



Reading Revolution: A Closer Look at some AT Reading Solutions

Martha Rust
Tools for Life
www.gatfl.org

www.amacusg.org

Agenda

- Tools for Life Overview
- A Look at E-Text
- A Look at Portable Readers
- A Look at Audiobooks
- A Look at Scanning Software
- A few Apps

AMAC

AMAC Accessibility is a social change organization on a mission to create affordable services for governmental, private and non-profits organization working with individuals with disabilities. Services include e-text, braille, captioning, assistive technology, office management software and consulting.





Accessibility Made Smart

AMAC creates practical solutions that work, with a focus on utility, ease of use, and high quality.

- **Accessibility Consulting** focuses on organizational accessibility needs with evaluation, technical assistance, customer support, and website accessibility solutions.
- **Braille Services** produces customized projects from both print materials and electronic text including partial books and chapters or graphics only using cutting-edge technology.
- **Captioning Services** makes classrooms, meetings, labs and other audio environments fully accessible for deaf or hard-of-hearing.
- **Professional E-Text Producers** provide high-quality e-text in many formats such as PDF, DOC, DAISY, and HTML.
- **Certified Assistive Technology team** provides on-site and remote assessments, demonstrations, training and technical assistance for education, work, and daily living environments.

For more information, please visit our website at www.amacusg.org

Tools for Life Mission

We're here to help Georgians with disabilities gain access to and acquisition of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services so they can live, learn, work, and play independently in the communities of their choice.



Tools for Life

Georgia's Federal AT Act Program

- TFL developed Georgia's Plan for AT
- We serve individuals of all ages & all disabilities in Georgia
 - Over 50,000 thru various activities throughout the year
- TFL Network
 - Assistive Technology Resource Centers
 - Lending Libraries
 - Training and Demonstrations
 - AT Reuse
 - AT Funding Education/Assistance and Resources
- Online Resources
 - www.gatfl.org - 12,000 unique visitors a month

Iowa Program for Assistive Technology

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The Iowa Program for Assistive Technology (IPAT) helps Iowans find out about and get the assistive technology (AT) they need as part of their daily lives to learn, work, play, and participate in community life safely and independently.

IPAT serves Iowans of all ages with all types of disabilities, including persons who are aging.

AT includes items that individuals use to assist them in daily activities, such as canes, wheelchairs, communication devices, hearing aids, keyboard alternatives, learning software and vision aids.

Go to our [Services](#) page to learn more about what IPAT has to offer or see the links to the left.

The Iowa Program for Assistive Technology is funded under the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, as amended by the U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration. IPAT, the statewide assistive technology program for Iowans, is a program of Iowa's University Center for Excellence on Disabilities.





Iowa Program for Assistive Technology
Center for Disabilities and Development

100 Hawkins Drive

Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1011

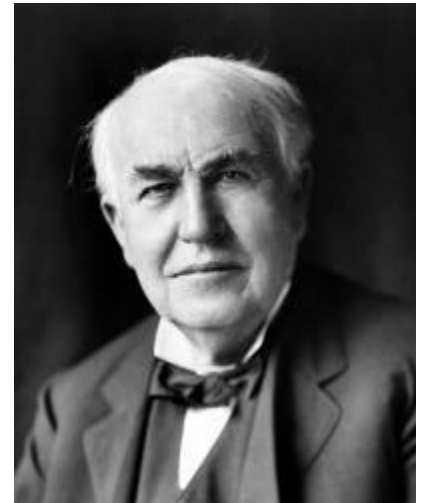
Phone: 800-779-2001

Email: IPAT@uiowa.edu



*Books will soon be obsolete in schools.
Scholars will soon be instructed through the
eye.*

-Thomas Edison



What We Know

- Test Scores influence key decisions in education
 - Common Core Standards
- Accommodations are usually after the fact
- Accommodations are:
 - Intended to reduce or eliminate the effects of a student's disability
 - Do not reduce learning expectations
 - Level playing field, not provide undue advantages



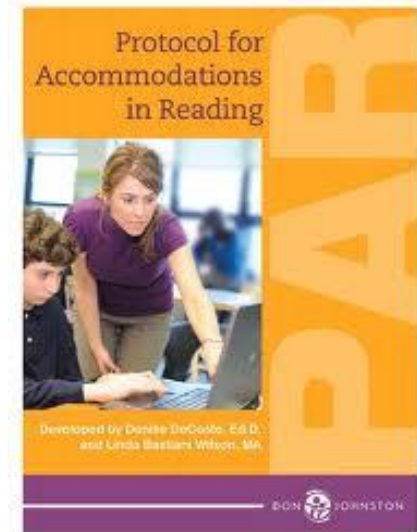
- Majority of students with Learning Disabilities have reading disabilities
 - (Shaywitz, 2003)
- Even as they progress and get older, students with learning disabilities may read more accurately with more automaticity however are likely to remain slow readers and benefit from extra time
 - (Gregg, Mather, Shaywitz, 2003)

Research

- Research show that having items read aloud can improve fluency and comprehension
- Text Readers
 - Increase word recognition, speed of reading and comprehension
 - Increase the amount read, reduce distractibility
 - (Hecker, Burns, Elkind, Elkind, and Katz, 2002)

PAR: Protocol for Accommodations for Reading

- Don Johnston
- Assist with accommodations for reading
- 3 Steps
 - 1) Student's Oral Reading
 - 2) Adult Reader
 - 3) Text Reader
- How did the student like?
- Help with adding in AT for reading solutions



Do you remember these?



Benjamin Innes for The New York Times (Source: Blackwell History of Education Museum, Northern Illinois University)





Ray Kurzweil

Optical Character Recognition
Text-to-Speech Synthesis
Speech Recognition technology
First Reading Machine (1974)
Kurzweil KNFB Reader (2009)



What is E-Text?

- Any text-based information that is available in a digitally encoded human-readable format
- Can be read by electronic means
- May be an electronic edition of a work originally composed or published in other media, or may be created in electronic form originally

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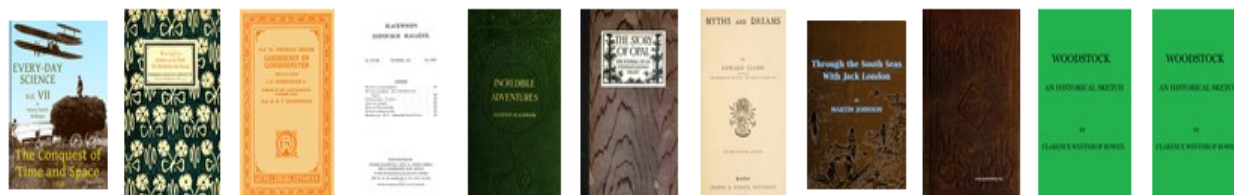
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 - http://download.cnet.com/E-Text-Reader-IGT/3000-2279_4-10285673.html
- Text2Speech
 - <http://www.text2speech.org/>

Portable Readers

What is DAISY?

- Digital Accessible Information System
 - At its conception A used to mean Audio
- Digital Talking Book (DTB) specification for accessible digital textbooks
- Internationally recognized accessible multi-media publishing system, compatible with the World Wide Web
- <http://www.daisy.org/publications/docs/20070315155100/intro-article1.html>

BookSense

- Compact and portable DAISY reader
- Compatible with a wide range of audio format
- Built-in text to speech engine to read a variety of documents
- Ability to record notes
- Listen to books and music on the go
- \$299
- <http://www.hims-inc.com/products/booksense/>



Victor Reader Stream (new generation)

- Handheld media player by Humanware
- Plays DAISY books, MP3, MP4, EPUB
- Records voice and media
- Two built-in, human-sounding voices
- Built-in wireless networking capability
- \$369



Reading Pens

- Scans text,
- Hear it spoken aloud
- Obtains definitions and correct pronunciation within seconds
- Variety of types
 - Wizcom
 - IRISPen
 - PenPower
 - Video Touch Pen by MoralRegion



AnyBook Anywhere

- Use to record your voice reading the story
- 200 hours of recording
- Works with any book
- Store recordings on a virtual library
- Share collections with friends
- \$79.99
- www.franklin.com



Mobile Tablets/ eReaders

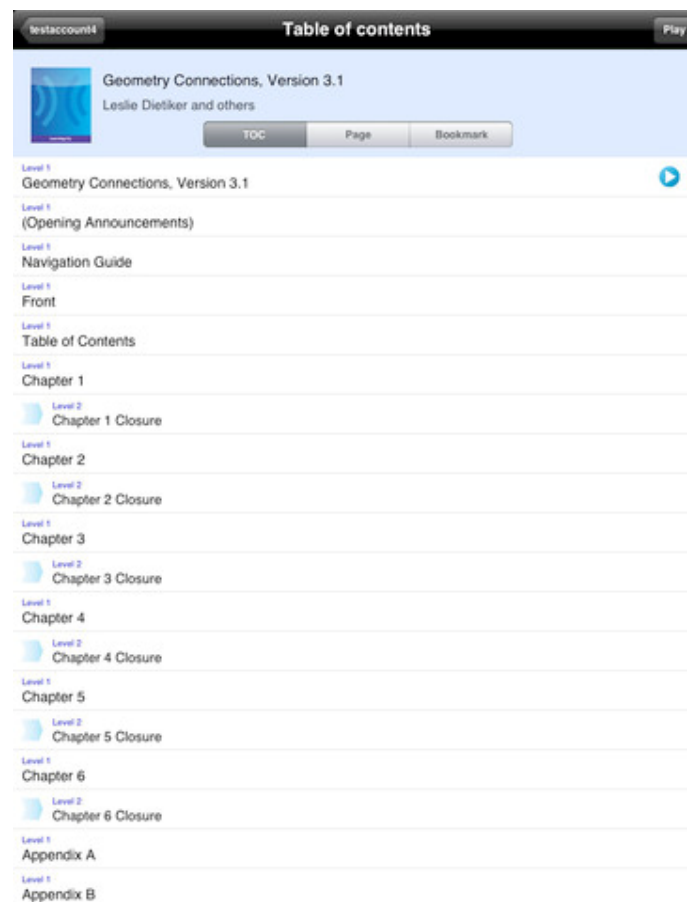
- What do I need?
- Does it read out loud?
- Do I need Apps?
- Change colors?
- Change line spacing?
- Textbooks?
- Fun Reading?



Audiobooks

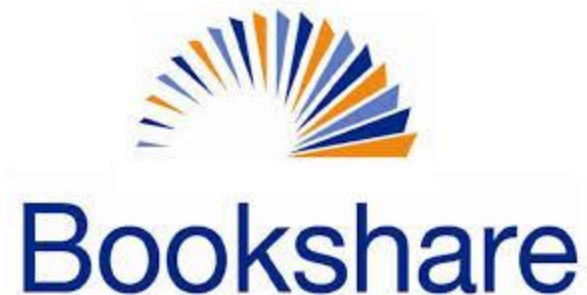
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This project is supported by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (Cooperative Agreement #H327K070001). Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the position of the U.S. Department of Education.

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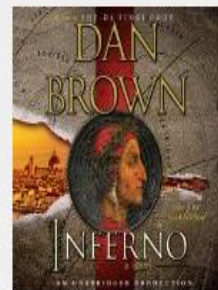
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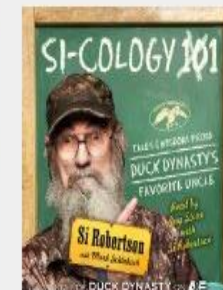
Divergent



Inferno: A Novel



The Fault in Our Stars



Si-cology 1: Tales and
Wisdom from ...

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- Customer Cathryn Mazer

"I did not realize that you would have so many audio books I would enjoy"

- Customer Sharon Morrison

Scanning Software

What is OCR?

- Optical Character Recognition
- Enables to convert different types of documents, such as scanned paper documents, PDF files or images captured by a digital camera into editable and searchable data
- Makes it easier for screen readers

Kurzweil 3000

- Text-to-Speech software
- Helps improve reading speed and comprehension
- Note taking capabilities
 - Different color highlighters
- firefly
 - Access many features of Kurzweil through the internet
 - [firefly demo](#)
- Free download trial
 - www.kurzweiledu.com
 - [Kurzweil 3000 Demo](#)

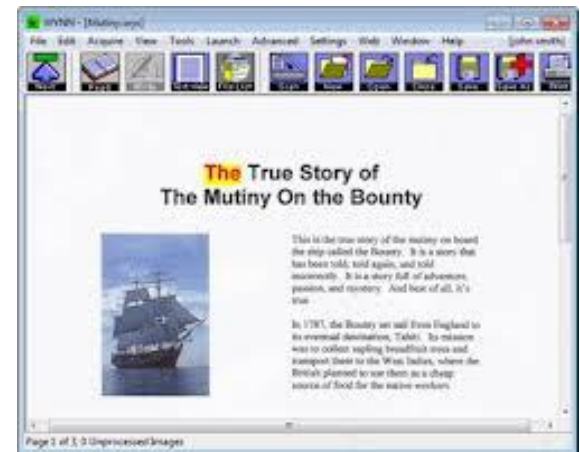
TextHelp

- Text-to- Speech software
- Helps improves reading skills
- Built in text and picture dictionaries
- Study skills highlighter
- Has a Google Chrom version
- www.texthelp.com



WYNN

- What You Need Now
- Internet Features
- Freedom Scientific
- Scanning and Reading software
- Highlights text as spoken
- Icon friendly
- Built in study tools



Premier Software

- www.readingmadeeZ.com
- Read documents in standard file formats such as Microsoft Word, Rich Text, text file format, HTML, and PDF
- Converted to audio files for use on a CD or MP3 player
- Scan and read documents
- Look up a word or definition in the integrated dictionary
- Create study notes and much more!



Premier Features

- PDF Equalizer
- E-Text Reader
- Universal Reader Plus
- Scan and Read Pro
- Talking Word Processor
- PDF Magic Pro
- Text-to-Audio
- Ultimate Talking Dictionary
- Talking Calculator
- Premier Predictor Pro

Reading Software

Snap&Read

- Don Johnston
- Accessible toolbar that reads any text on-screen
- Floats over any application
- One-button interface reads both accessible and inaccessible text aloud
- Reads Flash websites, Word docs, PDFs, web-based tests
- \$129.99



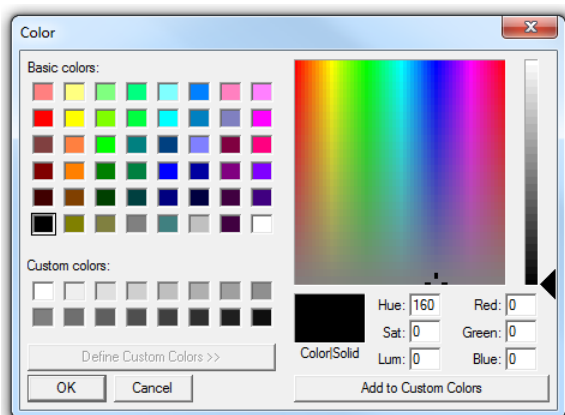
ClaroRead

- Reads text as it highlights
- Moveable tool bar
- Can read doc, PDFs, internet, and more
- 6.2 version
 - In Europe
 - Can save directly to iTunes
 - Create a video
- Can change highlighting colors
- www.claroread.com

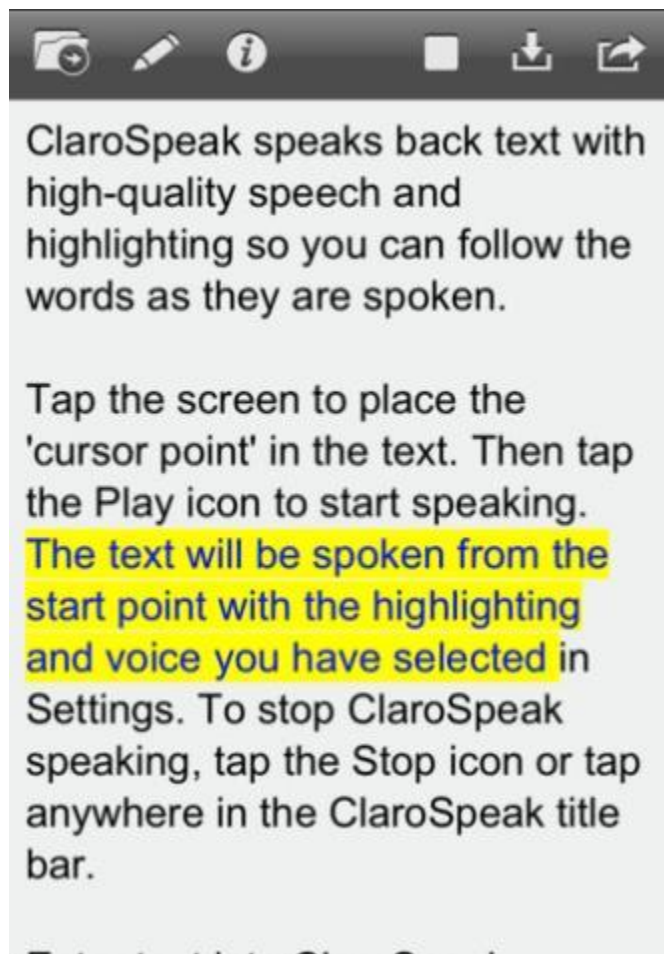


ClaroView

- easy to use software application that can assist certain PC users
- make browsing and reading easier
- work with any piece of software, as it acts as an overlay on the PC screen
- [Demo](#)



ClaroSpeak US



- Text-to-Speech
 - import documents and PDFs into ClaroSpeak from apps such as Mail, or import PDF, Word, Pages and other files directly from Dropbox using
- Change font and color
- Save text as an audio file
- Visual Tracking
- Send Text

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Tools for Life and the TFL Network work collaboratively together to accomplish our mission through:

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- [AT Evaluations and Assessments](#)
- [AT Funding Options & Education](#)
- [Access to the TFL AT Lending Libraries](#)
- [AT & Durable Medical Equipment Reuse](#)
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June 3 - 6, 2013
Epworth by the Sea, St Simons Island

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... Living, Learning, Working, and Playing.

AT ONLINE EXCHANGE



gTRADE [gTRADE, Georgia's Online
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encourages members to offer AT and DME for sale or donation to others who may benefit from using technology unneeded by others.

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Zimbra: Inbox

Tools for Life

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Georgia Tech

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i-prompt

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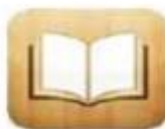
Dragon

Dragon Dictation is an easy-to-use voice recognition application powered by Dragon

Learning, Cognition, and Developmental iOS



5 stars by 1 users



iBooks

iBooks includes the iBookstore, where you can download the latest best-selling books or your favorite classics

Learning, Cognition, and Developmental iOS

No Ratings



Say Text

SayText reads out loud the text in the image. It is intended for the visually impaired users. SayText is a free spin off product from the DocScanner team.

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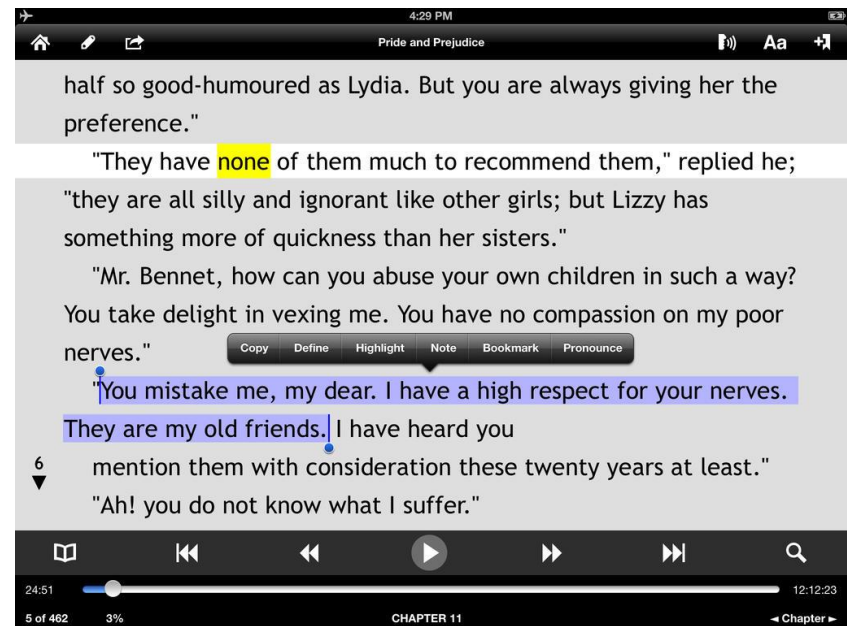
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Voice Dream



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- Import
 - Bookshare
 - Dropbox
 - Gutenberg
 - Word Doc
 - PDFs
- Buy different voices
- Change rate of speed

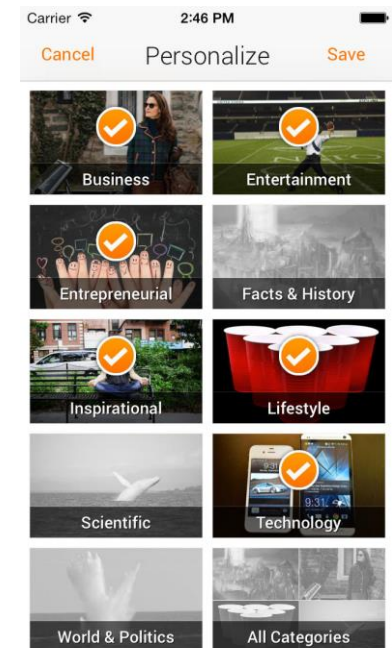
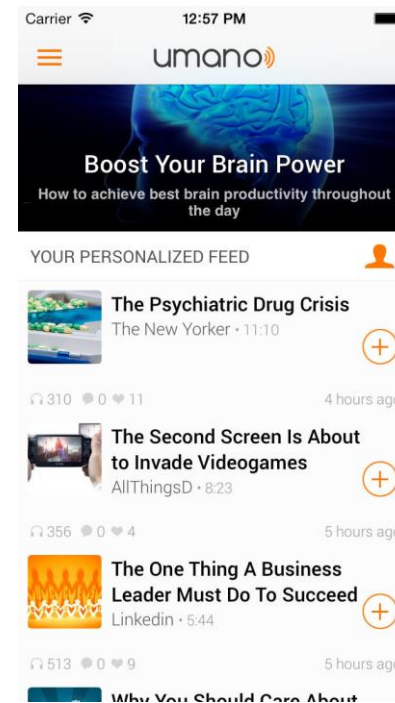
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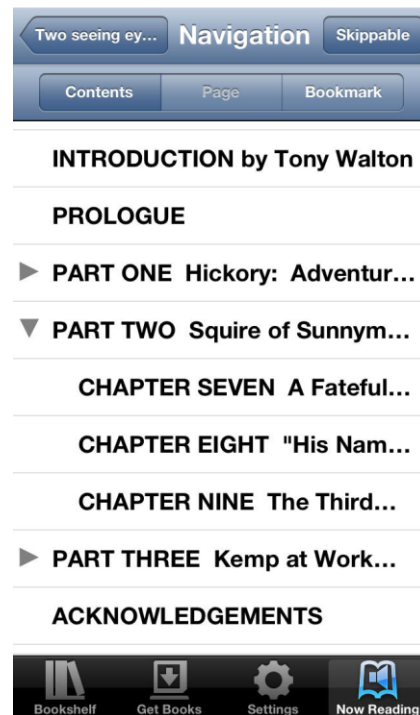
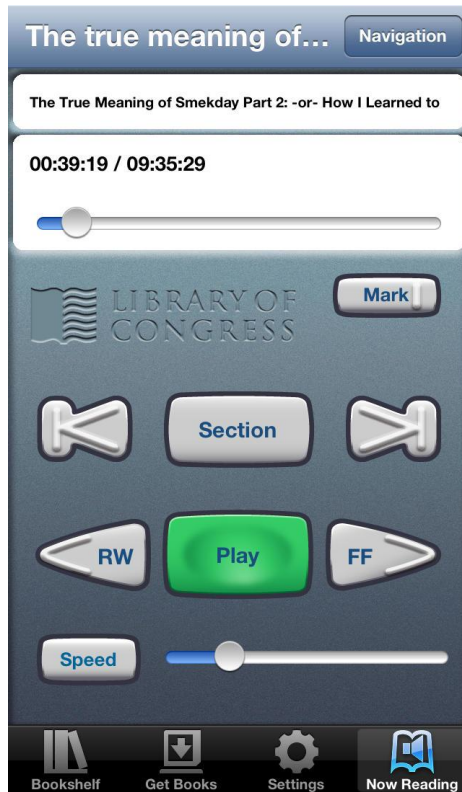
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- Free



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- Must be registered
- Settings
- Can use with braille display
- <http://www.loc.gov/nls/find.html>
- Free



**Our Question to You:
What have You Learned today?**

Contact

Martha Rust

AT Specialist

Martha.Rust@gatfl.gatech.edu

Disclaimer

This presentation is produced by Tools for Life which is a result of the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, as amended in 2004. It is a program of the Georgia Institute of Technology, College of Architecture [COA], AMAC and is funded by grant #H224C030009 of the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), Department of Education. The contents of this presentation were developed under a grant from the Department of Education. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, Georgia Tech, COA or AMAC and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal government.