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## **Text to Speech Rekindles Love of Reading for Busy Mom**

*TextAloud Brings a Love of Reading Back into Busy Mom's Life  
(and Gives Back Time to Do It)*

CLEMMONS, NC – Like most people nowadays, **Anne H.**'s rarest and most prized resource is time. The Melbourne, Australia resident works at a school canteen, is an accomplished beader and hobbyist, and is most of all a busy and resourceful Mom. With her busy days filled by children, work, daily household tasks, and more, although she loves literature and stories, Anne has had little time for them despite their place in her life as some of her favorite pastimes. All this changed, however, when she discovered **TextAloud** Text to Speech software from **NextUp.com**. Now, she could finally indulge her passion for reading by listening to it throughout the day, on her computer and MP3 player.

"I really wanted time to read stories, but needed to get the housework done," Anne comments. "I looked at a couple of programs, then found *TextAloud* to read to me. It was so easy to use and offered so many features I liked that I've never looked back."

*TextAloud* is an affordable PC program from the Text to Speech leaders at NextUp. The software downloads and installs in minutes, and enables computer users everywhere to easily listen to e-mails, websites, stories, novels, textbooks and more, as natural and enjoyable human-sounding speech. The program means that users have more choices than ever for listening to their reading, whether from the computer, or on the go, via an iPod or even audio CD.

Thanks to Text to Speech, suddenly Anne was able to enjoy her reading even while addressing so many of those activities that took up her time. She could simply copy the text of the stories she wanted to read, paste into *TextAloud*, and export to easy audio files for use anywhere she wished via her Phillips GoGear MP3 player. Using her MP3 player, she can now listen to her reading at the gym, while doing housework, while pursuing her beading hobby, and more.

Because of *TextAloud*'s ease of use, "a simple copy and paste technique gets things going," comments Anne. "Just a few clicks more and it's done, and my reading is ready to listen to." This ease means that it's simple for Anne to follow her favorite ongoing Internet Jane Austen fan fiction chapter by chapter on an ongoing basis, even on multiple threads.

"I definitely appreciate Text to Speech," she adds. "And once you get started with *TextAloud*, you find more and more uses as time goes on. My son uses it to read his school textbooks, and has on one occasion even used it to create the voiceover for a short movie made for a class project." She adds, "I also find he uses it to read out web pages with discussions on the games he plays on the computer."

Anne doesn't just use *TextAloud* by day. The program has even proved beneficial to assisting her with her insomnia. "I have trouble sleeping at night, so would often get up to the computer to read stories online," she comments. "By using *TextAloud*, I am able to listen to my favorite stories with a pillow speaker and a stereo beside my bed. I do believe I get more sleep now than I did, and it makes falling asleep a lot easier."

*TextAloud*'s most helpful tools for Anne include its easy and enormously helpful File Splitter Utility. "I really find I use that utility a lot. I get a lot of interruptions when listening, and find it useful to have smaller MP3 files so that I can go back to the part of the story that I was listening to without wasting time," she adds.

"I enjoy having entertainment around me," adds Anne. "I've always had the radio or TV on while I worked, and now I'm even better entertained with *TextAloud*, because I get to hear what I choose, what I wish to make the time for. *TextAloud* is such a great program, and it ultimately makes life much more interesting."

### **About *TextAloud***

Highly useful for students, scientists, writers, business people, students and people from all walks of life – *TextAloud* has been featured in *The New York Times*, *PC Magazine*, *Writer's Digest*, on CNN, and more. Hailed by critics and users alike, *TextAloud* is priced from \$29.95, and is compatible with systems using Windows® 98, NT, 2000, XP and Vista. *TextAloud* also works seamlessly with iTunes, for easy synching with iPod®, iPhone™, or other iTunes-compatible portable audio players. The program is available for fast, safe and secure purchase via <http://www.NextUp.com>.

NextUp.com also offers *TextAloud* with optional premium voices from **AT&T Natural Voices™**, **Nuance®**, **Acapela®** and **Cepstral®** for the most natural-sounding computer speech anywhere. Available languages include U.S. English, U.K. English, Indian Accent English, Scottish Accent English, Arabic, Cantonese Chinese, Mandarin Chinese, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Belgian Dutch, Faroese, Finnish, French, Canadian French, German, Icelandic, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Norwegian, Polish, Brazilian Portuguese, European Portuguese, Russian, Castilian (European) Spanish, Latin American Spanish, Mexican Spanish, Swedish, and Turkish.

### **About NextUp.com**

**NextUp.com**, a division of NextUp Technologies, LLC, provides award-winning Text to Speech software for consumers, professionals, businesses, educators, and those with visual or vocal impairment, or learning disabilities.

In addition to *TextAloud*, NextUp.com markets other innovative Windows software designed to save time and deliver vital information. NextUp *Talker* is an easy and affordable program that allows people who have lost their voices to use the latest in high-quality computer voices to communicate with others.

Evaluation copies of *TextAloud* are available upon request. For more information on NextUp.com or *TextAloud*, or for other case studies involving users ranging from writers, editors, and teachers, to students, entrepreneurs, firefighters, doctors, lawyers, truck drivers, musicians, and more, please contact publicist Angela Mitchell at **(904) 982-8043** or via [Admitchell@Nextup.com](mailto:Admitchell@Nextup.com).

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