

## **Resource List of Writing Tools**

### **Boardmaker/Boardmaker Online**

<http://www.mayer-johnson.com/boardmaker-plus-v-6/>

Price for Boardmaker is a one time fee.

Boardmaker online is a recurring yearly charge.

Software that provides standardized picture symbols used for communication with students who are strong visual learners.

### **Co-writer** Don Johnston

[www.donjohnston.com](http://www.donjohnston.com)

Price is dependent on number of computer licenses and monthly recurring charge.

Co:Writer is a word prediction program that works along with multiple different applications you write in like Microsoft Word, Google Docs, Blogs, or Email. When the student types a letter

Co:Writer presents word suggestions along with interpreting spelling and grammar mistakes.

Comes both as software and as an app. Educator/parent have access to tools with student sign up. Other option would be to obtain unlimited site license.

### **Clicker 7** Crick Software

[www.cricksoft.com](http://www.cricksoft.com)

<http://www.cricksoft.com/us/products/clicker/Pricing.aspx>

Software is a single fee and dependent on if a single site license or multiple site license. App called **Clicker Sentences** or **Clicker Connect** is single fee.

This is a word processing program that provides multiple strategies for teachers to incorporate to enhance student success with writing. There is a quick start word processor, a primary word predictor, a picture library, painting tools, audio output of word choices, the ability to add video's and it is switch accessible along with having the mouse dwell feature. Students can write with whole words, phrases or pictures by clicking on cells in a "grid" that has been created.

### **C-Pen**

<http://www.readerpen.com/>

One time fee

A portable, pocket-sized device that reads text out aloud with an English or Spanish human-like digital voice.

### **DocHub**

<https://dochub.com/>

Free or Annual Plan

no paid annually or Month-to-Month Plan

Scan your document to allow students to type in their answers on handouts, worksheets and assignments. With **DocHub Pro**, you can send up to 30 documents in any rolling 24 hour period up to 30 recipients per email, and **free** accounts can send up to 3 emails a day up to 3 recipients per email.

**Draftbuilder** DonJohnston

<http://donjohnston.com/draftbuilder/>

Unlimited site license or single/multiple computer.

It breaks down the writing process into three manageable steps: 1) brainstorming, 2) note-taking and 3) writing the first draft. With this structure, students learn to generate ideas and organize them to form a cohesive paper.

**Dragon Naturally Speaking** Nuance Company

[www.nuance.com/dragon/index.htm](http://www.nuance.com/dragon/index.htm)

It is either a monthly or yearly fee. This also comes as a FREE app.

Following a training period, where the program learns a student's voice this software allows voice to text so they are able to dictate their thoughts onto paper. Can also be used to write e-mails or use commands to access the web. Dragon Anywhere can access Dragon across all devices, e-mail, dropbox.

**EasyBib**

<http://www.easybib.com/>

Free version in MLP or per month cost.

This creates citations for books, videos, websites and other sources. Students just need to input basic information about the source, like a book title or a web address. Then EasyBib automatically fills in the details and provides a citation in the correct format. EasyBib also puts citations into alphabetical order.

**Explain Everything**

<http://explaineverything.com/>

App Store for one time fee.

An app that is easy to use and allows you to create slides, draw in any color, add shapes, add text, pictures and videos, use a laser pointer. Rotate, move and arrange any object added to the stage. Record and playback your screencast.

**First Author** Don Johnston

[http://donjohnston.com/firstauthorsoftware/#.U8\\_SwK1dWz4](http://donjohnston.com/firstauthorsoftware/#.U8_SwK1dWz4)

Price is unlimited site license subscription or single/multiple computer licenses.

Software that guides students through the writing process and keeps data. Students acquire writing skills by using software that scaffolds the writing process. Integrates word prediction and pictures. High Interest subjects draw students into the writing process through pictorial guide.

**Franklin Speller Corrector**

One time purchase fee and can order from Amazon.

It is a electronic spell checker displaying 16 characters, with rolodex databank, calculator and 6 word games.

### **Grammarly**

<https://www.grammarly.com/>

Free and paid versions.

Grammarly is an online proofreader. It's more advanced than typical proofreaders found in word processing programs like Word and Pages. The tool finds possible mistakes in spelling, grammar and punctuation and suggests corrections. It also gives explanations so students can learn from their mistakes.

### **GoWorksheet Maker**

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/goworksheet-maker/id1074020582?mt=8>

One time fee, app store.

Allows you to differentiate worksheets by bringing in an image taking a photo of the worksheet, and customizing it for your student's needs. Customization includes added word banks, allowance of tapping to fill multiple choice answers, drag and drop answers, or audio output that includes more detailed instructions or additional prompting.

### **Google Classroom**

<https://classroom.google.com/>

Free app.

Classroom is a new tool in Google Apps for Education that helps teachers create and organize assignments quickly, provide feedback efficiently, and easily communicate with their classes. Classroom helps students organize their work in Google Drive, complete and turn it in, and communicate directly with their teachers and peers.

### **Inspiration** Inspiration software

<http://www.inspiration.com/Inspiration>

Trial offers available. Available in a single license.

App Lite version free, full version one time price.

Allows students to use visual mapping to organize and develop a framework to assist with creating a writing project.

### **Kidspiration 3**

<http://www.inspiration.com/Kidspiration>

Trial offers available.

Available in a single license. App Lite version free full version one time price

Allows students to create graphic organizers in the form of webs, Venn diagrams, and concept maps accessing visuals and auditory output to assist in the writing process.

### **Kami**

<https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/kami-pdf-and-document-mar/iljojpiodmlhoehoecppliohmplbgeij?hl=en>

This is a Chrome app that allows for annotation in a PDF or document. There are many features that are free, but a paid version is available.

### **Kurzweil Systems**

<https://www.kurzweilededu.com/default.html>

Fee for single license, multiple licenses, site fees

Software that has many features such as note taking, citation, voice to text and read back features. This system has been around a long time. It has both web and software versions.

### **Livescribe Recording Pen**

One time purchase cost for pen and then recurring cost for paper.

<https://store.livescribe.com/>

This pen record words, diagrams, scribbles, symbols and audio. It is able to sync everything you hear to what you wrote. If you tap on your notes your smartpen will play back the audio. You can also transfer your notes to your computer so you can search, organize and share.

### **MindMeister**

<https://www.mindmeister.com/>

A per month fee.

A digital graphic organizer. It's a helpful organizational tool, as kids can use it to organize ideas with visual mind maps, diagrams and pictures. It also helps with taking notes, outlining the main ideas in a book or getting started writing an essay. The tool comes with several built-in templates. Kids can also create their own diagrams.

### **News2you**

<http://www.n2y.com/>

Annual cost per year for a classroom subscription.

The web site is subscription based and offers an abundance of worksheets that are aligned to the common core as well as the weekly newspaper based on a current event. The online version of the paper works great on a SmartBoard offering the students verbal feedback and interactivity.

### **OpenDyslexic Font**

This is a free new open source font created to increase readability for readers with dyslexia. The typeface includes regular, bold, italic, and bold-italic styles.

### **PixWriter Software** Attainment Company

<https://www.attainmentcompany.com/pixwriter-software>

One time fee.

A talking picture and word processor. It helps students write independently by combining symbol support with highlighted text and speech. The user is able to create illustrated buttons to form a word bank by simply entering text.

### **PODD Pragmatic Organisation Dynamic Display**

<http://www.spectronics.com.au/product/pragmatic-organisation-dynamic-display-podd-communication-books-direct-access-templates>

One time fee for the CD set

This resource is for people supporting children who are learning to communicate using aided symbols (pictographs, graphic symbols, whole written words). Therapists, teachers and parents will all have the opportunity to access the materials in this resource for their clients, students, children and young people. Pragmatic Organisation Dynamic Display (PODD) - communication books developed in Australia by Gayle Porter to help children learn vocabulary and how to “think” through language.

### **Popplet**

<http://popplet.com/>

Free (lite) version or paid version app store.

In the classroom and at home, students use Popplet for learning. Used as a mind-map, Popplet helps students think and learn visually. Students can capture facts, thoughts, and images and learn to create relationships between them.

### **QR Code**

<http://www.qrstuff.com/>

Free

Create QR codes from over 20 data types and smartphone actions. The students are able to use media to visually present their knowledge.

### **Read&Write Gold**

<https://www.texthelp.com/en-us/>

Annual subscription

Allows the student to listen to documents or web pages with natural voices, supports comprehension with text and picture dictionaries, provides word prediction with writing,

### **Scrible**

<https://www.scrible.com/>

Free for educators

Allows students to take notes on Internet articles as they research online. Students can use highlighters, sticky notes and other tools to mark key information. All of their work is saved in an online account. Scrible automatically creates citations for articles and puts them into a bibliography, too. The free version of Scrible has all of the basic note-taking tools.

### **Snap&Read** Don Johnston Inc.

<http://donjohnston.com/snap-read/>

Monthly subscription per computer.

Easy to use text reader that allows for quick access to any text on the screen.

Educator/parent have access to tools with student sign up. Other option would be to obtain unlimited site license.

### **Snaptype**

<http://www.snaptypeapp.com/>

Free or Pro version for a fee.

Download it for free from the app store.

worksheet in class and use the iPad keyboard to type their answers directly onto the worksheet. A screenshot of the completed worksheet can then be emailed to the teacher. This app is designed for both iPhone and iPad

### **Speechnotes**

<https://speechnotes.en.softonic.com/web-apps>

Free online.

Allows you to dictate, speech to text your notes. You can also dictate and edit your text results right away, and continue dictating.

### **Storyboard That**

<http://www.storyboardthat.com/>

Monthly fee.

Helps create such storyboards for whatever purpose you like. It's designed to be easy to use with a simple drag and drop interface and hundreds of pieces of clipart for clear expression.

### **Unique Learning System**

<https://www.n2y.com/unique-learning-system/>

Per user fee per year.

Provides a standards based curriculum which focuses on critical skills in writing (along with reading, math, science and social studies).

### **Web 2.0**

Sites that allow the student to create/write without even realizing that's what they're doing!!

- ★ Gone Google Story Creator

<http://docsstorybuilder.appspot.com/>

This site is receptive to running Co-Writer and Snap&Read along with it. Allows students) to create a simple short story with a title, multiple characters, and theme music.

- ★ Read Write Think has comic strip creator

<http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/comic/>

Allows Students) to build a short comic strip story. They can choose how many panels in their comic strip, characters, and backgrounds. Co:Writer and Snap&Read are able to be run in simultaneously with this site.

- ★ Story Starters

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/story-starters/index.html>

Allows students to pick a subject, enter a grade level, and then "spin the wheels" to create a ridiculous story starter. They also get to choose the format (ie: letter,

newspaper, notecard) and include a drawing.

★ Prezi

<https://prezi.com/dashboard/>

**Visuword**

<https://visuwords.com/>

free

Visual online dictionary that gives a visual representation of the word through color coding groups of meanings

**WordWeb**

<http://wordweb.info/free/>

Online free dictionary and thesaurus. Available also as software.

**Writing with Symbols**

<http://www.mayer-johnson.com/writing-with-symbols-bundle>

Software purchase.

This software helps students by giving them auditory and symbol support.

**WizCom Reading Pen 2**

<http://www.wizcomtech.com/education/literacy-tools/readingpen-2>

One time fee.

It is a portable hand-held tech-tool that scans text and provides beginning readers with instant word definitions, spelling and pronunciation support to boost the critical vocabulary, phonics, fluency and comprehension skills needed for student achievement in reading.

**WordQ 4**

<https://www.quillsoft.ca/wordq4/>

One time purchase fee.

A program that uses word prediction to suggest words that the user is typing into documents and emails, helping with spelling. It also has another add on package Speak Q 4 which allows text-to-speech voices to read back text that the user has entered.

**Write Out Loud** Don Johnston Inc. used for (ID, LD, Physical Disability)

<http://donjohnston.com/writeoutloud/>

Fee per individual computer license, but can also buy site license.

Write:OutLoud is simple to use and reads words as they are written, providing real-time auditory feedback. Writing tools, including talking spell checker, homophone checker, and dictionary help your students confirm their word choice in language they understand.

**TalkTyper**

<https://talktyper.com/>

Free speech to text dictation software in a browser.

### **The Friendly Letter Generator**

<http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/student-interactives/letter-generator-30005.html>

Free

The Letter Generator tool is designed to help students learn to identify all the essential parts of a business or friendly letter, and then generate letters by typing information into letter templates.

### **The Newspaper Clipping Generator**

<https://www.fodey.com/generators/newspaper/snippet.asp>

The Newspaper Clipping Generator is a free site that lets you create fake newspaper clippings. Just fill in provided fields with your text, and click on “Generate” button. Once the clipping is generated, you can easily download it to your computer.