

## Use Your Blog to:

---

Convert public domain texts to e text and then to audio text - create audio books and Mp3 files.



[www.blogger.com](http://www.blogger.com)

<http://audacity.sourceforge.net>

[www.naturalreaders.com](http://www.naturalreaders.com)

[www.odiongo.com](http://www.odiongo.com)

### What you need:

1. A scanner with OCR Optical Character Recognition - Walmart has them for \$69.)
2. Text to scan
3. A Blog with Odiogo [www.odiongo.com](http://www.odiongo.com)
4. Natural Reader free download text to speech reader.
5. Audacity free sound editor software.



### With Odiogo:

1. Scan the text with OCR as a rich text file .rtf, or text file .txt. Consult the manual with your scanner to see how it is done. Some scanners have a button on the scanner that shows a page with lines and the corner turned down. This button means to scan as a text document not as an image.
2. Clean up the text, deleting any funny dashes and lines that shouldn't be there as well as embedded numbers that can arise, etc.
3. Copy and paste edited text into your blog as a new post.
4. Publish the post and let Odiogo read it.
5. Use the free Mp3 button on Odiogo to download the file as an Mp3 file to listen to the post anytime.

Odiogo says that it cannot provide the text to speech or Mp3 service with closed blogs. Since you can't post copyrighted text on the Internet on an open site, you have to have the blog closed. If you left a blog open and pasted and posted

copyright material long enough to download the Mp3 once and then deleted the post, you might be alright, but you are still posting the text - even for a limited time. Follow the option below to get around this.

(You can also download public domain e text from [www.Gutenberg.org](http://www.Gutenberg.org))

**Another option:** (if the blog needs to be closed because of copyright violations, and you don't want to post it on as blog)



### Use Audacity to make an audio book Mp3 file:

1. Open Audacity to record.  
<http://audacity.sourceforge.org>
2. set the microphone to "stereo mix" (older versions) or "wave mix out"(newer versions). This stops recording sound from outside and uses the internal signal going to the speakers .
3. If you start the record button on Audacity and then a text reader reading feature (like in Natural Reader) - it will record the reading.
4. Once done, in Audacity, clean up the beginning and end for any blank space and then convert the file just recorded to an Mp3 by choosing "file" and selecting the pull-down menu and "convert to Mp3".
5. Save the file where you want it. You could link files to download from your server in closed blogs for students. Save the file on your server and copy paste the address or hyperlink it to a document name on the blog.

### Getting the Encoder to convert to Mp3 in Audacity:

The first time you convert to an Mp3 format in Audacity, you need the free Lame encoder to be installed with Audacity.

You can get the Lame encoder here: <http://lame.buanzo.com.ar/>

1. Download the free encoder (save) and open on your desktop. Drag the utility onto the desktop and then pick up the steps of saving the recorded file as an Mp3.

2. Audacity will tell you it cannot convert the file until it has the Lame encoder and will ask if you want it to find it. Say "yes" and then browse to your desktop where you put it and double-click on it. Audacity will add it to your utilities for on its' own and then ask you to go ahead with the step below:
3. Indicate where to save the file somewhere on your computer, choose to save it there and finish the conversion.

Students can use this tool to access textbooks and literature that can be added to a simple Mp3 player that can be bought for as cheap as \$20 or \$30.

After you have scanned text and have it in a text file, use it in a blog or with the following tools:

**NaturalSoft<sup>®</sup> With Natural Reader by Natural Soft:**

1. Download Natural Reader [www.naturalreaders.com](http://www.naturalreaders.com)
2. Open and delete the text in their on screen player text window.
3. Paste your text.
4. Place the cursor at top of the page before the first word and click play.
5. You can use the miniboard floating tool bar as well, but it sometimes has a harder time playing the text.

**Copyright, Fair Use and Electronic Text**

I recommend reading the information linked below from UC Berkley on copyright issues and textbooks, electronic media, etc.

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/copyright/newmedia.html>