Read & Write for Chrome – Text to Speech

Introduction
Text to speech or speech synthesis converts written text into a computerized voice. This may be a useful tool for students who may have excellent comprehension but whose reading abilities are lacking.

Learning Objectives
Completion of this tutorial will give you experience with the following:

- Have text read out loud on a web page using Read & Write for Chrome

This tutorial assumes:

- that you are using the Google Chrome browser on a Windows, Mac or Chromebook computer and NOT a tablet.
- that you have installed the Read & Write extension for Chrome. For a tutorial on installing Read & Write click here.
- that you have access to the premium features. Click here to find out how.
- that you are connected to the internet.

Case Study
Francine is a student who has poor reading abilities but whose comprehension skills are high. She is able to understand information if it is read out loud to her. Using Read & Write for Chrome, Francine is able to have any document and/or web page read aloud. She is able to follow along if she wants using the dual coloured highlighting.
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<th><strong>Navigate</strong> to a web page using the Google Chrome web browser. Ensure that the Read &amp; Write Chrome extension is running. If the extension is active, a purple icon will appear in the top right hand corner of the Chrome window (1). <strong>Click</strong> on the icon to activate the Read &amp; Write toolbar (2).</th>
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<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Highlight</strong> the text to be read (1). <strong>Click</strong> on the read icon (2).</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>The text will be highlighted (1) with the passage in yellow and the word that is currently being read in blue. <strong>Click</strong> the pause button (2) to pause reading and click the stop button (3) to stop reading.</td>
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<td>A secondary mode of reading can be accessed through the Hover Speech tool located on the tool bar (1). When the feature is activated, there will be a blue line underneath the tool. Simply hover the mouse cursor to a body of text and Read &amp; Write will convert it into speech. The text will be highlighted with the passage in yellow (2) and the word that is currently being read in blue (3).</td>
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The speech synthesizer can be configured by clicking the settings (1) on the tool bar. Once open, ensure that the speech tab is selected (2). There are a variety of voices that can used (3), speed settings (4) and the synthesizer can be configured to read continuously (5).