

In this session you will:

1. use *NaturallySpeaking* to read a passage and questions, and then dictate answers.

## Getting started

1. Put the microphone on
2. Start up *NaturallySpeaking* and select your voice file

## Use text to speech to read and then dictate answers

Look in the files on the CALL *Introducing Speech Recognition in Schools* CD and open the “Using Speech Recognition” file.

There are different ways to use the **Read That** command to read text from the screen. Try each of the following methods and then decide which one suits you best.

- Highlight the first sentence and then press **CTRL-ALT-S** and the text will be spoken out.
- Highlight the second sentence and select **Sound > Read That**.
- Highlight the third sentence and click the right hand mouse button, then choose **Read That** from the pop-up menu.
- Put the cursor at the start of the line and say “**Read That**”. If the computer types something instead of reading the line, say “**Scratch That**”, and try it again while holding down the **CTRL** key to force it to recognise the command.
- Put the cursor at the start of the document and say “**Read-Paragraph**”. The paragraph remains highlighted after it has been read out - so don't type or dictate anything otherwise the paragraph will be overwritten!
- Put the cursor at the start of the Questions and say “**Read-from-here**” and the text will be read from that point.

Stop reading at any time by pressing **ESC** or pressing the red **Stop** button on the toolbar.

Practice using speech output to read back the text. Now dictate a copy of the text. (Remember to dictate punctuation!) Save the file as *MySession6*. Move the cursor to the end of each question and dictate your answers. The answers should be in full sentences, such as “*Before you start dictating you should...*”, rather than answers of just a few words.

When you finish, print and save the file as *MySession6*.

### Using speech recognition

When you dictate to a computer, you must remember some important things.

- a) Before you start dictating a sentence, think about it in your mind. Make sure the sentence makes sense before you open your mouth. Practise the sentence before you start, if you're not sure about it.
- b) Speak clearly without stuttering or mumbling.
- c) Switch the microphone off after dictating, so the computer doesn't pick up anything you say to friends.

After dictating a few sentences or a paragraph, you **MUST** correct any errors it makes with the Correction Window. If you can't spell the correct word, ask for help. If you don't correct the errors, the program will not learn to recognise your voice.

## Questions

What should you do before you start dictating a sentence?

How should you speak?

What do you do right after dictating?

Why must you correct errors?

## More dictation

If you have time, open a new blank page and do some more dictation about a topic, such as a hobby, or going on holiday. It may help for you to write or type out the sentences first so that the student just has to read them out, rather than having to remember the sentence. Print and save the document as *Mysession6B*.

**Finish** - Exit from the program and remove and store the microphone.