

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY CASE STUDIES WORKSHEET

1. A youth with a reading disability and poor spelling skills is employed at a photo-processing center. He has difficulty reading certain words in the directions explaining how to use the photo processing equipment. His coworkers have complained that they can't read his notes for customer orders due to misspellings and illegible handwriting.

Q: What assistive technology could you suggest the youth and his employer use to address these issues?

2. A youth with cerebral palsy has limited use of her upper extremities. She cannot hold a pencil to write but can use a trackball and computer keyboard. She also has limited vision and has difficulty reading small print. She is starting to apply for entry-level jobs, but is unable to read and complete the applications independently.

Q: How would you coach this youth to market her skills and what assistive technology could you investigate to accommodate her?

3. A youth who is deaf is taking distance-learning training classes on the Internet for the new job she just landed. She has been doing well in the class thus far, communicating with the instructor and her classmates via email, but now the students are required to participate in a telephone discussion as part of a group project assignment.

Q: Is there a way she can participate in the phone conference or should the instructor adapt the assignment differently for her?

4. A youth who has an expressive writing disorder just graduated from high school and has come to you to find a job. He has difficulty transferring his thoughts into written form, such as his writing class assignments, journal entries, papers, and taking notes. However, he excelled on oral presentations to the class and demonstrated excellent comprehension when tested verbally.

Q: What assistive technology could he access for any writing tasks that he may encounter in jobs that he applies for?