

## **Select-and-Say™, non-standard windows, and the Dictation Box**

Commands like 'correct <xyz>', 'insert after <xyz>', and 'italicize <xyz>', which quote from the active text field, work thanks to a Dragon functionality called *Select-and-Say*. This functionality requires the text field to constantly let Dragon see information about its content—such as where words (and sentences) begin and end, so Dragon can automatically apply spacing between words and capitalization at the beginning of sentences...

Many popular applications build most (if not all) of their text fields in a standard way. However, you may sometimes encounter a text field from which Dragon cannot constantly get information—and therefore cannot always apply its normal capabilities. You may not notice anything if you just dictate, but if you take actions like correcting or inserting text within a sentence, Dragon may not be able to execute its <xyz> commands and to apply spacing as it usually does.

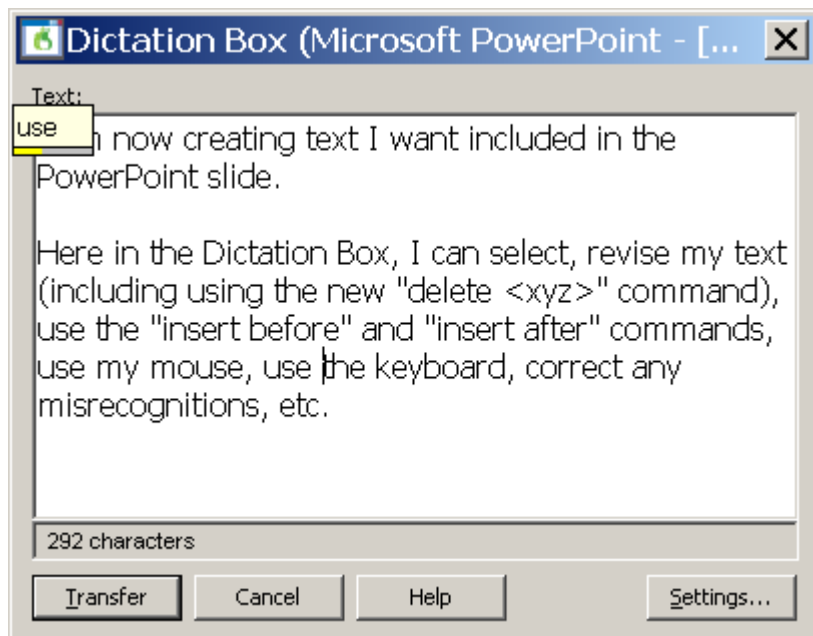
When the insertion point is in such an area, the DragonBar displays the message "Dictating in a *non-standard window*" and its *Select-and-Say indicator*, a large bright green dot on the DragonBar next to the NaturallySpeaking menu, will turn grey.

Even in non-standard windows, one can use Dragon efficiently, knowing the following:

1. Many users, if dictating short entries, just apply what *does* work everywhere: they dictate normally, and, if necessary, say 'spacebar' or press the spacebar, say 'Cap' to force capitalization, say 'move <left|right|up|down>' commands or reposition the insertion point by hand, etc.

2. You can use Dragon's *Dictation Box*, an intermediary in which you can create, modify, and correct text as usual; you can even use boilerplate custom commands to paste text.

When the text is ready, just say or click the **T**ransfer button: Dragon closes the Dictation Box and transfers your text to where you had the insertion point.



To open the Dictation Box, you can:

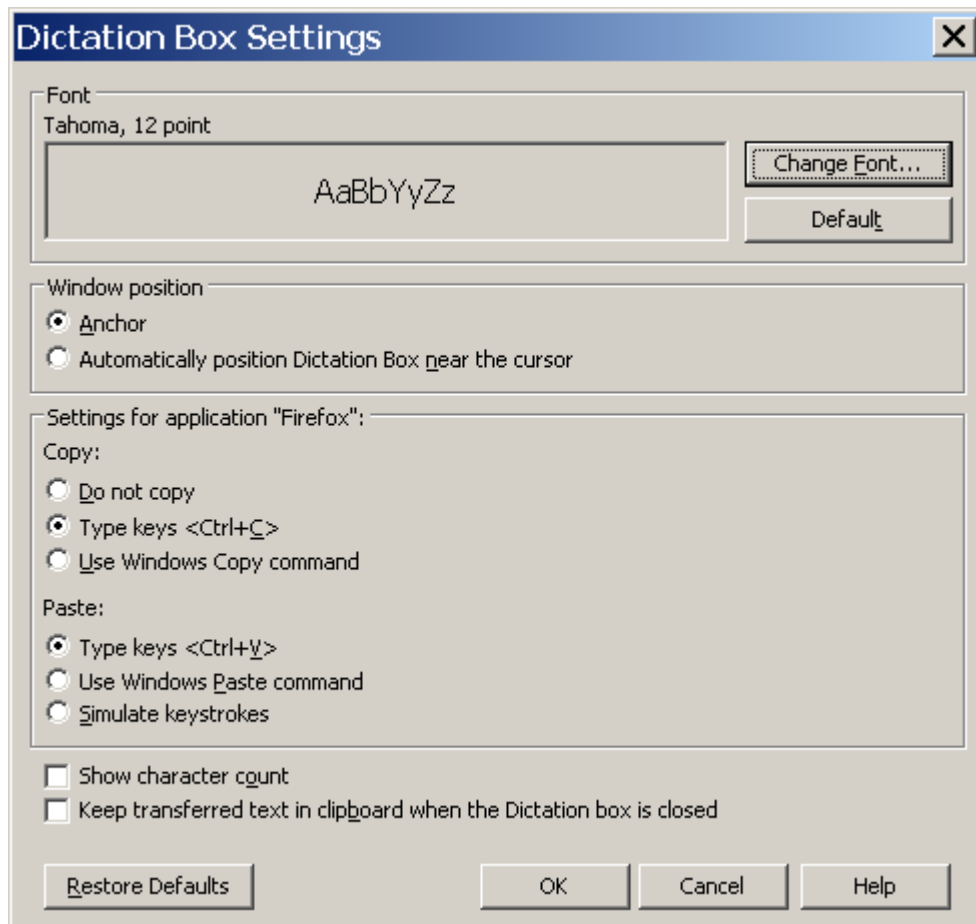
- Say a command like 'Open Dictation Box'

- Use the DragonBar's Tools menu
- Use its hot key: Ctrl+Shift+d

There is a lot of flexibility around the Dictation Box. In addition to changing its hot key in the Options dialog, you can:

- Give its command one or more alternate names (from the *Command Browser*: to find it, you can filter for the word box in the Context "Global Commands.")
- Modify its appearance and behavior, via its **S**ettings button: default font size, positioning (anchored, or near the cursor), whether it shows how many characters it contains...

**TIP:** You can have different Dictation Box settings for different applications, and you can have multiple Dictation Boxes open at one time.



The Help contains more details about the

Dictation  
Box.