George Parker

6401 Project 6

Adaptive and Assistive Technology

1. Screen Reader: When entering the screen reader simulation I felt that it would be a great tool to use. However, when I began the simulation I felt that it was too difficult to understand. The voice was monotone and it sounded muffled. I could not clearly understand the information that the voice was sharing. In addition to that, the functions that were listed did not work. The screen reader could be a beneficial tool for someone to use if the voice is slower and clearer. Blind users of screen readers would most benefit from tasks being one at a time as well. The users need to have knowledge of the shortcut functions in order to be successful. The benefits for the learners are that they have accessibility to the internet, various websites, and information.
2. Low-Vision: The low vision simulation was a bit interesting. I was wondering how as a person with low vision I would not want to have to scroll so much from left to right. The words had a short contrast when being adjusted. When words became enlarged they were very blurry. The information was hard to locate in my opinion. This technology can assist learners whose vision has not progressed in the worst way. For a person with a low vision this tool can help with clarity and vision.
3. Dyslexia: In completing the dyslexia simulation I had a horrendous time! I could not read the paragraph. Since I could not read the paragraph I couldn’t answer the questions until the paragraph was deciphered for me. The letters were reversed,omitted, inversion, and transposed which all made for me being confused.This is probably how dyslexics feel on a daily basis. Learners who are experiencing dyslexia can be helped by using smaller paragraphs and the use of graphics as well. Creators of websites can help dyslexics by having an easy to navigate site. The site should not have complex layouts and materials can be organized in chunks.
4. Distractability: In the distractibility simulation the need to multitask was imperative. I could not get to another task before the little man got the bombs. If I was a person with cognitive impairment I would find trying to do more than one task at a time very difficult. Moving the two keys in order to prevent the man from being bombed and find the information was not an easy feat. Learners with distractibility need to complete one task at a time. A way that can help these types of learners is to keep content simple. Adding a graphic can also help these types of learners.

Part B:

* 1. Ms.Cinqela can use a voice activated devices that can take tests and complete research for the student. The student can verbally give commands to the laptop or computer to complete tasks such as word processing and using search engines. The student can also answer questions.
  2. The advantage will be that the student will be able to apply their knowledge to age and grade appropriate concepts. The student can be able to keep up with their peers and have a productive life.
  3. Ms,Cinqela can have her student work both on and individual and group basis,. Some students prefer to work alone, but in preparing her student with Cerebral Palsy for life in the real world she should work with groups to learn social and interaction skills.

2-1 Mr.Allgood can use various strategies to tech his gifted students math and science. He can utilize blogs, simulations, games, wikis, and pod casts and interactive promethean boards.The students can create blogs to find different methods of solving math problems. In addition to that, the use of the promethean planet and its resources can be utilized to complete the project the principal suggested.

2-2 The relative advantage of using these proposed strategies is that the students will learn how to interact and manipulate content. There may be experts on the podcasts that can provide the students with pathways to creativity on the subjects of math and science. Utilizing Brain Pop or Brain Pop Jr as resources are also suggested to Mr.Allgood . They are kid friendly, thorough, and provide assessment checks.

2-3 One way to manage this kind of activity is by student interests. Students can choose by platform comfort ability. Are they more comfortable using the promethean board, using the computer to look at a pod cast or complete a simulation, or finding a blog, or creating a wiki page on a particular concept.

3-1 Mr. Bartle can use a computer program entitled Study Island, game based technology ,www.aaa.mathcom, and the national library of virtual manipulatives . Study Island has games embedded as well as tutorials. These two combined with a summative test after each skill and or standard is sure to scaffold the needed skills for his students. There is also IXL math and Pearson Success. IXL math provides daily skill practice and feedback for students. In addition, Pearson Success has a similar program. Teachers can assign students tutorials based on specific skills and strands.

3-2 The advantage of using these strategies is the ability to practice these much needed concept in a non threatening environment. All of the suggested strategies can be practiced at the students pace and will provide the students with motivation as they move successfully through the program.

3-3 These students can work in a small group if they have to work on the same skill. They can work in pairs in order to self test each other and practice skills. Teachers can assign small groups to exhibit their knowledge on skills.

4-1 Mr.Tindel can have the student that is artistically inclined to draw a scene from a time period that the class has studied. This can be in the format of a comic strip and this will keep the text amount to a minimum. The other student can use pictures in the place of writing and showing various expressions. The student who likes photography can create a pictorial timeline showing events in the Civil War era. This timeline can utilize words slogans, modern representations, and captions on the pictures.

4-2 Utilizing the pictures in the comic strip in order to lessen the amount of text will provide support for the students and make them feel successful. The student who likes to draw will build comprehension skills because you need to understand major happenings in a time period in order to draw a scene that encompasses it. The student that utilizes photography as a medium can be a great springboard strategy to create discussions in Social studies Class.

4-3 Mr.Tindel could assess if these students feel more positive about this activity if they begin to prepare in advance for the upcoming assignment. This would entail forethought and a positive outlook on completing this activity.

5-1 Mr.Zircone can introduce this student to a program entitled Kidspiration and or Inspiration. These programs allow concept maps to be drawn and text typed in. An outline can be created to show comprehension as well. An additional strategy could be to use PowerPoint and or photography to exhibit knowledge and increase his self esteem.

5-2 The relative advantage of using both tools is that the student will feel better. He will be able to exhibit knowledge in a variety of ways and let his classmates know that he does possess knowledge. Also, the application of the knowledge will build up the student. The teacher should see success once the student sees a way to express themselves through sharing their thoughts and feelings.

5-3 In utilizing PowerPoint in Reading/Language class the student can write a narrative piece of writing in response to a teacher assigned prompt. The PowerPoint project can show the student participating in all parts of the writing process. In a science class the student can use photography to exhibit the life cycle of a butterfly.