

Assistive Technology to Support Writing

ACTU Team

What is Writing?



WRITING IS A COMPLEX TASK THAT INVOLVES MOTOR (HANDWRITING), COGNITIVE (CREATING & COMPOSING WRITTEN MATERIAL) AND LANGUAGE SKILLS.



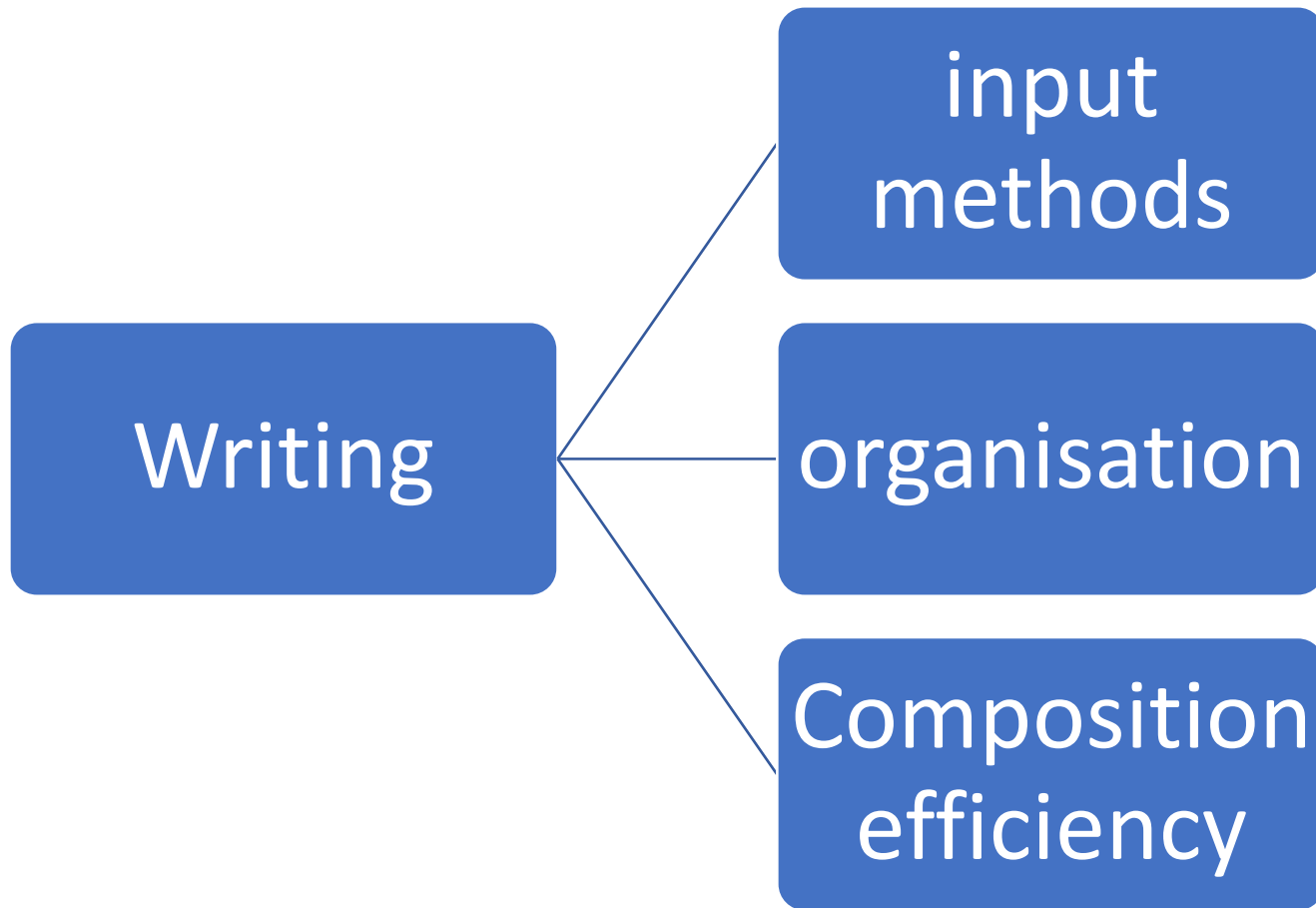
WRITING/TEXT/PRINT IS A WAY TO CONVEY A MEANINGFUL MESSAGE.



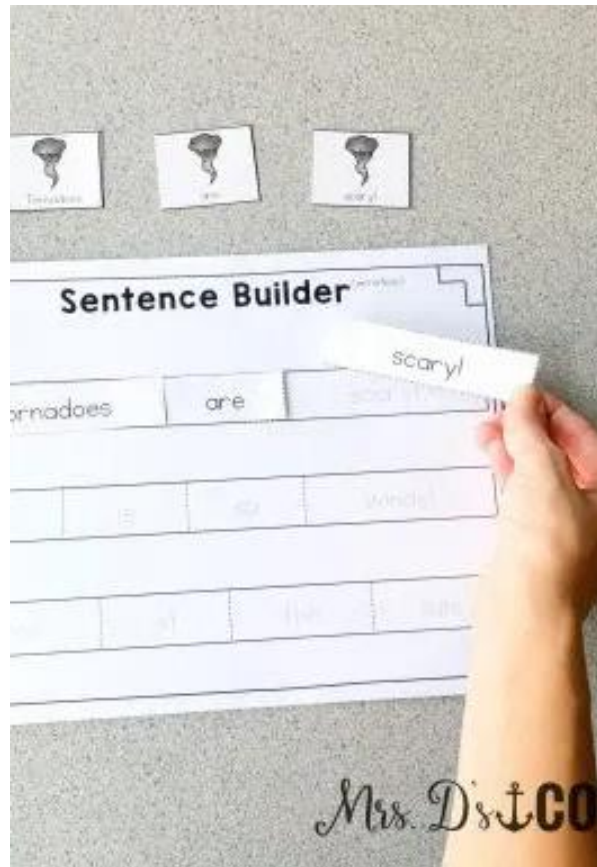
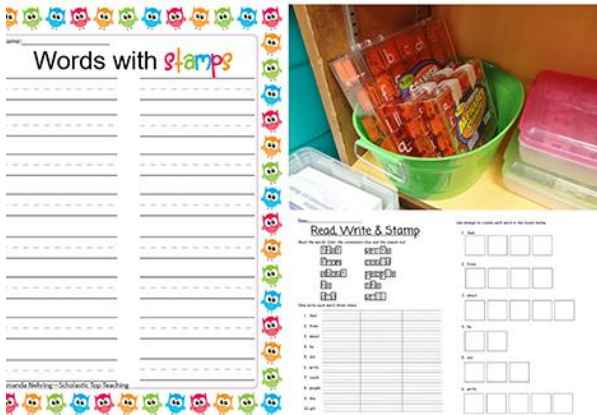
WRITING/TEXT/PRINT IS A CODE FOR SPEECH AND THEREFORE A WAY TO COMMUNICATE.



WRITING SUPPORTS CHILDREN'S EARLY LITERACY DEVELOPMENT.







Alternative "pencil": to address motor challenges

Alternative "pencil": Touch Access



Accessibility Features: Touchscreen

While the most direct access method Touch can prove problematic for some users.

- [Assistive Touch](#) (iOS)
([Android](#))
- [Touch Accommodations](#)
(iOS)
- [Touch & Hold Delay](#)
(Android)





Alternative "pencil":
Keyboards

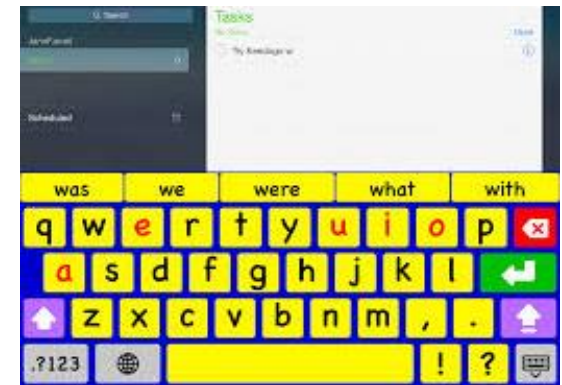


Keeble

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/keeble/id918497054>



Swiftkey (android and ios)



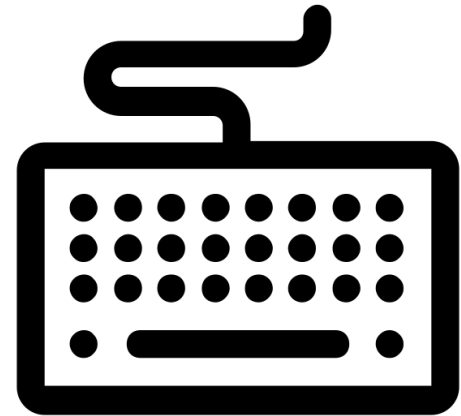
Keedego Plus

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/keedego-plus/id918496636>

Alternative "pencil":
On-screen Keyboards

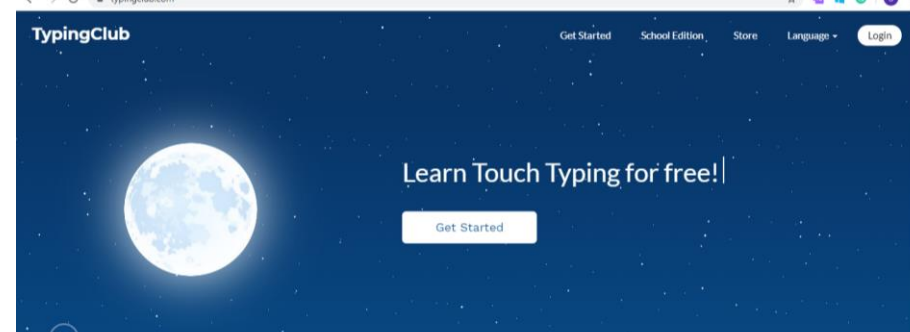
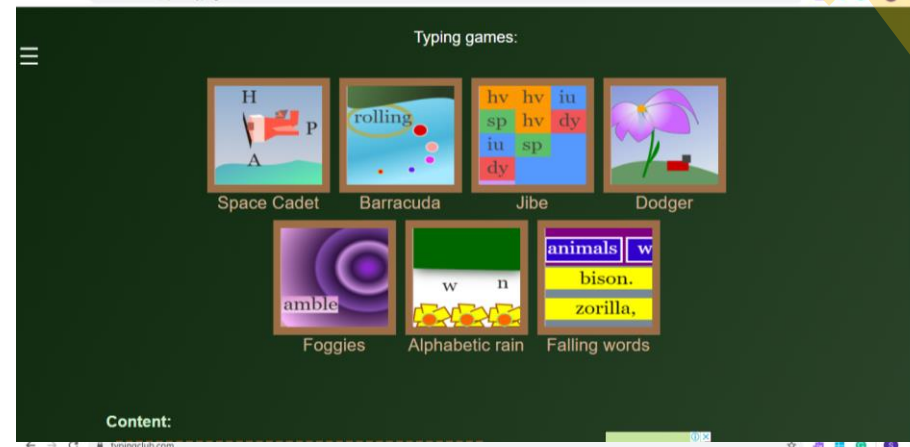
Accessibility Features: Keyboard

- **StickyKeys** - generate combination key presses by pressing the keys one at a time, rather than all together.
- **Filter Keys** (Windows) and **Slow Keys** (Mac OS) can help prevent many keyboard errors by adjusting the rate keys repeat when held down and ignoring rapid, repeated keypresses of the same key.
- **MouseKeys** lets you control the pointer using the keys on the numeric keypad rather than the mouse.
- [Windows Settings](#) & [MacOS Settings](#)



Touch-typing programs

- BBC- Dance Mat Typing
- Power typing
- Typingclub



Alternative Mice

Track Balls



Joy Sticks



Ergonomics - Vertical



Laptop Touchpad



Alternative Mice

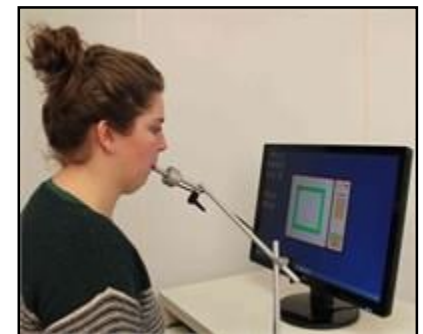
Head Access



Mouth
Access



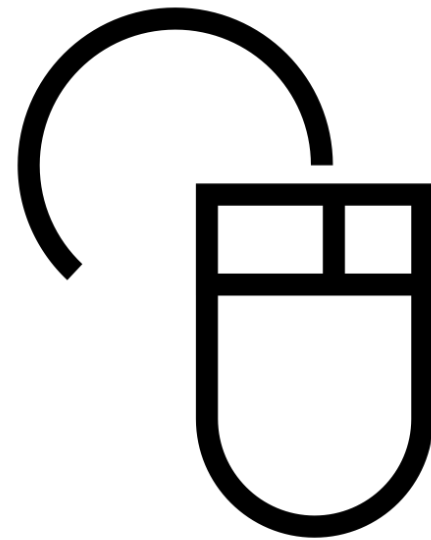
Eye Tracking



The Mouse

In both [Windows](#) and [Mac OS settings](#) on the mouse or touchpad can be adjusted so that it is much easier to use

- Switching Buttons
- Changing Double Click Speed
- Scroll Speed
- Sensitivity – Pointer speed
- Snap to (Windows)
- Dwell (Mac OS)

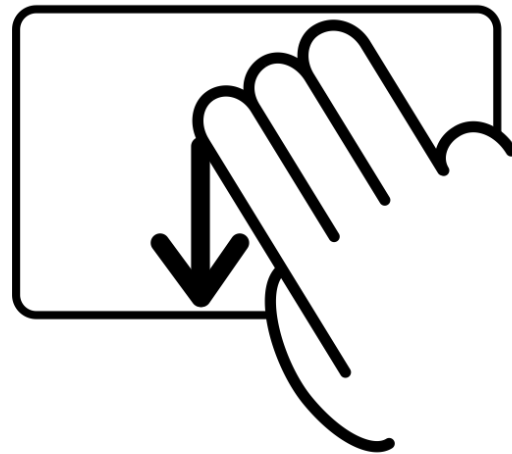


The Trackpad

In addition to the Mouse settings on the previous slide the trackpad can also be configured for gestures.

Trackpad (inbuilt or external) is a good option for those with limited range of motion (ROM).

- [Trackpad Gestures in Windows 10](#)
- [Trackpad options in Mac OS](#)



Speech Recognition for Text Production

Useful for everyone, dictating to produce text requires some effort initially, once mastered it is the most efficient means of text production.

- [Dictation](#) – limit of 30/40 Seconds, internet connection (iOS, MacOS)
- [Enhanced Dictation](#) – (iOS 9 iPhone 6(S), MacOS)
- [Windows Speech Recognition](#)
- [Dictate plugin](#) in Microsoft Office 365 for Word, Outlook and PowerPoint; Onenote
- [Google Docs](#) (Chrome)
- Gboard ([Android](#), [iOS](#))



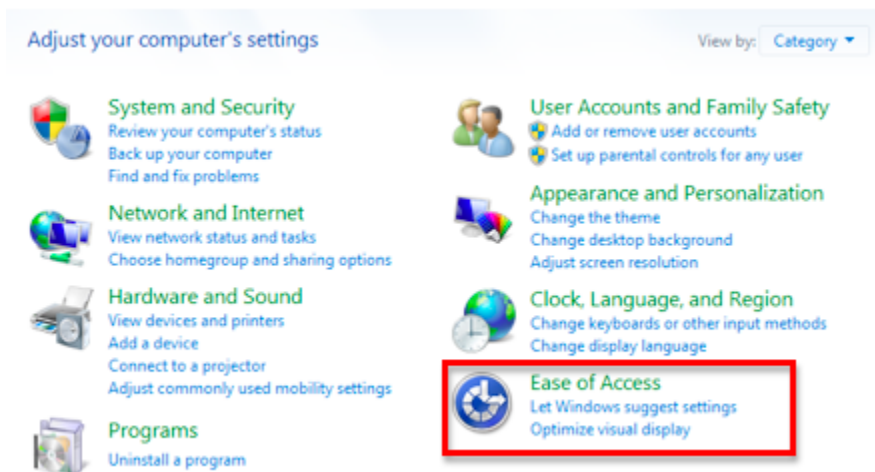
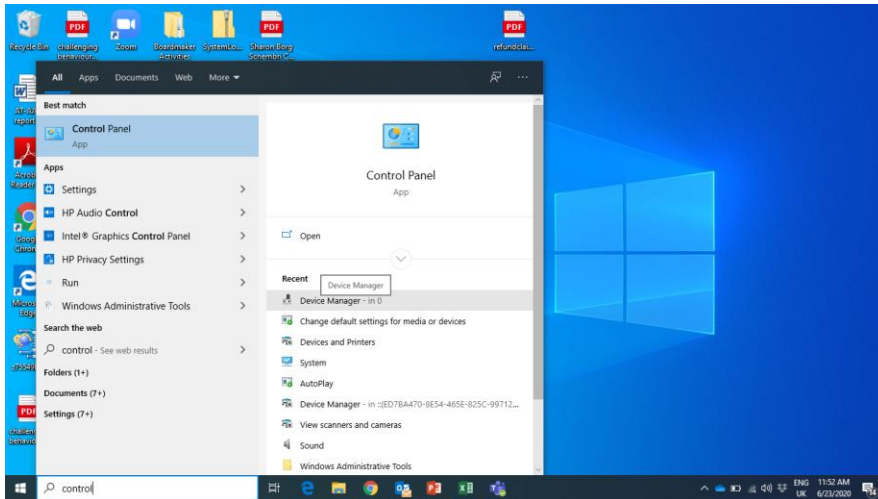
Voice Recognition software



Speak and Select



How to set accessibility features on windows?



Alternative “pencil” - Switches

Circular switches



Different sizes to be used for different access points



Foot



wireless



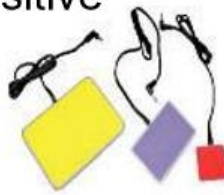
No touch



Pillow



Sensitive



Grasp and finger switching



App to support
access to writing



ADOBE Fill and Sign –
Form Filler



AT tools – Text-to-speech

- Immersive reader
- Read and Write
- ClaroRead
- Chrome extension
– citelighter



Text to Speech



AT tools – Word Prediction/Wordbanks

- Clicker 7/8
- WordQ 5
- Read and Write Gold
- Pen-Friend



Grammar and Spelling Tools

- Grammarly :

https://youtu.be/a4jT_MLh1ul

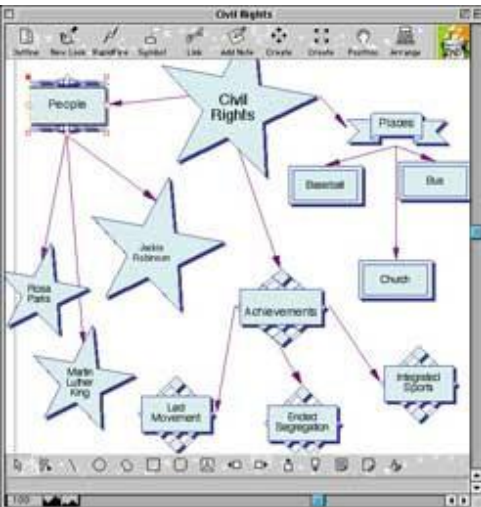
- Accessibility Checker on Microsoft

- Rewordify :

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JaljmdfYMd8&index=14&list=PL7WWcal4bMQW1mRstGfMK_jAru4siPv4p&t=0

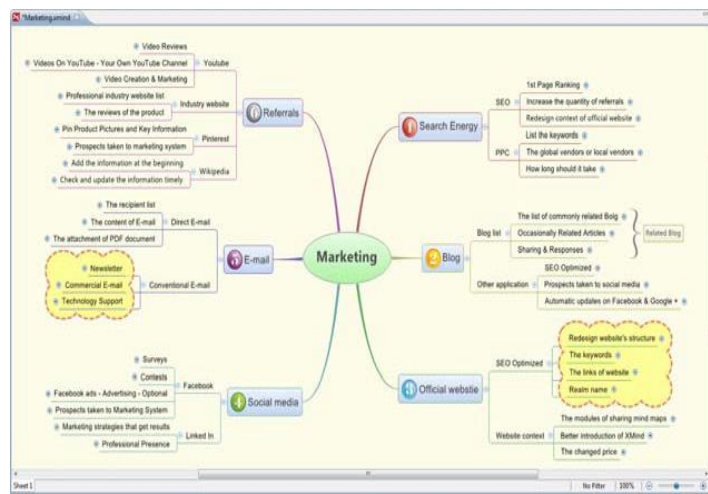
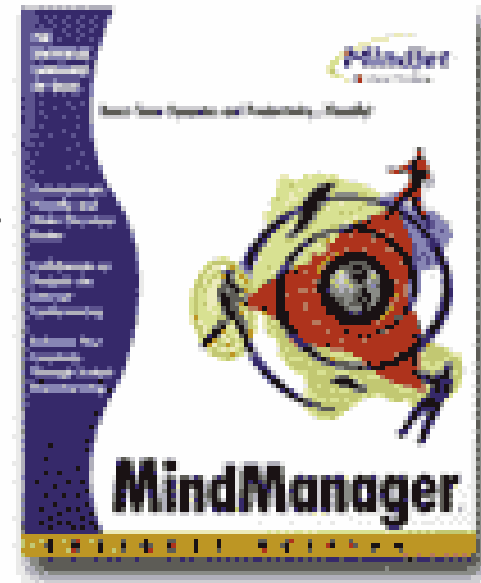
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Mind mapping



Inspiration /
Kidspiration.
Graphical
MindMapping for
outlining of Ideas.

MindManager –
same concept



free downloadable
software:

- Xmind / Freemind
- mindmup

Resources

Microsoft Education Software:

<https://education.microsoft.com>

Spectronics -

<https://www.spectronics.com.au/article/literacy-support-software-comparison-chart>

Thank You

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