

## Free Software Tools for Struggling Learners

### Windows Based

**LibreOffice** - A full featured office suite with a word processor, spreadsheet, presentation program, database and a drawing program. [Available to download at LibreOffice.org.](http://LibreOffice.org)

[Video Tutorial for LibreOffice](#)

### LibreOffice Plugins

**Zotero** – A research tool which paired with an internet browser allow for insertion of citations in a number of styles (APA, MLA,...) [Add the LibreOffice Zotero plugin from here](#) Note: Zotero for Firefox should already be installed.

[Video Tutorial Zotero](#)

**Read Text** – A text to speech addin for LibreOffice. Uses the Windows installed voices. [Add the Read Text plugin from here.](#)

[Video Tutorial for Read Text Extension](#)

**Balaboka** - A Text-To-Speech (TTS) program. All computer voices installed on your system are available to Balabolka. The on-screen text can be saved as an audio file (WAV, MP3, MP4, OGG or WMA formats). The program can read the clipboard content, view and read the text from AZW, AZW3, CHM, DjVu, DOC, EPUB, FB2, HTML, LIT, MOBI, ODT, PRC, PDF and RTF files. It provides for visual tracking of the read words. [Balaboka can be downloaded here \(the official site\)](#)

[Video Tutorial for Balaboka](#)

**Lingoes** – Dictionary and text translation software, offering lookup dictionaries, full text translation, capture word on screen, translate selected text and pronunciation of words in over 80 languages. These languages are English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Greek, Swedish, Turkish, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Arabic, Hebrew, Vietnamese and Thai among others.

[Video Tutorial for Lingoes](#)

**Windows Speech Recognition** – Windows Speech Recognition is built into Windows 7, 8, 8.1 and 10. You can activate it by going to the control panel and clicking on the Speech Recognition icon. It does require an microphone (a USB type is best). [Basic information on Windows Speech Recognition can be found here.](#)

[Video Tutorial for Windows Speech Recognition](#)

**XMind** - A mind mapping and brainstorming software. In addition to the management elements, the software can capture ideas, clarify thinking, manage complex information, and promote team collaboration for higher productivity. [XMind can be downloaded here.](#)

[Video Tutorial for XMind](#)

**Anki** - A spaced repetition flashcard program. *Anki* is the Japanese word for *memorization*. The cards may include text, images, sounds, videos, and LaTeX equations. [Anki can be downloaded here.](#)

[Video Tutorial for Anki](#)

**Firefox**- A free and open-source web browser. Features include tabbed browsing, spell checking, incremental find, live bookmarking, Smart Bookmarks, a download manager, private browsing, location-aware browsing (also known as "geolocation") and an integrated search system

**Zotero** - An easy-to-use tool to help you collect, organize, cite, and share your research sources. [Zotero can be downloaded here.](#)

**CLiCk, SpeaK** – A text to speech extension for the Firefox browser. [Add the Click,Speak Firefox extension from here](#)

**Training and Webinars are available from TouchtheFuture.us. Just let us know what your needs are.**