



## **Cornerstone Psychological Services**

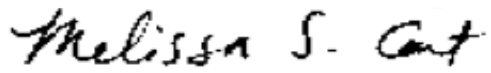

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### **Advantages of an iPad over a Computer for Students with Learning, Reading Disabilities and ADHD**

1. **Instant text to speech access**, as found in the *Speak* option found natively on the iPad, will allow the iPad to read anything that appears on the screen (e.g. from a book, worksheet, web search or test and individuals can have the iPad read their own work back to them to make it easier to proof-read). This is less cumbersome than having to be logged onto Google Read & Write Gold or having to use an auxiliary app such as Word Q or Kurzweil and then copy and paste material into these apps.
2. **Access to “on the spot” speech to text dictation** (without the need for training) allows someone to write anything “anywhere” by talking (e.g. filling out a worksheet, completing forms, composing an essay or story, note-taking, entering text into Facebook or into an email, etc.).
3. The use of **an optional keyboard** permits individuals to type, if needed, or to remove the keyboard so they can read without the awkward position of a computer on a table (e.g. it can be taken to bed, used to read in a chair, can read in the car, etc.).
4. The **use of fingers and/or a stylus or Apple Pencil** permits individuals to highlight sections or to mark up information (e.g. putting in checkmarks, where needed, circling items, adding in a quick drawing, etc.) which is less difficult than having to line up a cursor and use a keyboard.
5. The **built in camera** enables individuals to take pictures of the board, notes and/or of a book for use with other adaptive software (e.g. conversions to PDF for reading, searching text, dictating answers/filling out forms onto camera-captured sheets, etc.).
6. The note-taking capability of Notability is especially helpful for **incorporating pictures and recording explanations and/or lessons** at the same time so that you can then go back and look at and listen to only *specific* sections (i.e. the lesson “comes back alive” in just the areas which are needed to be reviewed).

7. The ***built in use of Siri as a digital assistant*** is particularly helpful for booking “on the spot” appointments, scheduling, creating reminders and generating lists along with the capacity for the iPad to *read back* the items in these lists, calendars, etc.
8. The ***10 hour battery life and light weight of the iPad*** are critical as many users will need to have access to an iPad extensively throughout the day.
9. The capacity to ***selectively engage or disengage apps and potential distractions*** through the Accessibility features (i.e. can restrict access for web-surfing, games, etc.) is vital, particularly, for those with attentional issues.
10. The ***cost of add-on apps is exceptionally reasonable*** (e.g. most cost less than \$5 and there are more than 800,000 apps available). Online reviews can help individuals locate the “best fit” for their own needs including productivity tools.
11. ***The use of an iPad minimizes the use of obstacles commonly associated with computers*** (i.e. instant start up, no need to go in and open specific apps as many important reading and writing tools are built in and work in the background for easy access).

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