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Contact: Rick Ellis  
[rdellis@nextup.com](mailto:rdellis@nextup.com)

Angela Mitchell  
[admitchell@nextup.com](mailto:admitchell@nextup.com) or (904) 982-8043



2668 Lewisville-Clemmons Road  
Clemmons, NC 27012

## ***TextAloud* Offers Discount Just in Time for 2012 Back to School Season**

*With rave reviews from students, teachers, and the learning-disabled community, NextUp.com's special offer through September 30, 2012 is a great opportunity for students of all ages to try out TextAloud!*

CLEMMONS, NC – Students seeking the perfect study tool for the 2012 Back to School season will love the ease and convenience of NextUp.com's **TextAloud** software, the Text to Speech solution that enables them to listen to studies and reading at the PC, or on the go! To celebrate the 2012 school year, PC users can find a special coupon for Back to School purchase at **\$10 off** *TextAloud's* usual purchase price, at:

<http://sites.fastspring.com/nextup/product/textaloud?coupon=backtoschool>. The discount is good through September 30, 2012.

Usually priced from \$29.95, with *TextAloud*, PC users can listen to their reading via computer, or by exporting their reading to spoken audio files for listening on most popular portable devices, from MP3 players to iPods<sup>®</sup>, iPhones<sup>®</sup>, and beyond. *TextAloud* is a valuable general study tool that enables the creation of audio files in a snap, and which seamlessly works to help PC users listen to their reading from most text and document formats, from *Microsoft Word*<sup>®</sup>, to ASCII, web or e-mail text, PDF, and more.

"Research shows that students who listen to their studies, especially while reading visually, can show increased retention of what they read and learn," comments NextUp.com President **Rick Ellis**. "We're in our 13th year, and it is humbling to hear from so many *TextAloud* users that the software is an affordable yet life-changing solution."

With *TextAloud*, users can accomplish a wide variety of tasks, from listening to reading for entertainment, to proofing or studying by ear, and more. The program even syncs seamlessly with iTunes<sup>®</sup>, and can be especially valuable for reinforcing content with those battling learning

disabilities. The program also enables students to proofread by ear on those big term papers – catching errors and inadvertent homophones that standard Spell-Checkers too often miss.

### **Student and Teacher Successes for *TextAloud***

Using *TextAloud*, students can read at their own pace and select the word or question they want reread, without having to ask staff to read it again. This saves embarrassment, and results in better test-taking strategies -- and test scores. Students who have turned to *TextAloud* to enhance their studies include:

Master's Student and Teacher, **Steven Service**: "I was surprised to discover that when I made use of *TextAloud*, not only could I read much faster, but my comprehension increased. There's a huge difference in the way you feel as a student when you enter the classroom having read every single book and article the teacher required," he adds. "Confidence is bliss!" Steven also incorporated *TextAloud* into guided reading programs with his own students, where the software enabled them to make comprehension gains while simultaneously improving in phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary and fluency. Steven found that *TextAloud* could also be used to challenge advanced readers, too.

Retired aerospace test systems engineer **Paul Harker** also incorporated *TextAloud* into his studies of the German language: "*TextAloud* quickly became a very important part of my learning process," comments Harker, who created an intensive study regimen hinging on *TextAloud*, to incorporate listening to German into his daily routine, both at the desk and on the go.

Another student user, who discovered *TextAloud* after experimenting with books on tape and other less helpful options was **Vicky Greenplate-DeStephano**. Vicky turned to *TextAloud* for her studies and found the help she needed. She was also able to customize its appearance for visual comfort and comprehension, and to use the program's easy Hotkeys to immediately highlight her reading in other programs.

Fire Chief **Tom Brown** first turned to *TextAloud* while studying for a vital promotional exam in the fire department, using *TextAloud* to listen to his materials even while mowing the lawn! With *TextAloud*, Tom didn't just pass his promotional exam, but tied for the top spot, proving so useful that Tom continued to use the software for both his Bachelor's degree, and in his studies for Fire Chief. "The ability to change voices to emphasize a particular topic remains a very valuable feature," he comments. "It causes the listener to perk up and pay particular attention, bringing the proper emphasis to the selected text."

## **About TextAloud**

With more personalization options than ever before, **TextAloud** is the highly useful PC program for students, scientists, writers, business users, and people from all walks of life. *TextAloud* enables anyone to experience their reading by listening, and 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. System requirements include almost any version of Windows® (from 98 to Me, NT, 2000, XP, Vista, and Windows 7), as well as a minimum of 64 MB of RAM, 10 MB of disk space, and a sound card. *TextAloud* even works seamlessly with iTunes®, for easy synchronizing with iPod®, iPhone®, or other iTunes®-compatible portable audio players, and unlike often prohibitively priced gadgets or eReaders, *TextAloud* doesn't require special hardware of any kind. Follow the latest news from *TextAloud* at <http://www.Facebook.com/TextAloud>, or try the program today, via a fast, safe and secure preview and purchase at <http://www.NextUp.com>.

NextUp.com also offers *TextAloud* with optional Premium Voices from **Nuance RealSpeak™**, **AT&T Natural Voices™**, **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, Basque, Catalan, Cantonese Chinese, Mandarin Chinese, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Belgian Dutch, Faroese, Finnish, French, Canadian French, German, Greek, Hindi, Icelandic, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Norwegian, Polish, Brazilian Portuguese, European Portuguese, Russian, Castilian (European) Spanish, Latin American Spanish, Mexican Spanish, Swedish, Taiwanese, 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 enables people who have lost their voices to use the latest in high-quality computer voices to communicate aloud with others.

Evaluation copies of *TextAloud* are available for the media upon request. For more information on *TextAloud* and its uses for students returning Back to School, or for a rich assortment of case studies involving users ranging from firefighters and lawyers, to writers, editors, teachers, actors, students, entrepreneurs, doctors, 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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**Media Contact:**

Angela Mitchell  
Paranoid PR (for NextUp.com)  
(904) 982-8043  
[Admitchell@Nextup.com](mailto:Admitchell@Nextup.com)

## **Photos and Captions, *TextAloud***



*TextAloud is the highly useful PC program for students everywhere that turns text into natural-sounding speech, for listening on the computer, or exported to sound files you can listen to anywhere. The software is currently offering a special discount for the Back to School season through September 30, 2012.*