

Digital Text Options

Type of Resource	Description	Benefits	Limitations	Resources
Creating your own text	Creating digital texts from various resources such as adapting text books or web articles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can create with familiar software • Highly customizable and flexible. • Often times software is already owned or free option is available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can be time and labor intensive • Copyright concerns • Relies on customized accessibility planning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PowerPoint + PowerTalk, fullmeasure.co.uk/powerstalk • MS Word and Word Talk, wordtalk.org.uk • Tarheel Reader, www.tarheelreader.org • Bookbuilder, bookbuilder.cast.org
Scanning your own text	Using an optical scanner to convert paper based texts to a digital format.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enables the conversion of print based texts to a digital format. • May already own the paper text. • Robust software can be used to both scan and access the text. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can be time and labor intensive • Can produce imperfect results • Software can be expensive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kurzweil 3000, www.kurzweiledu.com • Read and Write Gold, www.texthelp.com
Digital texts on the Internet	Using web content such as an article that is already in a digital format.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Often times web based texts and articles are free. • Already in a digital format. • Newest search tools make finding resources easier 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formatting may be relatively fixed (ex. series of web pages) • Key content such as textbooks may not be available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wikipedia, www.wikipedia.org • Scholastic News, www2.scholastic.com/browse/scholasticNews.jsp • National Geographic Kids, www.kids.nationalgeographic.com
Digital texts in consumer formats	Using software or web based tools to download and access books.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texts are available on software that is widely available and free • Inclusion factors • Some accessibility features are built into the platforms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited accessibility features at times • Many texts cost money and have limitations on sharing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kindle, https://kindle.amazon.com • iBooks, apple.com/ipad/built-in-apps/ibooks.html • Nook, barnesandnoble.com/nook
Digital text repository	Provides texts that are open to the public or are provided to individuals with qualifying disabilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A large amount of texts are available • Texts can be obtained quickly • Some repositories are free or free for individuals with qualifying disabilities • Flexible formats • Free software available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bureaucracy of signing up to participate in repository • Often times pictures/ photos are excluded from these formats 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bookshare, www.bookshare.org • Project Gutenberg, www.gutenberg.org • The Accessible Book Collection, www.accessiblebookcollection.org