



TheyMayNotKnow.com

FREE WEBINAR SERIES



Hearing Loss: Tech to the Rescue





4/6/22 with  
Joan Green M.A. CCC-SLP &  
Colleen Zenczak, Au.D. CCC-A



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

# Accessibility Check



- ❖ You are muted 
- ❖ We can't see you 
- ❖ Close extra tabs and refresh if problems 
- ❖ Log out and in again as needed
- ❖ Live captioning enabled 
- ❖ Everyone will have access to on-demand recording- 2 weeks
- ❖ Explore view options

# My unique lens/ Perspective

Speech-language pathologist

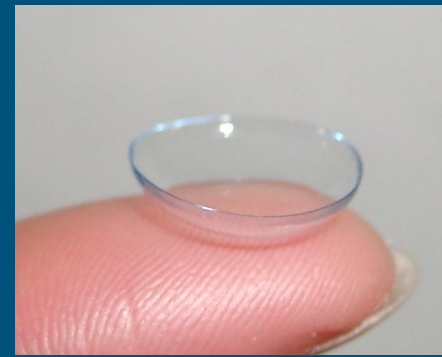
Assistive Technology Specialist

Online Tech Coach

Eldercare provider & mother of 4 young adults

Focus on solutions

Promote a happy, balanced, meaningful life



# Joan L. Green



**Innovative**  
SPEECH THERAPY

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## Innovative Speech Therapy

**Hello and welcome!**

Innovative Speech Therapy offers a uniquely effective approach to therapy empowering individuals, families and professionals with state-of-the-art local and long-distance therapy, coaching and training programs.

Joan Green is a licensed and certified speech-language pathologist with many years of experience helping children and adults who have communication, cognitive, literacy and learning challenges.

[Let's get started](#) [Join our email list](#)

Improving Communication, Cognition and Productivity with Tech-Savvy Strategies, Solutions and Support

[Let's Chat](#)

<https://www.innovativespeech.com>



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# Colleen Zenczak, Au.D. CCC-A

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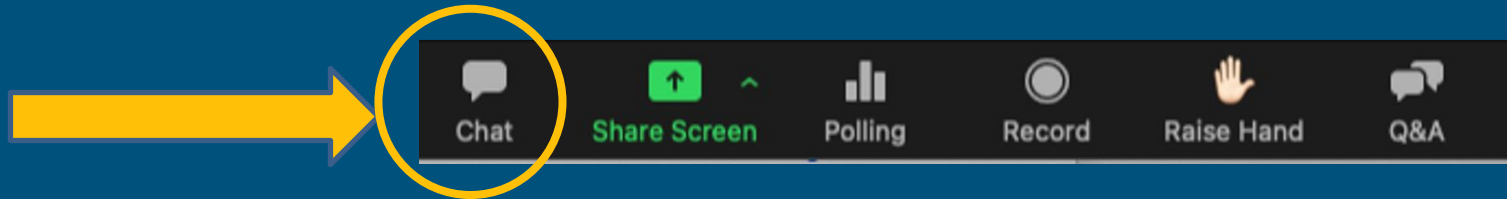
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# Participate

Let's help each other and connect!



6



# Spotlight Session- Hearing Loss

4/26/22 1:00-2:30 PM ET

We'll take a closer look and some top tech tools and strategies to support hearing.

Learn from a group of experts!

Space is limited. \$49.95

<https://innovativespeech.com/spotlight-sessions>



# IST Tech Savvy Solutions Facebook Group



Innovative SPEECH THERAPY Presents:

## IST TECH SAVVY SOLUTIONS

JOIN US

*Connect. Inspire. Thrive.*

The advertisement features a group of diverse people, including a man in a wheelchair, holding hands in a circle outdoors. The background is a blue and green geometric design.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ISTTechSavvySolutions/>



Free Webinar Series  
TheyMayNotKnow.com

*Dedicated to the memory of my  
wonderful brother Robert (Bob)  
Lipman*



# Framework for Leveraging Benefits of Tech

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Learn about what's possible★

Match user's needs to helpful features

Set up the environment for success

Try out tech tools and adapt as  
needed

# Hearing Loss



This sign indicated there are devices or services available for the deaf or hearing impaired.



# More signs and symbols to look for:

Volume control phone



Assistive listening devices



Sign language interpretation



Closed captioning



# Causes of Hearing Loss

People of all ages experience hearing loss

- Aging
- Noise exposure
- Head Trauma
- Virus or disease
- Genetics
- Ototoxicity





Conversations



Medical advice

# Impact of hearing loss have on everyday life



Entertainment



Warnings

# What aspects of hearing loss are most concerning?



- Performing tasks at work
- Talking with friends and family
- Learning in school
- Participating in community events
- Understanding medical advice
- Pursuing leisure activities

# Strategies for success

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- Preserve remaining hearing
- Seek professional evaluation- there could be other issues that need medical treatment
- Connect with others in similar situations
- Learn more about what may help- this is a great first step

# What features / products may help?

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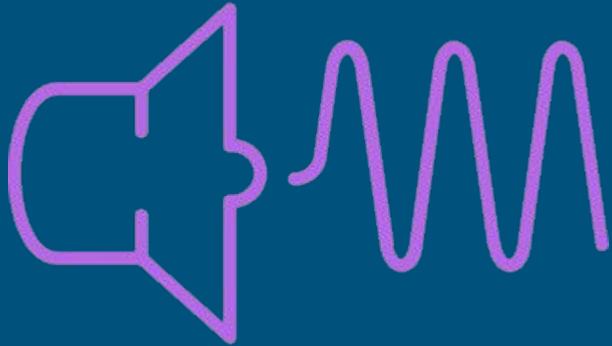


Let's explore features, products, strategies and online groups that you may not realize exist!



# Optimize acoustic signal

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- Increase volume & customize
- Conversational partner speaks slowly and clearly
- Hearing aids
- Cochlear implants

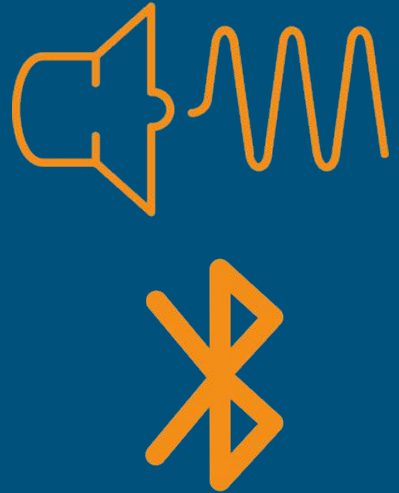
# Let's talk about hearing aids



# Hearing aids and new features

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- Amplify certain frequencies
- Bluetooth & AT paired to it
- Remote programming of hearing aids



# Roger personal microphone

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Streams directly into hearing aids  
above level of background noise



# Help hearing the TV or Online Meetings (Zoom)

**TV streamers-** streams sound into the hearing aid-specific to each hearing aid



Phonak TV Connector

**TV Ears-** Streams sound from TV to a headset

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



# Help hearing and understanding the TV

Sound bars-

<https://www.nytimes.com/wirecutter/blog/soundbar-can-help-hear-dialogue/>

Sub app- translates captions- Watch captions on your iOS device

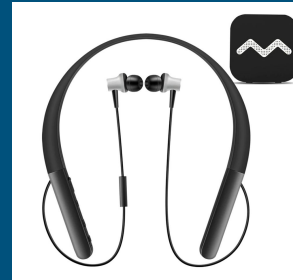
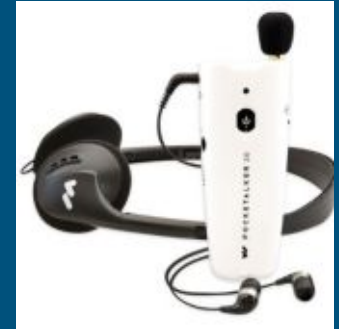
<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/subtitles-viewer/id877811411>



# Pocket Talkers

Simple microphone with a headset to amplify

Can purchase on Amazon



<https://seniormobility.org/living/hearing-devices/pocket-talker-reviews/>



# Over the Counter Hearing Aids

- Bill proposed by the FDA in October 2021 to allow direct to consumer hearing aid sales
- Will hopefully make hearing aids more affordable and accessible



# OTC hearing aid Proposal not yet finalized

## **FDA Issues Landmark Proposal to Improve Access to Hearing Aid Technology for Millions of Americans**

*Proposed Rule Would Establish New Category of Over-the-Counter Hearing Aids*

People who are NOT candidates for OTC technology

- Experiencing any ear pathology, ie. drainage or pus from the ears
- Previous surgery on the ears
- Experiencing vertigo
- Sudden hearing loss
- Asymmetric hearing loss (one ear more severe than the other)
- Greater than moderate hearing loss



# Phones

Flashing lights and vibration- accessibility features for phone calls and texts

- Free state programs/ services for amplified or captioned telephone (captel)
- Maryland Relay-  
<https://doit.maryland.gov/mdrelay/Pages/about.aspx>
- <https://www.hearingloss.org/hearing-help/financial-assistance/state-telephone-programs/>



# Emergency visual and tactile alerts

Diglo - <https://www.diglo.com/>

Baby monitors

Fire/carbon monoxide/ severe weather

Doorbells



# Induction/ hearing Loop/ T-Loop

- Need Telecoils in hearing aids or cochlear implant
- Streams audio signal to hearing aid or loop listener
- Used in places of worship, entertainment venues, reception areas and more
- We will learn much more about this in the Spotlight Session with an invited guest who co-authored the book that is about to be released- Living with Hearing Loss



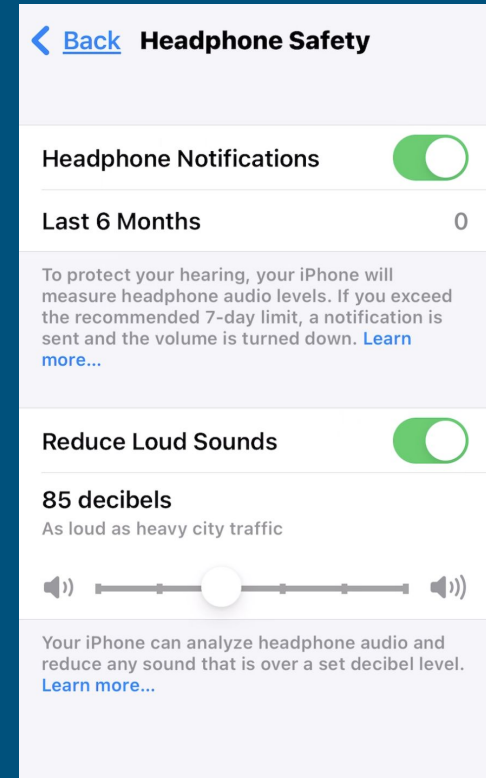
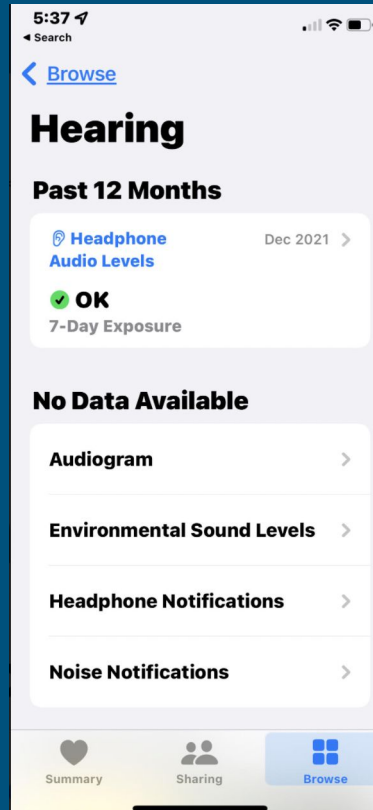
# iPhone

Health App- Hearing

Customize AirPods

Get notified of unsafe hearing levels

Live Listen





# Android Phones

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<https://support.google.com/accessibility/android/answer/6006564?hl=en>

- **Connect hearing aids to your device**
- **Sound amplifier**- filter, augment and amplify sounds with headphones
- **Live caption**- translate spoken audio from videos or audio playing on your phone- data and wifi not required- look for square icon under the volume slider and tap it to turn on or off.



# Apple Watch

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Maps- vibrates just before each turn

Individualize vibrations and calls for callers



# Optimize surroundings

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- See mouth movement
- See written words as listen
- Restaurants- well lit, sit with back to restaurant facing partner against wall



# Masks with clear windows

There are now many more choices

One option is The Communicator Surgical Facemasks -

<https://safenclear.com/product/the-communicator-surgical-mask-with-a-clear-window/>

Nike- “If you prefer to be assisted by an employee who is wearing a clear face mask, or if you need any other accommodation, please ask an employee for assistance.”



# Video calls

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There are many ways to connect from a distance and see a person speaking



# Video calls

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Facetime

Zoom

Whatsapp

Messenger

Skype

Doxy.me

Microsoft Teams

Google Meet

... many more



# Grandpad and Echo Show



Grandpad.net



Amazon Echo Show



# Captions and live transcription

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Closed Captions- Viewers can turn on or off.

Open Captions- Always in view

Automated live transcription- immediate but may be less accurate

Real-time captioning (person typing)- key words can be used. Requires a person to do it.





Assign someone to type

Assign a participant to type    I will type

Use a 3rd-party CC service

Copy the API token

Copy this token and paste it in a 3rd-party Closed captioning tool

Live Transcript

Enable Auto-Transcription



# Real time captioning and transcription

Virtual Meetings



Browsers

Presentation Tools

Mobile devices



zoom



Meet



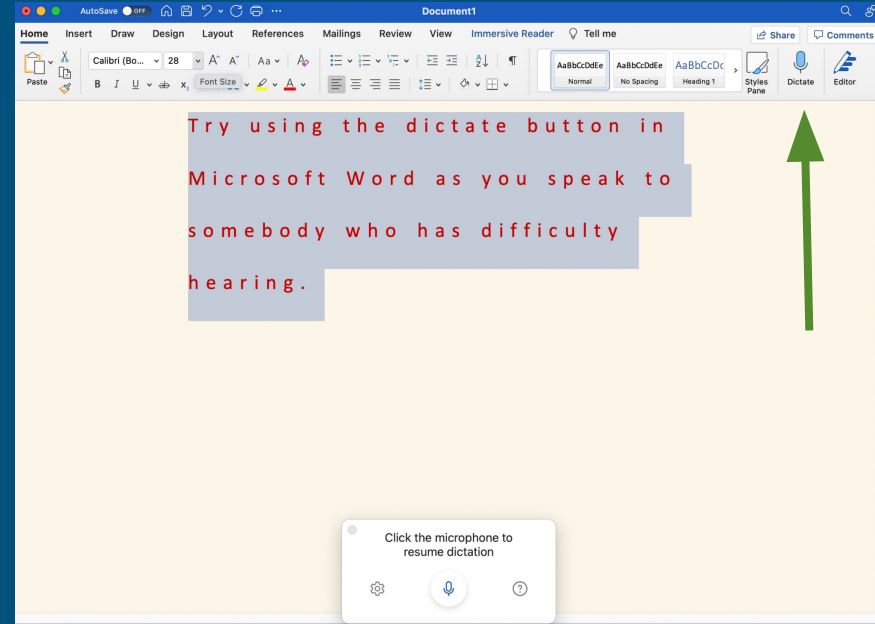
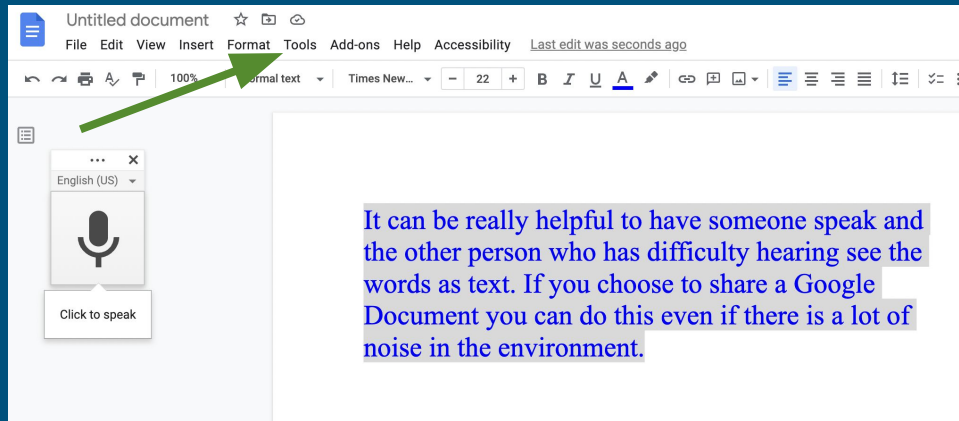
# Speech to text

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All up to date computers, phones,  
and tablets- free speech to text



# Speech to text- Google Docs and Microsoft Word



# Apps

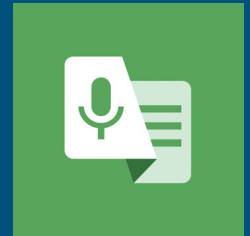
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**Live Transcribe**- Live transcription in 50+ languages ios

**Hearing Helper**- Live Captions ios

**Ava**- Helpful in groups. Everyone in conversation logs into the app. ios Android, web, Mac and Windows

**Live Transcribe & Notification**- Android

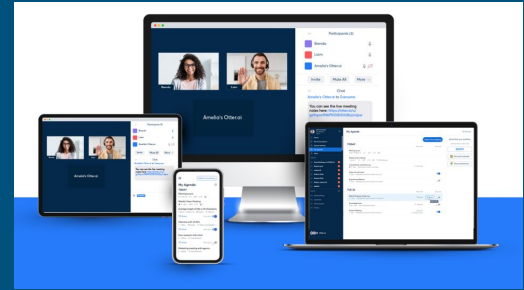


# More options for transcription/ captions

Otter.ai

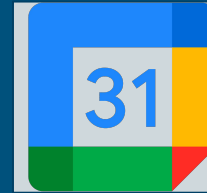
Meet Transcript

Rev.com



# Use visuals to support understanding

- Maps
- Calendar
- Contacts
- Clock
- Photos
- Key Words
- Whiteboards (Doodle Buddy app)



# Devices for distance communication

<https://www.grandpad.net/>

Amazon Echo Show



# Preserve residual hearing

Need to raise your voice to be heard?

Protect your hearing!

- Leaf blower
- Lawn Mower
- Concerts



- Foam earplugs
- Earmuffs
- Electronic noise cancelling devices for hunting



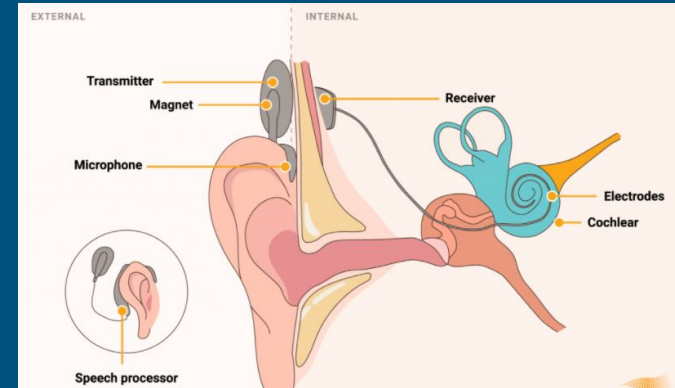
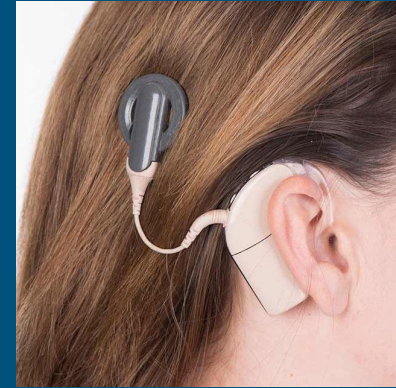
# Musician's plugs- for concerts

Custom made for your ears by an audiologist, and you can pick the level of attenuation (15 db, 25 db) based on your needs. They usually run around \$220 and can bring the sound down to a safe level.



# Cochlear Implants: Who is a candidate?

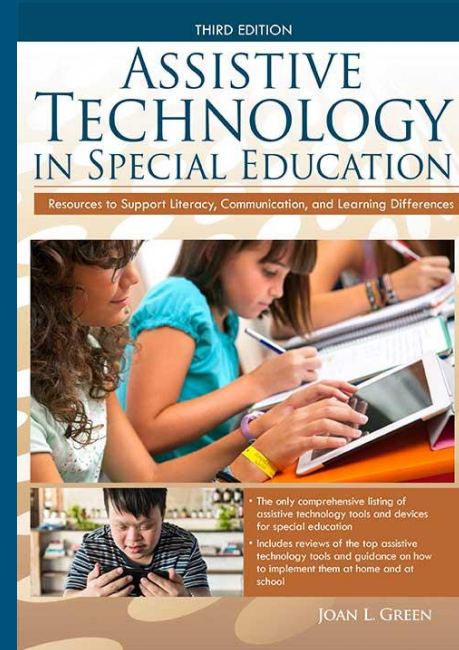
- Patients with moderate to profound hearing loss who do NOT perceive adequate benefit from hearing aids
- Patients with very poor speech understanding
- Babies and children with profound hearing loss who are not developing typical speech and language with hearing aids



# Assistive Technology Book, 3rd edition by Joan Green

Resources to support literacy,  
communication and learning differences

Available on Amazon and many other online  
bookstores



- New Online Courses, Spotlight Sessions & Webinars
- 1:1 Online Tech Coaching
- Customized Online Presentations

[Joan@innovativespeech.com](mailto:Joan@innovativespeech.com)

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



# Save the date for these webinars:

- **5/4/22 Accessibility: Calling all clinicians, educators and advocates!** Inclusive tech features we need to know
- **6/1/22 ElderTech:** Top tech tools for Older adults



# Save the date for these webinars:

- 7/13/22 **Microsoft Apps and Accessibility-** Strategies and Tools to Support Communication, Learning and Productivity
- 8/10/22. **Back to School-** Level up your Tech-Savvy Skills for Success!



# Let's Chat! [www.innovativespeech.com](http://www.innovativespeech.com)

I offer free 15 minute phone consultations to help you figure out your next steps...

1-800-1ST(478)-2550 joan@innovativespeech.com f t Howdy, Joan Green

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25 YEARS OF HELPING FAMILIES THRIVE

Let's get started Join our email list

Improving Communication, Cognition and Productivity with Tech-Savvy Strategies, Solutions and Support

Let's Chat



# Let's stay in touch!

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Joan Lipman Green

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Instagram- [joanlipmangreen](#)

HAPPY TO HELP

