Helping all students reach their full potential.

Nuance® speech recognition for education

Nuance’s Dragon® speech recognition, enables students, teachers and school administrators to talk to their computers and watch their spoken words appear in documents, email, instant messages and more—three times faster than most people type—with up to 99% accuracy. It lets users dictate and edit in programs like Microsoft® Word, Excel®, and Outlook®, surf the web using Internet Explorer® and Mozilla® Firefox®, and command and control virtually any Windows application—just by speaking.

A revolutionary educational tool

Dragon has gained broad acceptance as a cost-effective accessibility tool for a wide range of students. It not only provides an alternative input method for students with physical disabilities, but it has also been shown to help students with learning disabilities make significant advances in the areas of reading, writing and spelling. By eliminating the physical demands of typing and cognitive barriers to written communication, Dragon can help all students better realize their full potential.

Speech recognition is gaining traction in the general education arena, too. Because people of all abilities are using speech to interact with mainstream technology—computers, handheld devices, navigation systems, gaming consoles, and more—students need to be trained in using voice interfaces. That’s why more middle and secondary schools are adopting Dragon as part of their business education curriculum. This training helps students boost productivity, prepare for tomorrow’s workforce, and prevent increasingly common repetitive stress injuries.

Reduce the stress and anxiety associated with homework and reports

Imagine the new levels of freedom and success students could experience by easily transferring their ideas into written text. Dragon helps students...
keep up with their brains by eliminating the mechanical aspects of typing or handwriting. Dragon’s fast, accurate dictation capabilities make it easier for students to transform thoughts into text without spelling worries or fear of the blank page. Now students can focus more on the actual content of their work and more intelligently express themselves in writing. They can just talk to the computer and watch their spoken words appear in documents, emails or instant messages—instantly.

But that’s not all. Dragon goes beyond straight dictation, making it simple to edit and format documents and control the spacing and capitalization of items written in various contexts—all by voice. Students can use voice commands to dictate, edit and control the applications they rely on every day. Users just tell Dragon what they want to do, like “Backspace three,” “Delete line,” “Copy that,” “Close window,” “Open Microsoft Word,” or “Make that red,” and it automatically completes the task. To make things easier, various Help features let users see important voice commands and tips at any time—without interrupting what they’re doing.

**Improve core skills for students of all abilities**

Dragon can generate a new excitement for writing and learning for students whose written work did not reflect their full potential. Dragon provides a powerful interface that speeds and simplifies student interaction with their computers, applications, and files. It empowers students to write and format reports and email, conduct Internet-based research, communicate with peers and teachers, and make full use of popular Windows applications—just by talking.

With Dragon, students can use their voice to compose and send email or instant messages to classmates and teachers, enabling full participation in group projects that require ongoing communication, collaboration, and information sharing.

Students can use simple spoken commands to complete any task on their computers, including finding information on the Internet. They just say things like, “Search the Web for global warming articles,” “Search Wikipedia for George Washington Carver,” or “Search eBay for Batman comic books,” and results are automatically displayed on the screen.

**Increase independence for student with physical disabilities**

Dragon is a proven accessibility tool for students with physical disabilities. It helps them gain greater independence, eliminates the need for a dictation buddy, and empowers them to keep pace with their non-disabled peers.

**Level the playing field for students with learning disabilities**

Students with learning disabilities that leverage Dragon for schoolwork are able to produce results that more closely match their true potential. Students can deliver longer, more thorough and detailed essays and other written work since they can focus on quality content, rather than the frustration of the traditional writing process.

**Improve writing fluency for students learning english**

For English Language Learner (ELL) students, written content can suffer as they focus more attention on appropriate spelling and grammar rather than the overall composition. Dragon enables these students to harness their oral English skills for advancing their academic writing skills.
Dragon includes text-to-speech technology that lets students listen to text read aloud by a computerized voice and follow what is being read on the screen. This practice has been shown to improve both word recognition and pronunciation for struggling readers or students learning English.

Plus, the “Play that Back” feature lets students hear the dictated text in their own voices, allowing them to self-assess their writing and make any necessary edits.

**A valuable resource for teachers and administrators**

Larger classes. More paperwork. Fewer resources. How can teachers and administrators keep up with growing workloads without compromising work/life balance or quality of education? Dragon helps these dedicated professionals do more with less by enabling them to:

- Provide more detailed feedback on student assignments in a fraction of the time
- Communicate more effectively with students and colleagues via email and online applications
- Speed the creation of lesson plans, research projects and other documents

Teachers and students alike can use Dragon using the built-in mic on their computer, or they can choose a wireless headset (not included) to experience accurate recognition results without being directly in front of their computer mics. What’s more, they can dictate into a digital voice recorder when away from their computer. Dragon will automatically transcribe the audio file of their voice when they return to their computer—a capability that is particularly helpful for field notes and research.

**The advantages of enterprise deployment**

Dragon is packaged in multiple product editions with feature sets that vary based on user needs. In addition to the Dragon Premium Student/Teacher boxed edition for individual users, Nuance offers educators the opportunity to take advantage of the advanced features and enterprise deployment benefits of Dragon Professional Group with academic volume license discounts.

Benefits of Dragon Professional Group include:

- **Tools for learning and accessibility**
  - Supports Section 508 standards: This ensures the software features are accessible to people with disabilities.
  - Automation of complex or repetitive tasks with voice commands: Simple voice commands can significantly minimize the need for mouse and keyboard activity. Students and/or teachers can create or import powerful voice commands (with or without VBA-style scripting) to automate daily computer activities.

- **Support for multiple users**
  - Enterprise profile management: This advanced feature allows a student or teacher to work on multiple workstations with a single user/voice profile
  - Advanced security features for multiple desktop deployments
  - Central administration with Nuance User Management Center (NUMC) option: Administration tools simplify multiple desktop installation and support centralized management of voice profiles, custom vocabularies, updates and...
maintenance; Dragon Professional Group also offers the ability to set default options during installation to be applied to any new profile. NUMC also allows school districts to centrally manage licenses and monitor usage so there is visibility of how Dragon is being used and who is using it so licenses can be re-assigned as needed.

Educational institutions with volume licensing requirements have several options. The Open License Program (OLP), a volume license program available to all qualified K-12 and HED organizations, offers significant discounts. Discount tiers are based on lifetime cumulative purchases, allowing schools to accumulate purchases at any time and move up in discount tiers regardless of when the purchases are made. The Dragon Academic Lab Pack is ideal for schools considering Dragon deployments in specific classrooms or computer labs and is available at two levels—five (5) licenses and 20 licenses. The K-12 School License allows schools to install Dragon Professional Group and/or Dragon for Mac on up to 250 school-owned or school-leased computers at a single location. This single-site program, designed exclusively for K-12 schools, offers both value and flexibility, allowing schools to combine both PC- and Mac-based speech recognition products.

**Academic pricing available for box product and volume licensing**

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<th>Volume licensing</th>
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<th>Academic SRP</th>
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<td>Dragon Professional Group and/or Dragon for Mac, Up to 250 computers per school at a single address</td>
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**A valuable resource for teachers and administrators**

Educational leaders rely on Dragon to get more done in today’s classrooms. This includes providing more detailed feedback to student assignments in less time, as well as communicating more efficiently with students and other faculty.

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**About Nuance Communications, Inc.**

Nuance Communications is reinventing the relationship between people and technology. Through its voice and language offerings, the company is creating a more human conversation with the many systems, devices, electronics, apps and services around us. Every day, millions of people and thousands of businesses experience Nuance through intelligent systems that can listen, understand, learn and adapt to your life and your work. For more information, please visit nuance.com.