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Week 6 topic 1

Talking Scientific Calculator

Mathematics has always been a complex subject to learn for disabled individuals. Therefore, a talking scientific calculator is developed to solve mathematics problems to be accessible to all individuals. The complete name of the application is "Talking Scientific Calculator," and Adam Crosser created it. Also, the application was designed to be used by iPad. iPad is one of the products designed and developed by Apple Inc. the company runs the iPad's and iOS mobile operating systems. Since the Talking Scientific Calculator is designed for iPad, which is a product of Apple Inc., it can only be obtained in App Store. The application's size is efficient because it is 16.1MB, and the developer Adam Crosser sells it for 1.99 dollars.

Talking Scientific Calculator's goal is to help individuals with low vision and other learning disabilities progress in their math skills with a calculator they are aware of. Therefore, the calculator application contains specialized features that will allow students to read their math problems, and the application will break them down and read back to them (Chaussee, 2019). the exciting feature of this application is that it is customizable for all levels of the vision. For example, low vision will comprise of enhanced contrast display mode accompanied with optional speech. Similarly, the normal to low vision will include increased, comprehensive buttons with optional speech, and blind individuals can utilize voiceover to read the button name before they activate. Also, the calculations will then be spoken. I would recommend this application be used in colleges by disabled individuals because it was considered for various users. The Talking Scientific Calculator has utilized substantial colorful buttons, complete VoiceOver provision, noncompulsory high contrasts, and the ability to utilize speech for answers, formulas, and button names.

Reference

Chaussee, M. (2019). Assistive Technology Apps for Maths.

<https://ndassistive.org/blog/assistive-technology-calculator-apps-for-math/>

Week 5 topic 2

Video Review Discussion

The video selected to be reviewed “demo of math talks with scientific notebook & dragon naturally speaking.” What has piqued my interest in this technology is its ability to recognize speech using a speech identification program explicitly designed to enable students to use their voice and write math-related information. Furthermore, the software can write various math content, including calculus, statistics, algebra, graphing, and trigonometry (MathTalk, n.d). Another thing interested in the software is its outstanding utilization by students with intermittences associated with writing. For example, institutions with individuals having issues with dyslexia can use the program and help them concentrate fully on their work and reduce anxiousness regarding spelling or writing.

The technology has several functional limitations that need to be addressed. The first one involves the necessity of having a Dragon Naturally Speaking installed in the devices. Before the technology can recognize a voice, all the institution or personal devices must be installed with the dragon naturally speaking. Also, students must present every procedure used in their work to avoid abuse of the technology's function and cheat. However, the technology has provided immense features. It allows students to use the program without using the keyboard, and they can access it at home and work on their assignments and homework. This will let them to check the answers without the teacher being available.

Math Talk has provided tremendous achievement in schools, especially to disabled students, teachers, and busy professionals. Nevertheless, the technology has a high learning curve because it is expensive, costing around 275 dollars. Students need to learn and be trained to use it suitably; they will need to say “parens” when they need to use a bracket rather than the usual word parenthesis.

Reference

MathTalk. (n.d). Math Talk Speech Recognition Software. <https://mathtalk.com/>

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