Speakq

“So this is Speakq and it’s a lot like Dragon only it’s a lot more basic. It doesn’t do commands exactly the way Dragon does, whereas Dragon you tell it to go in to internet explorer and you tell it to exit and all that other stuff. Speakq is really just to help you with writing papers and especially if you’re not very good with spelling, it can help with those who have a physical disability because they don’t really need the keyboard when they’re writing papers they can just speak to it and it automatically writes it down as you’re speaking to it. It can also help with reading, so if you have trouble with reading skills you can highlight things and tell it to read and it right back to you”.

“The first thing that I’m going to do is show you how it can read certain things on the internet, whatever you would like read. This is really good for people who aren’t very good with their reading skills. So I’m just going to click on a random article on the MSN. So I guess this is about monkeys, so what you would do is that you would highlight what you want it to read, just like how you would highlight something regularly and so I’m just going to highlight this whole first sentence just to show you how you can make it read. Make sure the speech button is pressed down before you start any of this and then after you’ve highlighted it you press read and it should read to you”. (Computer talking)

“Okay this helps when you’re writing papers. Sometimes it’s easier to have it read to you to make sure it sounds smooth. So this is a good tool for that. First just make sure it’s clicked anywhere on the paper then you’re going to hit read and then it’s going to highlight what you want read and then you’re going to press the space bar. (Computer talking) Okay then when you want it to read the next sentence you click the down arrow. Computer talking) Okay and then you click the down arrow again and then space to make it read (Computer talking), then you hit the down arrow again (Computer talking) and hit the down arrow and space(Computer talking). You can also do single words by pressing the side arrows (Computer talking) and then so anytime you press the side arrows it reads single instead of the whole sentence. In order for it to actually hear what you are saying you have to make sure your mic is turned on by clicking that button that says mic and as soon as you click it you have to make use that you are being quite unless you want to speak to the program directly. You can’t have other conversations going on while the mic is turned on. So I’m going to turn the mic on. ‘My’”

“So it comes up with several options for words that you- that it thinks I’m trying to say. I said ‘my’ and the only place that says ‘my’ is number two, so in order to choose number two you have three options. You can either hit the down button arrow to my and then you press enter. ‘Name’ the second option is you can make the mouse hover over the actual word that you are trying to say and it will read it to you. So name is number one so I’m going click on name and as you can see it’s already trying to predict what I wanted to say, but I’m just going to say it so you can see. ‘is’ and then the final way to make it choose the word you press the actual number that
it’s sitting next too. So is is sitting next to one so you press one. ‘Katharine’ and as you can see it’s actually spelling my name correctly because I added it to the dictionary. ‘Katharine. My name is Katharine.’ And as you notice as soon as you put punctuation it reads the sentence.”