

SPEECH TO TEXT: HARDWARE & SOFTWARE EDITION

*Auditory Outreach: Provincial Resource
Program, Jan 2025*



Land Acknowledgement



čεčhašt kʷ ɬaʔamɪn qaymɪxʷ.
ʔəsna tεʔε gɪʔε.

We would like to express our respect for and gratitude to the ɬaʔamɪn peoples whose traditional and treaty territory qathet School District resides on. We recognize the ongoing impacts of colonialism and are committed to our own learning and unlearning while courageously working towards decolonization and indigenization through truth, healing, celebration and reconciliation.

Agenda

1

What is speech to text?
Brief Overview

2

Auditory Outreach Loans and
Eligibility

3

Software Options

4

Hardware/ Devices

5

Questions

What is Speech to Text?

Speech to text technology converts spoken language into text.

- *STT creates more accessible instructions without adding more to the teacher's plate.*
- *basic requirement: STT software installed on a device with a screen and a microphone port*
- *to improve accuracy, the distance between source (teacher) and device can be removed via these devices available on loan from AO:*
 - *Roger Neckloop*
 - *Roger transmitter (Touchscreen or ON)*



How these services create a more equitable learning environment for DHH learners

- real time captions
- transcripts for review and study
- used as a note taking tool
- ability to highlight, comment, and search the transcript
- empowers independence and participation
- fill in gaps of information that would otherwise be lost due to not hearing or mishearing the speaker



Auditory Outreach STT Loans

- Eligibility: Students who attend public or group 1 & 2 independent schools and have diagnosed hearing loss
- New request form specific to speech to text requests.
- If they have existing Roger equipment, we don't need Audiologist authorization.
- All students requesting STT must complete a survey before using equipment.
- We provide the Neckloop and the cord that connects to a USB-A (typical USB outlet - rectangular block shaped)
- Schools/ district are responsible for purchasing additional cords and software*
- STT requests must include the make and model of any devices the student plans to use.

Speech to Text Considerations

1

Audio quality is critical for accuracy!

4

Consider student's reading fluency and appearance of caption; e.g., four lines better than two lines due to working memory demands (Steinfeld 1999).

2

Software with AI is more accurate than non-AI software and helps to summarize and provide key ideas. However AI can be pricey and privacy needs to be considered.

5

Do you need to save the transcript or only require live captioning?

3

Privacy Issues and Concerns

6

Software Costs

AI enabled/supported Speech to Text Software



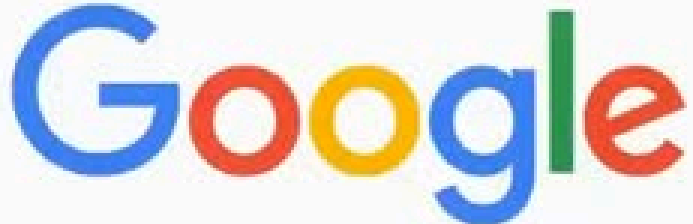
Best Practices:

- 1. Speaker wears the Touchscreen or On in lanyard mode*
- 2. Windows Laptop seems to be the most universally accessible option for the neckloop with the most successful software options*
- 3. If using a phone: Update your device to the most current software*
- 4. Lightning charging iPhones must be plugged into a power source*

What is Scribeberry?

Software:

- *Developed in Canada and stored in Canada*
- *Real time dictation, transcription & translation*
- *Speaker identification (optional)*
- *Integration with Zoom and Microsoft Teams via chrome extension*
- *Paid option offers more minutes of captioning and more features*
- *HIPPA and PIPEDA Compliant - no permanent recordings are stored*
- *Settings can be changed on the app to better support your needs ex. offline, translation, etc.*
- *Auditory Outreach is currently working through a privacy impact assessment for Scribeberry which we hope to share with other SDs.*
- *Available in both web and mobile apps (new) versions for greater accessibility and versatility*



+

   AI Mode

Google Search

I'm Feeling Lucky

Google offered in: Français



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*no credit card required



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The screenshot displays the Scribeberry interface. On the left is a sidebar with navigation options: Scribes, Archive, AI Employee Nurse Intakes, Dec 11, 2025, Patient Scheduler, Patients, Tasks, Templates (My Templates, Template Hub, My Team Templates), Macros (My Macros), Forms (My Forms, Forms Hub), View New Features, Refer and Earn, Settings, Need help?, and Hello Scribeberry. The main area is titled 'Scribes' and shows a list of notes with timestamps and patient names. A detailed view of a note for 'Shira Angers' is shown on the right, including fields for Objective, Assessment, and Plan. The Plan section lists several bullet points regarding supportive care and medication. At the bottom, there are buttons for '40+ Languages', 'Every Canadian EMR', '2000+ Templates', 'Data in Canada', 'Auto-Fill Forms', and 'Clinical Support'. A pink sticky note is placed over the bottom left of the interface.

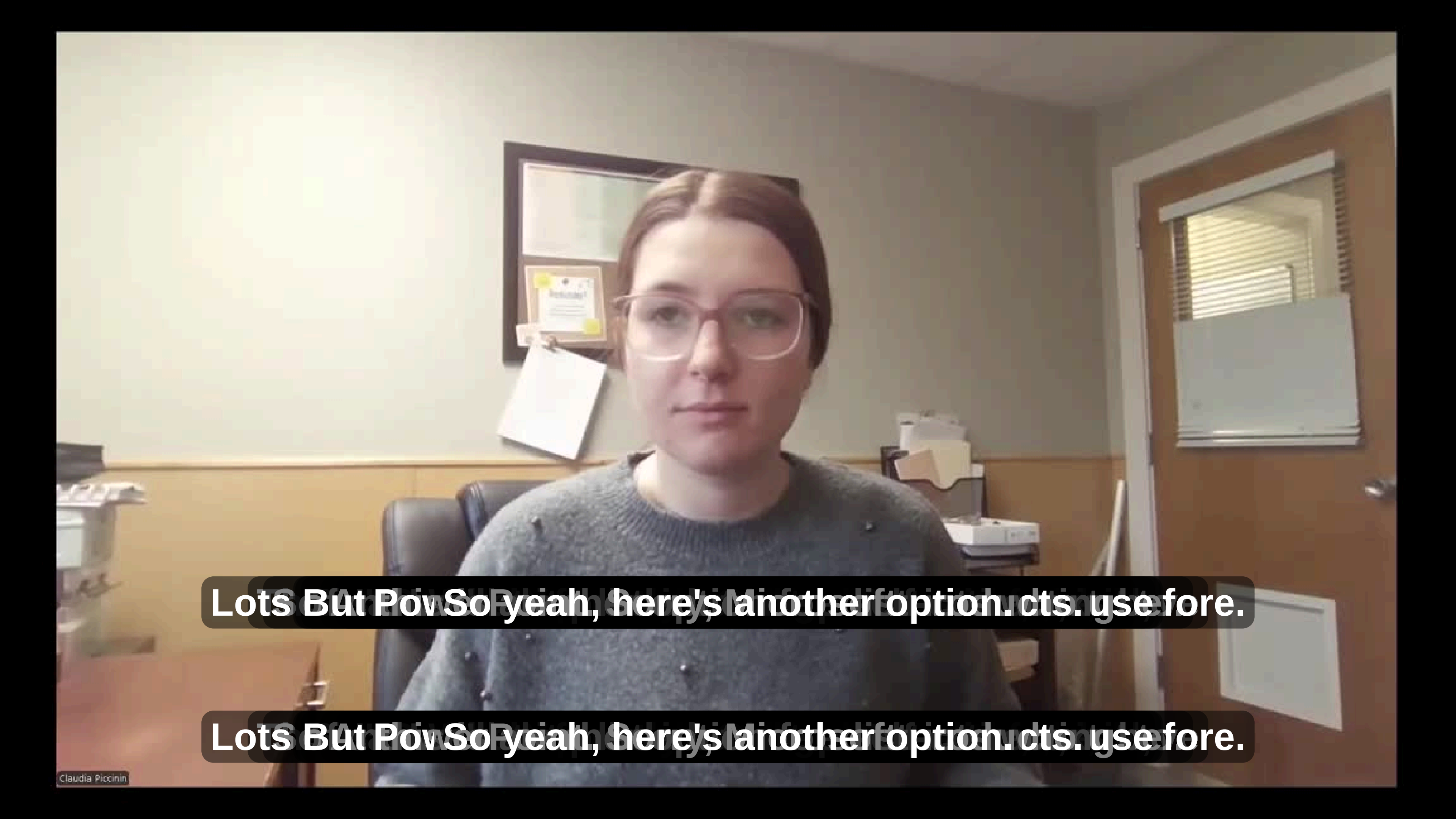


How to use Word

Software:

- *Real time transcription*
- *Ability to edit text*
- *Fewer privacy concerns*
- *unlimited captioning minutes*
- *Not as accurate as AI based transcription*

Available in both web and mobile versions for greater accessibility and versatility - STT does not work on iPhones if they are not updated to IOS 26- you must be able to choose the microphone input

A woman with reddish-brown hair pulled back, wearing glasses and a grey knit sweater, is seated in an office. Behind her is a bulletin board with a certificate and papers. To her right is a wooden door with a window and a whiteboard. The scene is lit with warm, indoor lighting.

Lots But Pov So yeah, here's another option. cts. use fore.

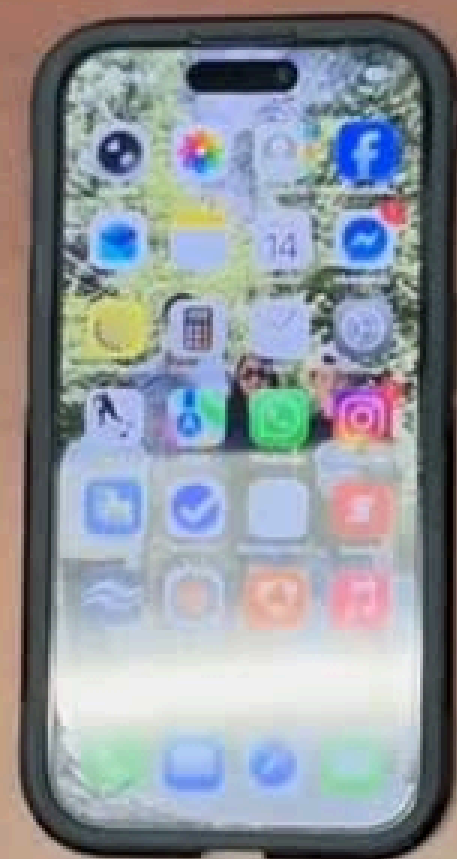
Lots But Pov So yeah, here's another option. cts. use fore.

How to use Google Docs

Software:

- *Real time transcription*
- *Ability to edit text*
- *Fewer privacy concerns - no voice recording saved*
- *unlimited captioning minutes*
- *Not as accurate as AI based transcription*
- *Has some basic punctuation*

Available in both web and mobile versions for greater accessibility and versatility



How to use Powerpoint?

Software:

- *Real time transcription*
- *Ability to transcribe across multiple languages*
- *Fewer privacy concerns*
- *unlimited captioning minutes*
- *Not as accurate as AI based transcription*
- *Presenter mode*

**Only available in web based PowerPoint or desktop app*

7

Click to add title

Click to add subtitle

Click to add notes

Speech to Text Software Options

**not exhaustive*

Last updated Jan 16, 2026



Software Name	Description and Notes	Accessibility Features	Accuracy	Offline Captions	Platforms	Cost
Scribeberry	PIPEDA Compliant - no recordings are saved and data is stored in Canada. Transcribes speech to text and autogenerates structured notes. AI-enabled for better accuracy and ability to ask the script questions.	Multi-language live captions (40+ languages)	High	Yes	Web browsers (Chrome, Edge, Safari)	\$99/month or \$999/year (CAD)
Otter.ai	AI-powered transcription with speaker ID and meeting summaries. Integrates with Zoom, Teams, Meet. Host district has identified insurmountable privacy concerns: data storage in US and voice recordings.	Speaker ID, searchable transcripts, multi-language support	High (approx. 90-95%)	Limited (requires pre-recorded audio)	iOS, Android, Web	Free (Basic); Pro: \$8.33USD; Business: \$19.99USD
Ava	Live captions with speaker ID. Premium and Scribe captions available. Supports multiple languages. Host district has identified insurmountable privacy concerns: data storage in US and voice recordings.	Speaker ID, multi-language, caption customization	Premium: ~90%, Scribe: ~99%	Yes (Pro and Enterprise plans)	iOS, Android, Web, Mac, Windows	Free (Basic); Community: \$9.99/month (3hrs of premium) Pro: \$1428/year (unlimited captions) USD

These are not recommendations; they are options. Districts must do their due diligence to ensure they meet privacy regulations

Software Name	Description and Notes	Accessibility Features	Accuracy	Offline Captions	Platforms	Cost
Genio	Transcribes recorded lectures. Available via Genio Notes web app.	Multi-language live captions (32 languages)	Moderate to High	No	Web app (desktop browser)	Free trial; pricing in GBP
Microsoft Word	Dictation feature converts speech to text. Supports voice commands. Does not save voice recordings.	Voice commands, real-time dictation. Ability to change font, colour and size.	High (depends on mic and clarity)	Limited (requires pre-recorded audio)	Windows, Mac, Web, Mobile	Included with Microsoft 365 (CAD \$115/year)
Microsoft PowerPoint	Dictation for slide content and notes. Supports punctuation and editing. Live captioning available for presenter mode (does not save transcript)	Voice input, real-time dictation	High	Yes (Pro and Enterprise plans)	Windows, Mac, Web	Included with Microsoft 365 (CAD \$115/year)
CART	Real-time captioning by certified professionals. Often used for events and webinars, may also be used in the classroom during lectures.	Professional accuracy, real-time captions	Very High (~99%)	Yes (onsite services)	Streaming platforms and devices	Remote: ~\$100+/hr CAD; Onsite: *cost may vary

Software Name	Description and Notes	Accessibility Features	Accuracy	Offline Captions	Platforms	Cost
Google Slides	Live captions during presentations using the computer's microphone (or Roger Neckloop). Captions appear at the bottom of the screen and are not stored.	Live captions, visual display	Moderate (depends on mic and environment)	No	Website and App	Free
Google Docs	Live captioning. No recordings are stored. Simple to save and edit as needed.	Voice commands, real-time dictation. Ability to change font, colour and size.	Moderate	No	Website and App	Free
Apple Live Captions	No recordings or transcripts are saved. Pre-built into iPhones - works with the lightning adaptor. Available on iPhone 11 or later	Ability to change text and background size and colours (17 languages)	Moderate-High (depends on mic and environment)	Yes	iPhone	Free
Apple Notes	Pre-built into iPhones - transcribe using the microphone feature	Ability to change text size and contrast within iPhone accessibility settings	Moderate	Yes	iPhone	Free

We are continuing to search for promising apps and speech to text solutions, please let us know if you have any ideas or success stories!



Special Notes:

iPhones with a lightning port need to use an apple USB 3 Lightning Camera Adaptor AND be plugged into a power source (either wall or power bank)

This side plugs into the
Roger Neckloop (USB-A)



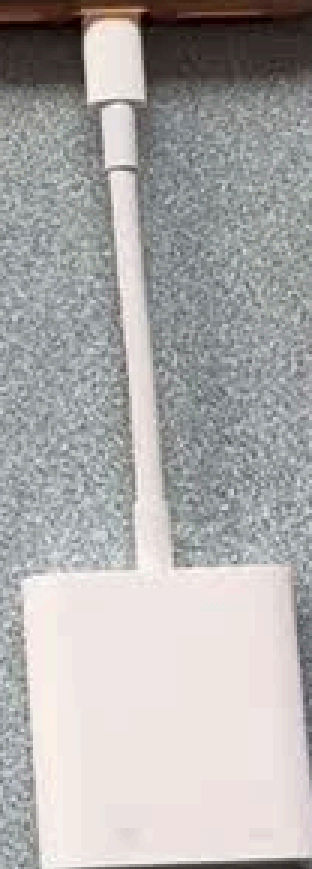
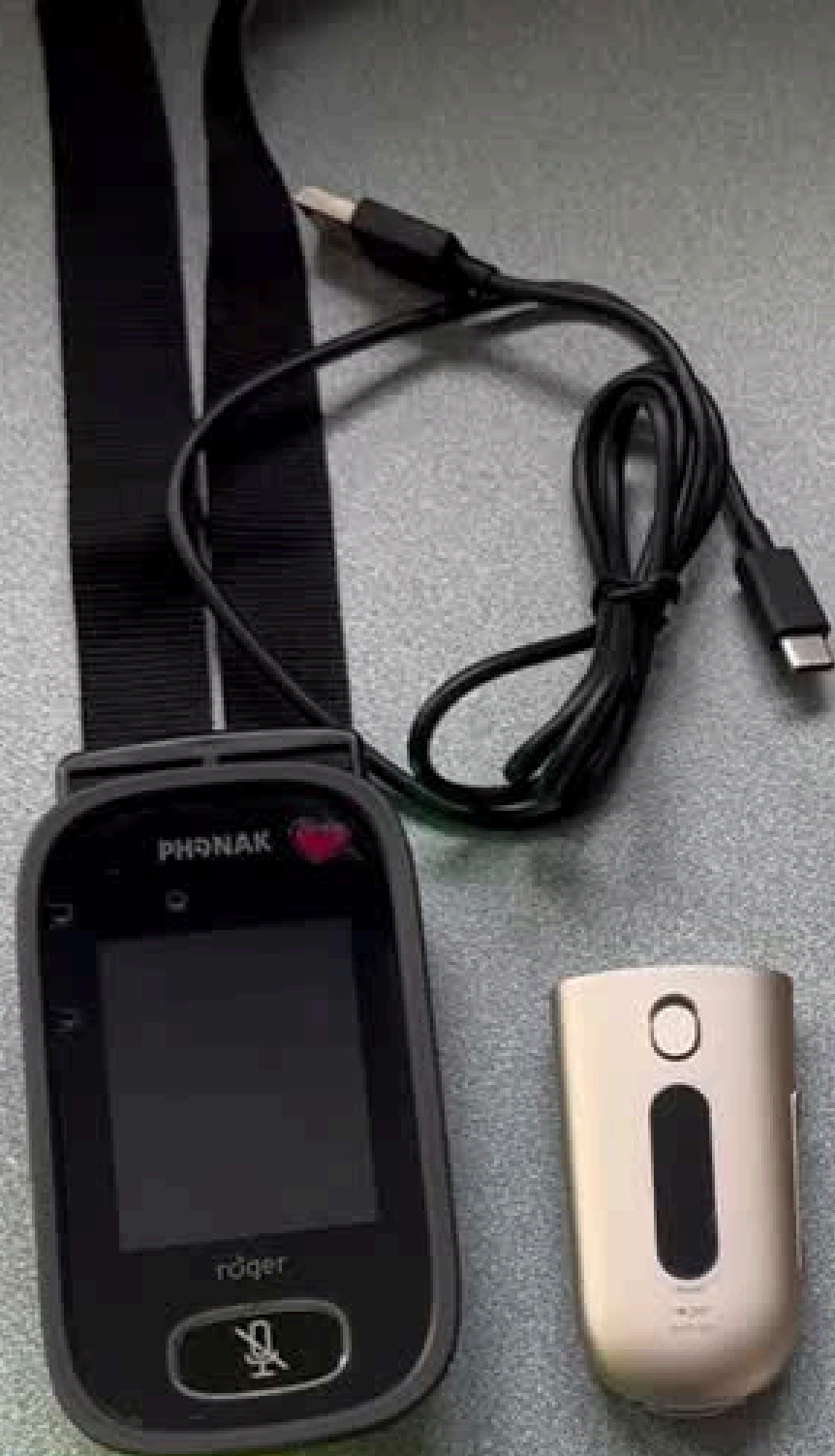
Lightning Plugged
into the phone

This side uses a
lightning cord to plug
into a power source

Special Notes:

Setup on an iPhone with a lightning port





Special Notes:

Updating to iOS 26 on iPhones allows you to choose your microphone input and manually toggle to Roger NeckLoop

Settings - Sounds & Haptics - Input - Select Roger NeckLoop

If you are having trouble selecting microphone input, we recommend updating iOS to recent iOS 26 update.

Please note: this does not work for every app. Some apps do not support iPhone STT with external mics



Q&A and Discussion

CONNECTING TO A PC VIDEO
LINK - CLICK HERE

HOW DO I USE THE ROGER NECKLOOP WITH A PC?

WHICH DISTRICTS ALREADY HAVE APPROVAL FOR CERTAIN PROGRAMS?

**CAN SCRIBEBERRY
TRANSCRIBE AND
ALSO TRANSLATE
INTO OTHER
LANGUAGES FOR
ELL STUDENTS?**

**BEST SOFTWARE TO
USE WITH THE
NECKLOOP? IS
THERE ANY FREE
SOFTWARE?**

IS THERE A TECHNOLOGY AGE LIMIT?

**HOW MANY
SYSTEMS ARE THERE
TO LOAN OUT? HOW
MUCH DOES IT COST
IF IT IS LOST?**

**ARE ALL STUDENTS
WHO HAVE
PERIPHERAL
HEARING LOSS
ELIGIBLE TO
REQUEST THIS?**

WHAT IS THE BEST DEVICES TO USE TO DISPLAY SOFTWARE?

IS EDUMIC COMPATABLE WITH A ROGER NECKLOOP?



Q&A and Discussion

Available Resources:

- Quick start guide for speech to text
- Instructional Videos
- Forms to get started

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Thank you!

