

# Access Technology Update




***A monthly resource designed to help you reach diverse students  
in your classroom.***

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**Topic:** Accessing Microsoft Narrator on a PC (Windows 7)

**Why It Is Important:** Microsoft Narrator will enable learners to hear MS Word documents—and other computer windows and messages—read out loud, thus potentially increasing their comprehension.

**How to Do It:** To Read a Document with Microsoft Narrator:

- 1) Open MS Word document
- 2) Go to Start Menu > Control Panel > Ease of Access Center  Start Narrator
- 3) Click on Start Narrator
- 4) Use one of the following keyboard shortcuts:
  - Insert + F6 Read the current paragraph
  - Insert + F8 Read the current document
  - Ctrl Stop Narrator from reading

NOTE: From the Microsoft Narrator settings window, you can:

- Change voice settings
- Have Microsoft Narrator Echo user's keystrokes

**Definition Du Jour:**

*Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA):*

A comprehensive Federal law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in employment, telecommunications, public services, public accommodations and services .

**Source:**

[www.washington.edu/doi](http://www.washington.edu/doi)

## Technology in the News:

Neuroscientists at Baylor College of Medicine are working on developing a vest that will transmit sounds to the brains of Deaf persons. The project is called Versatile Extra-Sensory Transducer (VEST). **Source:** [www.kickstarter.com](http://www.kickstarter.com)

## Amazing Apps:

### *MyScript Calculator*

- Enables learners to write out math problems without using a keyboard
- Learners can write basic operations, powers, roots, brackets, trig., logarithms, and constants

This app is free via iTunes

## How to Increase the Text-Size on a iPhone

- Tap Settings > Display & Brightness > Text Size
- Slide the dot to the right on the bar

Note: Within Display & Brightness menu, turn on Bold Text to further enhance textual layout

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## Links to Learning:

Khan Academy

[www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org)

*A storehouse of videos and interactive exercises on various subjects*