

Technology supports that you can explore for a more exciting and dynamic learning experience

	Support Category	Software/Platform	Function	Features	Benefits
1	Reading / Immersive reading (comprehension, reviewing, memory retention, conversion to audio format)	 1) Text to Speech Button - Microsoft Word (built-in)	Reads out text on the computer screen	This TTS button is a hidden add-on feature that can be accessed from the down arrow on the Quick Access Tool Bar over the Ribbon. Reads selected text in a Word document	It is easy to use and offers instant voicing of text that is created or copy/pasted into a Word document. It requires only a simple addition from Word Options: More Commands add-on menu
		 2) Immersive Reader (Text-to-Speech) – Office 365 Word, OneNote, Outlook etc		Text to Speech, Speed control, Font size, Font spacing, Reads math aloud	Sustains attention, improves comprehension, improves word recognition, dyslexia support
		 3) VoiceOver - Mac (built-in)		Built in text-to-speech reader with support for refreshable Braille display	VoiceOver voices all the keyboard/trackpad actions like reading content on the screen, describing screen elements, selecting menu options and providing complete control of your Mac
		 4) NVDA (free for Windows)		Supports MS Office programs including Word, Excel, also web browsers, email, mouse hover audio, supports refreshable Braille displays	Free, direct installation on PC or run from a USB stick, supports Windows command prompt and console applications. Built-in speech synthesiser with extra voices
		 5) Natural Reader (basic version free for Windows, Mac, mobile devices)		Text-to-Speech or text to audio conversion from MS Word, PDF files, Webpages, e-books into speech/audio. Syncs with smart devices	Increases ability to read with ease. On-screen reading includes highlighting, colour contrast, font adjustment etc. Helps analyse, understand, retain information and convert text into audio format to listen anywhere anytime
		 6) Balabolka Text-to-Speech portable app (free for windows)		Screen reader, save text as audio, can work from a USB stick	Converts text into WAV, MP3, WMA and others. Download preferred voices for TTS. Portable on a USB stick
		 7) DSpeech Text-to-Speech portable app (free for Windows)		Screen reader, save text as audio, can work from a USB stick	Converts text into WAV, MP3, WMA and others. Download preferred voices for TTS. Portable on a USB stick
		 8) TextHelp Reading Features (Windows, Mac, Google Chrome, mobile devices)		Screen reading, screen masking, word and picture dictionary, homophones translation	One-click access to online dictionaries, screen reading, understanding confusable words and translating text
2	Writing (spelling, grammar, punctuation, word- prediction etc)	 1) Grammarly for effective writing(free for Windows, Google Chrome)	Improves writing skills	Checks grammar, spelling, punctuation, spacing, sentence structure	Helps write English more effectively and to a higher standard. Constantly learning and improving language
		 2) Ginger (basic version free for Windows and mobile devices)		Contextual spelling and grammar check, word prediction, personal trainer and text reader	Helps write English with correct grammar and spelling. Advanced version offers instant proofreading, rephrasing of sentences and personal trainer helps to learn from mistakes
		 3) TextHelp Writing Feaures (Windows, Mac and mobile devices)		Spelling, word prediction, dictionary, verb checker , fact finder, scanning, screen masking and speech options	Provides alternative word options, definitions, similar sounding words are explained and has a translation tool too

	Support Category	Software/Platform	Function	Features	Benefits
3	Voice Recognition / Speech-to-Text / Hands-free word processing (from RSI to learning disabilities)	 1) Dragon Naturally Speaking (Windows, Mac and mobile devices)	Converts Speech-to-text	Voice driven, hands-free word processing, responds to verbal commands with Microsoft Office suite	Fast and accurate transcription of live as well as recorded speech. Creates, edits and formats documents
		 2) Voice Typing in Google Docs		Voice driven, hands-free creation of text	Free voice recognition and transcription feature. Works in Desktop version of Chrome and only in Google Docs
		 3) Live Transcribe app for android		Can transcribe speech to text in real time & save transcript	Provides instant captioning for people who are deaf or hard of hearing
		 4) TalkTyper with Google Chrome - Windows only		Online conversion of dictation into text	Text can be edited, saved, translated, emailed, printed, tweeted
		 5) Text-to-Speech in Windows 10 Voice recognition in Windows 10		Converts spoken words into text anywhere on your PC with Windows 10	Built-in, no installation required
4	Research, visual thinking & information management	 1) TextHelp Research Features (Windows and Mac)	Collects facts, revises information	Search for information, extract text/ images from any application, sort information and generate automatic bibliographies	Helps in researching a topic, collecting data and images, recording source details and exporting information as a Word doc
		 2) Inspiration Mind Mapping (For Windows, Mac and iOS)	Draws and reorders concepts	Uses diagrams, images and charts to plot, plan, remember and organise information	Useful for brainstorming, capturing thoughts and ideas in the form of a chart – good for further analysis, reordering and synthesis of information
		 3) mindmaster or FreeMind (basic version free - Windows and Mac)			
5	Cloud-based technology	 1) Google Drive 15Gb free space	Cloud service to store, create and synchronise files	Safe, secure and instant access for sharing and collaboration, facilitates team work	Store, share and organise files, access Google Docs, Sheets, Slides and Forms, save, edit and share MS Office files, integrates with Evernote, access from anywhere on any device
		 2) Dropbox (2Gb free space)			

Apps for mobile devices					
6	Reading	 ClaroRead, ClaroSpeak, ClaroPDF (Windows and iOS)	Reads aloud electronic text	Has a high-quality text to speech converter	Screen reading in sync with text highlighting, colour transformations and font settings
7	Notetaking	 1) AudioNote (Windows, Mac iOS and Android)	Takes notes & organises information	Notepad and voice recorder / Organising and syncing information, note search, audio recording, speech-to-text, handwriting to text, integration with MS office etc	Type, handwrite, sync with audio recording, highlight during playback, draw and export notes by email
		 2) Microsoft OneNote (free for Windows, Mac and mobile devices)			Note-taking, audio recording, reordering information, collaborating, accessing information remotely and working across multiple platforms
		 3) Evernote (free basic version Windows, Mac iOS and Android)			Handy tools to type, handwrite, highlight, erase, cut, copy, delete, or reformat

Apps for mobile devices					
		 4) Notability (Windows, Mac iOS and Android)			Note-taking with accompanying audio recording, reordering information, collaborating, accessing information remotely and working across multiple
8	Dictation	 Dragon Anywhere (mobile devices)	Converts speech into text	Easy-to-use voice activated transcription	Mobile, on the fly conversion of text to speech, five times faster than typing

Google Accessibility					
9	Literacy support	 Read&Write for Google	Writing, reading & research	Quick access floating bar with multiple features	Screen reading with highlighted text, a range of powerful tools including dictionary, word-prediction, create audio notes and gather research information
10	Screen reader for Chrome	 Select & Speak	Screen reader for Chrome browser	Select & Speak uses iSpeech's human-quality text-to-speech feature to read any selected text in the browser	Simply highlight text and click to start or stop. Works with wide range of languages
11	Apps in Drive	 1) Google Docs  2) Google Sheets  3) Google Slides	Create, edit, share & collaborate Create, edit, share & collaborate Create, edit, share & collaborate	Screen reader support, voice typing, create accessible documents, iPhone and iPad accessibility	Useful tool for team work, real-time collaboration, access from anywhere and on any device through Google Drive

Students can install Text Help on any UC PC from the Software Centre found in the Start Menu.