

Make Your Content Talk

ReadSpeaker text-to-speech solutions give a voice to your learning management solutions.

Session Objectives

After this session, you will be able to:

- Explain why students may want to use text-to-speech technology
- Describe to your students how to use the ReadSpeaker Listen button within Blackboard
- Construct an effective plan to inform your students about the many uses of this text-to-speech technology within their learning environment

ReadSpeaker Advantages (Slide 1)

- Can be accessed from any internet-connected device and browser
- Seamless one-time implementation via building block into the Blackboard LMS for an easy, straightforward learner experience
- Reading of HTML content and documents
- All documents automatically have ReadSpeaker docReader capability

ReadSpeaker Advantages (Slide 2)

- Uses the Blackboard language setting to detect language; can read in different languages (if licensed)
- Ability to turn functionality on and off per course
- Anytime you or an instructor change course content, these changes are automatically and instantly reflected in the audio

ReadSpeaker Advantages (Slide 3)

- Listen offline, if made available by educational institution
- Enlarge Text, Simple View, and the Page Mask tools all help distracted Readers
- Customize your settings including Open Dyslexic font, background/text colors, etc.
- The ReadSpeaker support team is available to assist with any questions or concerns during and after implementation

Specific Benefits of Bimodal Content Presentation

- Improved word recognition skills and vocabulary
- Improved reading comprehension, fluency, accuracy, and concentration
- Improved information recall and learning/memory enhancement
- Increased motivation and more positive attitude with regard to reading
- Increased reading self-confidence and perceived performance

How to Use ReadSpeaker Text to Speech

How does it work?

Listen to the content on a page

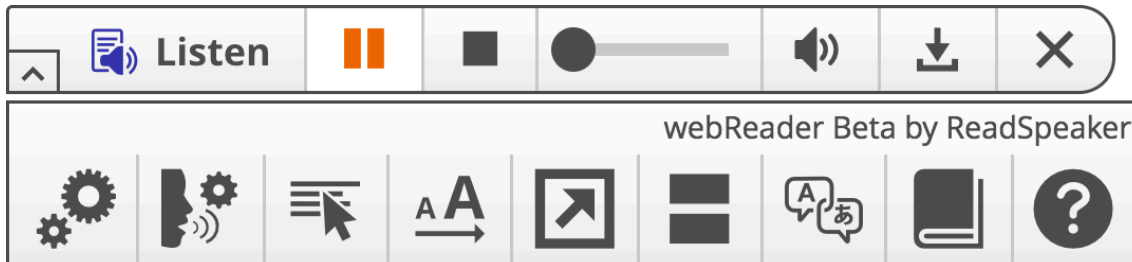
- Click the webReader activation tab to open the player:



- Then click the Listen button to listen to the content:



- The player expands and you can select the tool from either toolbar as shown below:



The Tools

Top Toolbar


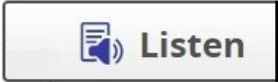

- Pause/restart the reading
- Stop the reading
- Use the Seek tool to navigate within the audio
- Adjust the volume
- Click the download icon to download the audio file (if activated in Blackboard)
- Close the player

Lower Toolbar

- Customize your settings
- Change voices (if available)
- Read on Hover
- Enlarge Text
- Simple View
- Page Mask
- Translation
- Word Lookup
- Help

How does it work?

Listen to a document in Content using ReadSpeaker docReader

- Click the ReadSpeaker docReader icon next to the document to open it in ReadSpeaker docReader. 
- Then click the ReadSpeaker docReader Listen button to listen to the selected page. 
- Click More tools to access the lower toolbar. 
- Click the ReadSpeaker docReader Help button for an extensive docReader user manual. 