Using Dictation to Support Students that Struggle with Writing

January 14, 2020
3:00pm-3:30pm
Alignment with State Priorities

Georgia’s Systems of Continuous Improvement

Special Education Division Priorities:

IEP Development and Implementation
Non-Endorsement Statement
Georgia Department of Education

The Georgia Department of Education does not endorse any non-Georgia Department of Education websites or products contained within these pages or through external hyperlinks. These webpages and documents provide only a sampling of available resources and in no way should be considered an exhaustive list of available resources. It is at the discretion of individual districts and schools to determine appropriate resources to serve stakeholders.
We Should be Reducing Barriers to Learning

What can we provide for the student, so they are challenged and supported?

When the barrier is known, we can be flexible in the method to achieve the learning goal.

Student (ability and needs)  The Barrier  Student Outcomes

I learned that ......

or
“Studies of Middle and High school students with learning disabilities have shown that input via speech is less challenging and that students frequently generate papers that are longer and better-quality using speech recognition technologies.”

National Center for Technology Innovation 2010
How can “Speech to Text” help with Writing?

“Speech to Text” can be helpful for students with dysgraphia, dyslexia and other learning and thinking differences that impact their writing.
When should we Try the Speech to Text option?

When writing is a barrier to task completion.

What is the goal of the lesson?
How can the student show what they know?
How can “Speech to Text” help with Writing?

• “Text to Speech” can help students with motor skill issues and it can help them write more comfortably and accurately. This includes students who have trouble typing on the keyboard.

• “Text to Speech” can help students with poor handwriting and they can use the dictation function to create text that's easier for others to read.
How can “Speech to Text” help with Writing?

- For students that struggle with spelling, they can say a word or sound it out and then see how it's spelled on the screen.

- For students who think faster than they can write by hand or type on the keyboard can now more easily get all their thoughts into words and on the paper.
Examples

Google Voice Typing
Dictation in Microsoft PowerPoint

Start here:
I click dictate so now I can start to talk and I could add my bullet points if I wanted right here in my PowerPoint screen so here is another way to use dictation that could be helpful to you it may be might be tired or late at the end of the night or if you’re having students do powerpoints they can also use dictation to get their point across.!
So it even knows some of those things so I’m going to go back to my PowerPoint

In a text box
Place your cursor “Home Ribbon” click the Dictate Microphone
Start talking

Don’t type. Talk.
Dictation in Outlook

Paule Gumpman, EdS
Program Specialist
Division for Special Education Services and Supports
Georgia Department of Education
1870 Twin Towers East
205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive, SE
Atlanta, GA 30334
678-340-8118 - Cell
pgumpman@doe.k12.ga.us
www.gadoe.org
Dictation in Microsoft Word
“Speech to Text” Challenges

- All students specifically students with disabilities will need to become familiar and comfortable using speech to text.
- Educators need to be aware that speaking and writing are two different activities. These activities require different skill sets and students must be aware of the difference between the two. This may be a challenge for early writers who have not yet made that distinction. Using speech to text may make it more difficult for younger students to begin differentiating between writing and speaking. It is crucial that the use of speech to text be paired with instruction on writing strategies, brainstorming, drafting, and organization.
- Speech to text isn’t perfect and it may not be the best choice for all students with disabilities, but it does have some benefits for certain students that make it worth the time and investment.

“What are some of the barriers that teachers and or students face when using technology in the classroom?

Please make a comment in GoToWebinar “Questions Section” of the user panel
Supports Differentiation

Differentiation means tailoring instruction to meet individual needs. Whether teachers differentiate content, process, products, or the learning environment, the use of ongoing assessment and flexible grouping makes this a successful approach to instruction.

What does the student need to have access to the content and to be able to show what they have learned?
Top 10 Assistive Technology Supports for Every Classroom

• Using the technology/AT that is currently in the classroom
• Text to Speech (TTS)
• Audiobooks and/or Digital Books
• Speech to Text (Dictation)
• Built in Accessibility Options
  • PC - Ease of Access
  • Mac Book - Accessibility Options
  • Mobile Devices – Accessibility Options
• Graphic Organizers
• Using Extensions and/or Add-ons with internet browsers
• Mobile Devices
• Visual Supports (classroom and/or behavior management)
• Closed Captioning
Contact Information

Georgia Department of Education
Division for Special Education
Services and Supports

Paula Gumpman, Program Specialist
pgumpman@doe.k12.ga.us