

# Voice Recognition

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# The Issues



- Mick Donegan, 2000, Voice Recognition Technology in Education: *Factors for Success*, ACE Centre Advisory Trust
- Paul Nisbet & Allan Wilson, 2002, Introducing Speech Recognition in Schools: using Dragon NaturallySpeaking, CALL Centre University of Edinburgh

# Are you REALLY sure?

- Successfully introducing speech recognition in schools  
“needs a lot of time, energy and commitment from teaching staff, management, parents, and especially, the student.”
- “It also requires access to a suitable computer.”  
(Nisbet & Wilson, 2002)

*If this commitment cannot be guaranteed – look for something else!*

# Which students can benefit?



- Can be used by people with speech difficulties
- Suitable for pupils with dyslexia
- Pupils with physical access difficulties (e.g. RSI, arthritis, high spinal injury)

Tend to show success where person has:

- Good communication skills
- Word processing and IT skills
- High motivation to learn to use the system

# Remember



- Not just a matter of putting a headset on and leaving them to it or even working through it together.

*It requires planning, training and extensive support.*

# Preparation



- How to use the pack
- Teacher's Tutorial
- 10 Golden Rules for Dictation
- 10 Training Sessions
- Contract – when, where, for what?

Targets!

# You will need:



- CPU: Intel® Pentium4® or later or AMD Athlon 64 1 GHz or later. (SSE2 instruction set required).
- Windows Server 2000 or 2003
- Win XP SP2 or higher - 32 bit - Home & Prof
- Windows 2000 SP4 or higher
- Windows Vista
- 1 GB RAM
- 2 GB Free hard disk space
- 1 MB L2 Cache
- DVD-ROM drive (required for installation)
- Microsoft® Internet Explorer 6 or higher
- A web connection is required for activation
- Noise-cancelling headset microphone (included)

<http://www.dyslexic.com/itemMatrix.asp?GroupCode=DragonPref&eq=&MatrixType=1>

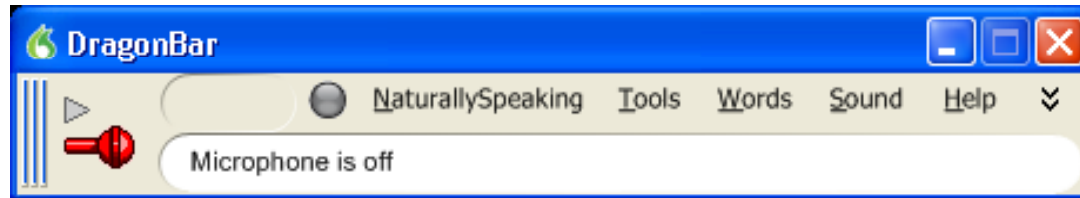
# Dragon Naturally Speaking 10



Dragon NaturallySpeaking version 10 is said to be the best yet. Nuance claim that the software is up to 99% accurate and three times faster than typing.

- Includes several tutorials for improving recognition accuracy
- Dragon 10 include new web surfing capabilities, using numbered links to navigate through internet pages
- You can create your own voice commands to sent text/graphics (in Dragon Preferred), or to emulate keyboard shortcuts (Professional only)
- Dragon 10 has hundreds of pre-made voice commands for specific software such as Microsoft Word 2007 and Internet Explorer 7, to make these programs very easy to navigate
- Easy to make corrections, which will then be saved for future use by the software
- A Bluetooth edition can now be purchased for Bluetooth head sets

# Dragon Naturally Speaking 10



- Nuance (available at several retailers such as PC World)

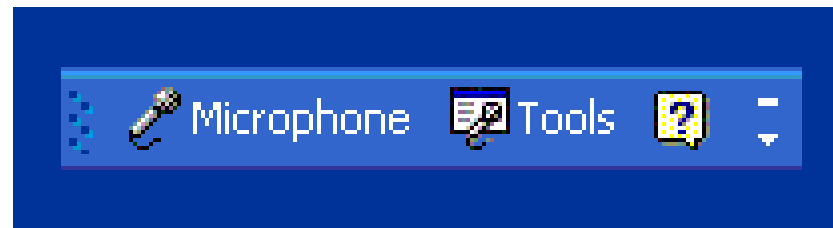
£149.99 - £199.99

# Microsoft Office Voice Recognition



- Voice recognition is freely available in Microsoft Office (though not in Office 2007 due to Microsoft believing that everybody would be using Vista when it was released, which has its own speech recognition)
- The voice recognition allows you to access any of the menus in the Office Suite of programs
- Can be used to dictate text in Microsoft Word
- Reasonably accurate with some quite simple training to be completed before use
- Voice commands are available to navigate the Office software

# Microsoft Office Voice Recognition



For more information on how to use Voice Recognition in Office, go to:

[http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/setup/expert/moskowitz\\_02september23.mspx](http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/setup/expert/moskowitz_02september23.mspx)

# Speech Recognition in Vista



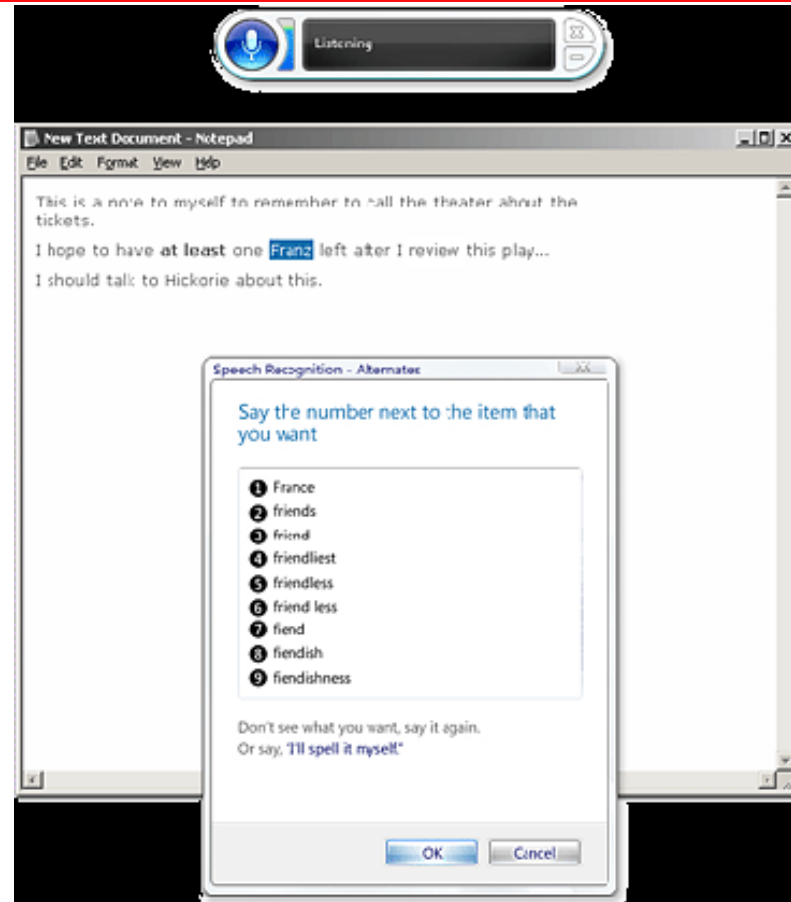
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*Giving people a Voice...*

- Very simple to set up via the **ease of access, speech recognition** option in **Start** and **Accessories**
- Includes the ability to navigate anywhere within Windows, to launch programs, search through the **Start** menu, carry out keyboard shortcut commands etc.
- Includes an excellent hands free web surfing feature in **Internet Explorer 7** (similar to **Dragon**)
- Recognition is available in several languages – English UK, English US, German, French, Spanish, Japanese and Chinese
- Includes interactive training tutorials for getting used to using the commands
- Has excellent dictation abilities for dictating text into software such as Microsoft Word
- Easy to use correction facility
- Like Dragon, the software constantly learns and updates your voice profile, the more you use it

# Speech Recognition in Vista



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£139.99 –  
£229.99

For more information on how to use Voice Recognition in Windows Vista, go to:

<http://www.microsoft.com/enable/products/windowsvista/speech.aspx>

# Responding Heads



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There are several free software programs available for creating simple voice commands (macros). Responding Heads is one such program that will allow you to create your own voice shortcuts

- Has a fun interface that can be edited to perform simple commands
- Comes with a few premade commands
- You can create commands that will type small amounts of text or perform a keyboard shortcut such as **ctrl + p** to print (in most programs)
- Very easy to set up and use

# Responding Heads



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Available to download for free at:

<http://www.snapfiles.com/get/respondingheads.html>