

# ClaroRead v5

**I think programmes like ClaroRead are absolutely invaluable. For me, it is like putting on a pair of reading glasses. When I switch on my computer, I always use ClaroRead. It's critical.** DAVID EDWARDS 2009

## David Edwards, 46, of Birmingham, is dyslexic.

After 17 years as an accountant, five as an engineer, and three bouts of stress-related illness, he finally tested as having dyslexia in 1998 – although it wasn't explained properly how it was affecting his work or life.

Following a subsequent career reappraisal, he now trains university students to use assistive software, and describes ClaroRead as a 'critical' part of his working life.

"If you gave me a series of numbers I would get them all in the wrong order. I didn't know anything about dyslexia at the time, but I knew I needed to do something."

"I was regularly doing 15-hour days. I was very, very, tired. I almost smashed my car a couple of times on the way home because of stress. I was very poorly. I knew that I couldn't carry on doing it."

"In June 2007, I met up with a guy called Brian Hagan, who is an expert in adult dyslexia. He helped me change my career and explained why I was struggling with my dyslexia. But after 17 years in an accounting environment, I didn't know what else I could do."

"He gave me advice, and in August 2007, I bought all the assistive technology software, and then practised 18 hours a day to learn it. Susan Close, a professional trainer, helped me polish up my act so I was able to go out and market myself."

"I sent out 100 letters and emails offering my services as a freelance trainer - and since then I've trained 200 students for Ted Pratt of MKC Ltd at universities stretching from London to Yorkshire."

"In June 2009, I started to work in the corporate sector for Katherine Kindersley, of Working with Dyslexia, and have since done work for the Nationwide Building Society, Financial Services Authority (FSA) and British Telecom. I have also given some advice to the Cabinet Office of the Government."

"I can do this training job for 15 hours a day, and I am still less tired than I used to be after doing one hour of accountancy. It gives me one per cent of the stress I used to get in accountancy. My dyslexia caused all the stress and tiredness of accountancy and I just didn't know."

"Doing the training job is very rewarding because I am helping people with the same disabilities as myself. It's the happiest I have been for 17 years."

"Around 80 per cent of my students and corporate clients are dyslexic or dyspraxic, while the rest may have mobility problems or Asperger's Syndrome."

"With ClaroRead, the user can have everything read back to them. After Claro has read back an article just once, the user can remember most of it. The visual sense of the highlighter going across the screen, together with the audio, makes a big difference."

"The other thing that is really good is being able to use a computer scanner to scan in text from book, and then have it read back to you by ClaroRead."

"Being able to convert text into MP3 means the user can listen back to any written text, even while on a train, driving, or at the gym. It maximises both time and productivity."

"Everybody's dyslexia is different – some students and office workers may use some aspects of the programme more than others. One thing that is very, very popular is the referencing facility with ClaroCapture."

"When I was at university, I didn't have to do any referencing. But now students can keep track of everything in one place, so they don't have to remember where they got the information. It helps them create more professional-looking work."



## Claro Software

Lancashire House | 24 Winckley Square | Preston | Lancashire | PR1 3JJ | UK  
tel: +44 (0) 177 297 7888 | fax: +44 (0) 870 132 7471 | US toll free: 866 800 5151

Company VAT No: GB 851 8056 22 | Company No: 05153389

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

"20 years ago, I would have sat in a library and spent two hours reading something, and afterwards not remember a word of what I had just read. But I didn't even realise I had dyslexia. Now, it's completely different. When using ClaroRead, I just read an article once and then I can remember a good 80 per cent, compared to the ten per cent I used to remember."

**"I think programmes like ClaroRead are absolutely invaluable. For me, it is like putting on a pair of reading glasses. When I switch on my computer, I always use ClaroRead. It's critical."**

David would like to thank Brian Hagan, Susan Close, Ted Pratt and Katherine Kindersley for their invaluable support.

**Links:**

[www.mkccomputers.co.uk](http://www.mkccomputers.co.uk)

[www.dyslexiaassessmentandconsultancy.co.uk](http://www.dyslexiaassessmentandconsultancy.co.uk)



David Edwards and student Bena Bari.

## Claro Software

Lancashire House | 24 Winckley Square | Preston | Lancashire | PR1 3JJ | UK  
tel: +44 (0) 177 297 7888 | fax: +44 (0) 870 132 7471 | US toll free: 866 800 5151

Company VAT No: GB 851 8056 22 | Company No: 05153389

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