# **IOE-UCL Networked Free Open Source Assistive Software**

**Balabolka -** Text-To-Speech (TTS).

The on-screen text can be saved as an audio file. The program can read the clipboard content, view the text from a huge range of formats, customize font and background colour. Similar: Read&Write, ClaroRead, WordQ, Orato.

**Lingoes - Dictionary**

On-screen Dictionary and text translation software. It offers lookup dictionaries and full text translation. Similar: WordWeb Dictionary.

**Virtual Magnifying glass**

Free, open source, cross-platform screen magnification tool. Similar: SuperNova, ZoomText.

**Windows On screen keyboard**

On-Screen Keyboard displays a visual keyboard with all the standard keys. You can select keys using the mouse or another pointing device, or you can use a single key.

**NVDA**

NVDA (NonVisual Desktop Access) is a free “screen reader” which enables blind and vision impaired people to use computers. Similar: Jaws, WindowsEyes.

**ORATO**

Orato is a text-to-speech tool that can read out loud any text in English.

**Rapid Set**

Allows quick and easy changing of the background and font colours, without having to go through the Screen Properties dialogs. Similar inbuilt windows options.

**SSOverlay**

ssOverlay (the ss stands for Scotopic Sensitivity), places a coloured overlay onto the screen. The colour and transparency levels can be adjusted. Similar: ClaroView, T-bar.

**Sonar**

An expanded ring around the mouse pointer for users who have difficulty locating the pointer.

**T-bar**

T-Bar is a coloured bar which you can either drag around the screen or lock to your mouse.

**vu-bar**

An on-screen, slotted ruler. Similar: Claro ScreenRuler.

**Xmind**

XMind is a mind mapping and brainstorming software. Similar: MindJet, MindView, Inspiration.

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| **Diverse Abilities**  |  **Accessibility Features in Windows** |
| **Visual differences:*** + Low vision
	+ Colorblindness
	+ Blindness
 | * + Magnifier
	+ Screen resolution
	+ High Contrast
	+ Narrator –Text to Speech
	+ Audio descriptions
	+ Keyboard shortcuts
	+ Pointer options.
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| **Language/Speech differences:*** + Delayed speech or inability to speak
	+ Inability to comprehend words
 | * + Narrator
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| **Learning style differences:*** + Dyslexia
	+ Attention deficit disorders
	+ Learning style differences
	+ Learning a new language
	+ Developmental delays
 | * + Eliminate distraction - make it easier to focus and concentrate
	+ Speech Recognition
	+ Narrator
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| **Mobility and dexterity differences:*** + Dexterity impairments – hand, wrist, and arm pain, fine motor control
	+ Motor impairments (Cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, spinal cord injuries)
 | * + Mouse settings – pointer size, speed, button configuration
	+ Keyboard settings – Mouse Keys, Sticky Keys, Filter Keys
	+ On-Screen Keyboard
	+ Keyboard shortcuts
	+ Speech Recognition
 |
| **Hearing differences:*** + Hearing loss and hard-of-hearing
	+ Deafness
 | * + Volume
	+ Computer sounds
	+ Text and visual alternatives for sounds – such as captions
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