**Assignment for Technology Workshop**

There are so many technology devices and ways of accessing material! It's exciting but it can be almost overwhelming. How to keep track of all those devices, approaches, brand names, and overlapping methods??

You'll have an opportunity to see many of the devices at the Weekend Workshop, but before you attend, it's helpful to have a bit of preparation. Therefore, each of you have been assigned a category of technology to look into before the workshop. At the workshop itself, as part of your participation grade, you will be asked to give a SHORT synopsis of what you've learned about this category of technology and how it can be helpful to students with visual disabilities. I have randomly assigned you to a broad category. You may find that there are devices that do more than one thing (for example, there are video magnifiers that help a reader access both near *and* distance material) but find out what you can about this category.

I have attached a chart that tells you the kind of information you will be presenting. Remember: this is SHORT; you'll have about 5 minutes to present what you've found out. And this is obviously not all the AT available but here are some of the most common:

Tonya: Screen enlargement software (include built-in screen enlargement)

Allison: Screen reading software

Rafeela: 3-D printing

Janelle: Braille translation software and OCR software

JoAnn: Refreshable braille displays

Ruby: Electronic magnification devices

Melissa: Electronic book readers (and the audio formats DAISY, ePub)

Technology Chart:

Your assigned category: ­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| --- | --- |
| What does it do (in one sentence)? |  |
| What are some common brand names? |  |
| How can it benefit a student with a visual impairment in the ECC? (e.g., schoolwork, independent travel, leisure, etc.) |  |
| What are some of the advantages of this device or access approach? |  |
| What are some disadvantages or cautions of this devices or approach to access? |  |
| How difficult does it seem to learn to you? In other words, is it a fairly simple device that does one thing, or is it complex and have a steep learning curve? |  |
| What might be some instructional activities you might use when teaching it? Just list a couple of ideas you thought of while reading about it. |  |