How can Text To Speech (TTS) software help writing and reviewing work?

1 Hearing your typed text read aloud can help identify errors, awkward phrasing, and grammatical mistakes that may be missed during silent proof-reading. Silent proof-reading is particularly challenging for many people with reading difficulties or who may be easily distracted.

The most popular writing tool is Microsoft Word, and Sensory Readable integrates with Microsoft Office and Windows to provide enhanced accessibility and text to speech functions. When writing in Word, Mail, Outlook, Notes, WordPad, Office 365, Edge browser and more, Readable can speak from a range of high-quality UK voices. You can quickly select text to speak, "click and play" or speak sections of text under the mouse cursor. It is also possible to convert a document to MP3 file for later review on your PC or phone.
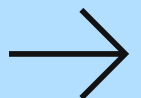
2 Listening to your own writing being read aloud can provide valuable feedback. Writers can assess the flow, and overall structure of their work more effectively, leading to revisions that could enhance readability and comprehension.

Sensory Readable has a novel visual tracking method called "underline highlight" that is synchronised with the speech. This means you can track the position in the document that is being spoken, allowing editing to be done quickly and precisely. Stop the speech, make the changes, press play to continue speech.

3 TTS can highlight instances of "wordiness", redundancy, or repetition in writing. By listening to the text, writers can identify and revise areas where language can be streamlined and made more concise.

Sensory Readable can help improve the overall quality of written work through independent working. Readable is your digital proof-reader.

A S S E S S O R   I N F O R M A T I O N   S H E E T

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4 Text to speech is especially important for reviewing important written work created by speech dictation software, which can introduce word errors due to acoustic and speech quality reasons

Sensory Readable provides responsive text to speech of the text created with dictation speech recognition tools, such as Microsoft Word speech dictation or Dragon dictation. This allows for quick identification and correction of mis-recognised words created during the speech recognition process.

5 Listening to text being read aloud can help writers maintain focus and concentration, particularly during long writing sessions. This can lead to increased productivity and better writing outcomes.

Many people can read but struggle with focus, concentration, fatigue or visual issues. Sensory Readable text to speech can assist, as can the included Sensory Ruler and Tint tools. Ruler is an enhanced screen ruler allowing for focus on the current section of a document. Tint can change the screen display colours, including a mono and night-time mode, as well as containing helpful settings for colour vision difficulties.

6 Text To Speech can provide assistance during the use of word processor tools such as spellcheck, grammar check, dictionary and thesaurus.

Sensory Readable is an enhanced accessibility tool integrated with Microsoft Windows. You can hear all suggestions by the Microsoft Word spell check, grammar check, thesaurus, dictionary, Co-Pilot suggestions, file names and more. Readable will also work with many other software packages that support Windows accessibility methods.

ASSESSOR INFORMATION SHEET

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