlight as read	Demo online	Other Features
Read and Write	Win	\$249	Any, except pdf	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Choice of characters to read with voice balloon or text box. Speak while writing. Word prediction. Talking spell check. Talking thesaurus.
Type & Talk	Mac	\$169	Own, txt	No	Yes	No	Yes	Word prediction, spell check joined words, missing letters, 1 extra letter
CAST eReader	Win Mac	\$199	Clipboard, rtf, txt	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Vary reading chunks. Browser for automatic reading of web pages. Bookmark place.
ReadPlease 2000	Win	Free	Clipboard, txt, rtf	Yes	No	Yes	N/A	ReadPlease NetPro \$49.95 with many features of other readers
ZoomText Xtra	Win	\$595	Any, except pdf formatting lost	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Enlarges screen up to 16x, can speak all text that cursor passes over
Write: Out Loud	Win Mac	\$99	Own, txt, clipboard	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Contains Franklin spell checker and dictionary
IntelliTalk II	Win Mac	\$100	Own, clipboard	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Insert graphics, on-screen palettes as word banks or prompts, create worksheets using locked text, Mac-Win compatibility
TextAloud MP3	Win	\$20	Clipboard, txt	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Records text as wav or mp3 for later listening.
JAWS	Win	\$795	Any, except pdf	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Reads all text on screen, including title of each window as it is opened.
Scan and Read Lite	Win	\$90	tx, doc, html and rtf	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Scans and reads. Magnify up to 400%
WYNN 2*	Win	\$399, \$995 w/OCR	Any, but formatting lost in text view	Yes	No	Yes	Yes* May conflict w/other readers.	Change spacing of words/lines. Double highlighting. 'Mask out' other text. Vary reading chunks. Study tool bar: dictionary, thesaurus, highlighting, notetaking (text or voice), create word lists from highlighted words. Scanned pages retain original layout.
Kurzweil 3000	Win/ Mac	\$1095/ \$1995 b&w/c	Any, except pdf	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Accurate copy of text page scanned, no editing needed. Add bookmarks, notes (text and voice). Double highlighting.

Note: pdf is format for Acrobat Reader files.; txt file retains all text, but no formatting; rtf file retains formatting and can be opened by most word processors.

Websites

Read and Write: (Type & Talk)	http://www.texthelp.com/
CAST eReader:	http://www.cast.org/tools/teachingtoolsreader.html
Read Please 2000:	http://readplease.com/
Zoom Text Xtra:	http://www.aisquared.com
Write: Out Loud:	http://www.donjohnston.com/catalog/catalog.htm
Intellitalk II:	http://www.intellitools.com/
TextAloud MP3:	http://www.nextuptech.com/TextAloud/
Scan and Read	http://www.premier-programming.com/
JAWS:	http://www.hj.com/JAWS/JAWS.html
WYNN 2:	http://www.wynn.arkenstone.org/
Kurzweil 3000:	http://www.lhsl.com/kurzweil3000

Please Note: This is **not** a complete list of text readers available, or an endorsement of any reader over another. Each program has its own strengths and weaknesses, each exceptional child has specific needs, and every school has a different software budget.

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