

ReadInsight™

Teaching Reading Skills to Adult Learners

Appropriate Instruction Based on Students' Abilities

ReadInsight™ is a computer-based tutor for teaching reading comprehension skills to adults. Working with adult reading skills instructors, Stottler Henke Associates, Inc. developed an intelligent reading tutor that automatically assesses and diagnoses each student's specific reading skill deficiencies and tailors its instruction accordingly.

It employs innovative techniques to estimate proficiency levels of interrelated, high-level and low-level reading skills. A scaffolding mechanism helps students learn difficult skills by presenting exercises that build upon skills already mastered. In addition, the system helps students understand the relationship between the various aspects of reading and how they can be put together to achieve a high level of comprehension. By encouraging reflection, the software helps students to understand the text in more depth.

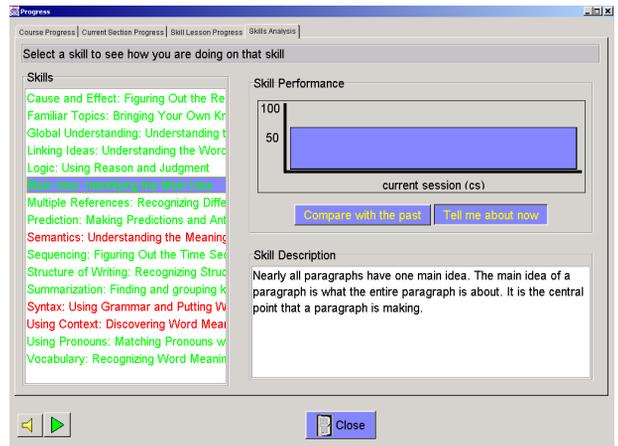


Figure 1: The tutor maintains a fine-grained assessment of the student's reading skills. It targets its remediation efforts on a learner's weak skills, here shown in red.

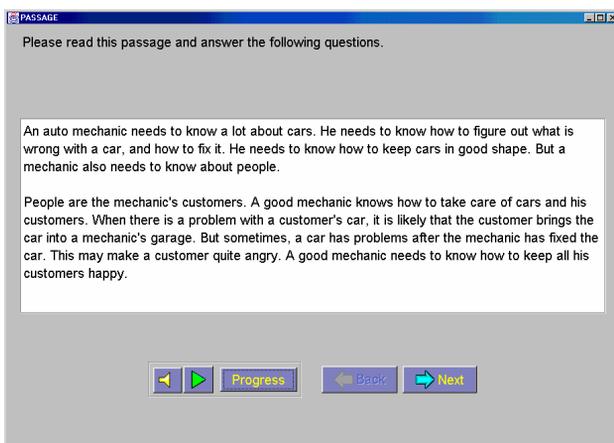


Figure 2: Assessment of student skills is done in the context of reading grade appropriate text and answering questions based on the text.

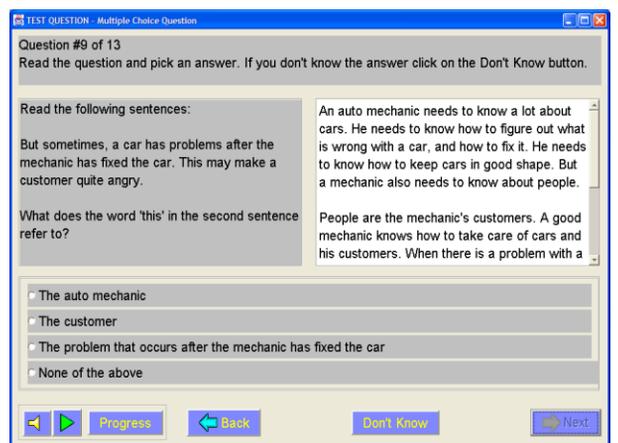


Figure 3: Each question addresses one or more important reading comprehension skills.

Material That Makes Sense

Studies show that reading instruction aimed at adults is significantly more effective when the content is related to each student's personal interests and career goals. Thus, ReadInsight includes an authoring tool that enables course designers to create relevant reading material without programming. For example, a manufacturing company could include content related to manufacturing process guidelines and instructions, so employees can acquire reading skills while learning work-related material.

ReadInsight™ includes an authoring tool that lets organizations create new content and reading exercises customized to their needs.

Faster and Better Learning

A large-scale, third-party evaluation showed that ReadInsight™ leads to significant improvements in reading comprehension performance with only five hours of use. Learners also rated it highly for ease of use and engagement.

ReadInsight™ Applications

The reading tutor has received considerable interest from community colleges and adult education centers. It can be used by commercial organizations to improve workplace literacy. Additionally, it can be used to teach content material for other subjects besides reading. Because it assesses and assists each student's reading comprehension at a deep level, it can be used to help people understand written instruction, rules and regulations, and instruction manuals.

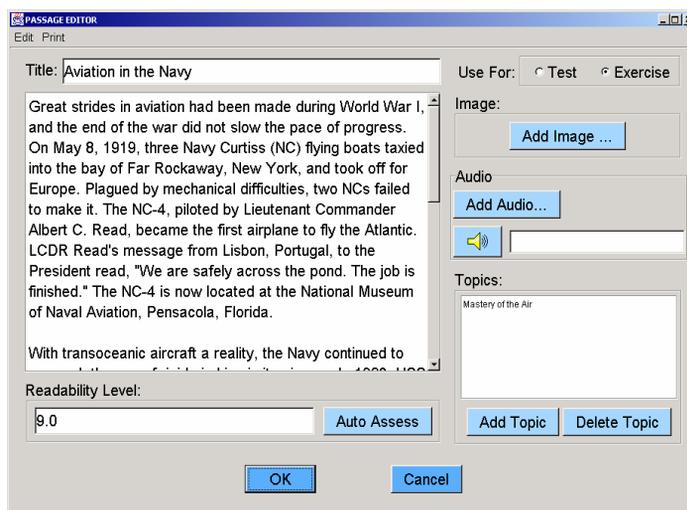


Figure 5: Organizations can customize the content by using the authoring tool to create reading exercises.

For additional information, demos, and pricing contact
Sowmya Ramachandran, Ph.D.
Stottler Henke Associates
sowmya@stottlerhenke.com
(650) 931-2716