



Mark



Jacob

R or A

My name is Jacob and I'm a fourth-year business administration student who is blind and a confident technology user. I use a screen-reading program (JAWS) to access electronic text materials, as well as an audio-recorder to "take notes" in class. I am 28 years old and can't wait to get my last few classes out of the way so I can start my career!

I share an apartment with my girlfriend.

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R or A

My name is Mark and I'm 18 years old. I am a future heavy-duty mechanic with a learning disability that was diagnosed in Grade 8. I absorb information best by hearing it and I also enjoy making and fixing stuff with my hands. I'm in my first semester of college taking trades courses and loving it. I can't wait to complete the foundation courses and move into my first apprenticeship placement.

I live at home with my family and we share one computer.

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Diana



Trish

R or A

My name is Trish and I am a college student taking university transfer courses. I have a physical disability resulting from a car accident that left me with partial paralysis and motor issues requiring a motorized wheelchair. I am physically dependent on my family, so especially enjoy reading and studying independently. I prefer e-book formats and PDFs that can be easily loaded onto my iPad.

I am 18 years old and live with my family.

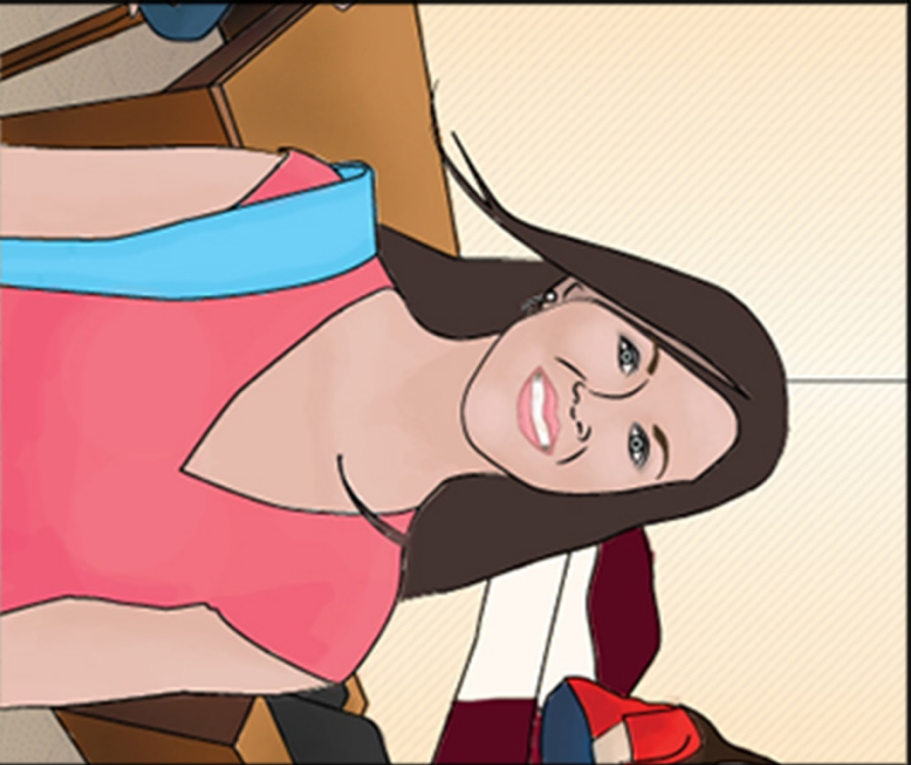
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R or A

My name is Diana and I am retraining to be a personal coach after I experienced partial vision loss and was unable to continue working as a bus driver. I can read electronic materials using an on-screen magnifier (ZoomText) but after 30 minutes, my eyes fatigue and I get headaches. When this happens, I use ZoomText's screenreader to listen to my reading materials.

I am 48 years old and taking many of my classes online. I live with my husband.

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Ann



Steven

R or A

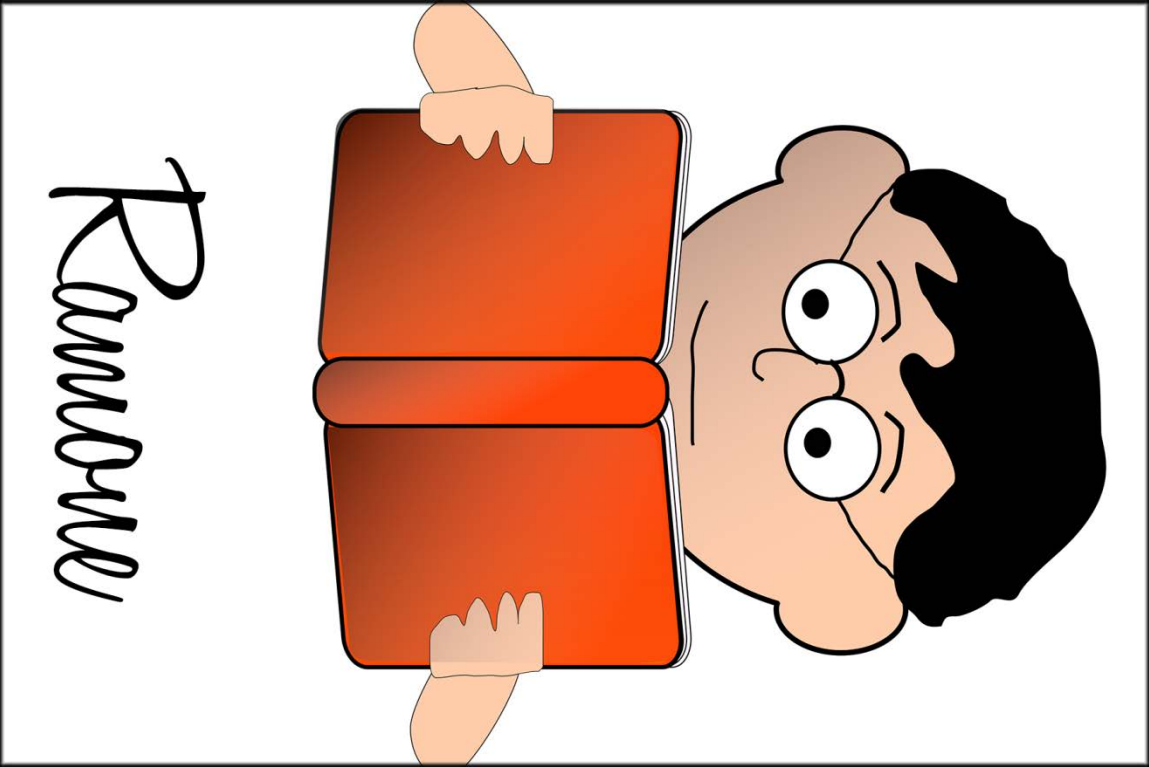
My name is Steven and I am an English major who is deaf. I am 23 years old and like the flexibility of taking online classes. I don't have a preference for text-material formats but videos without captions are meaningless for me. When I do take on-campus classes, I use real-time transcription services to access my lectures. I live by myself.

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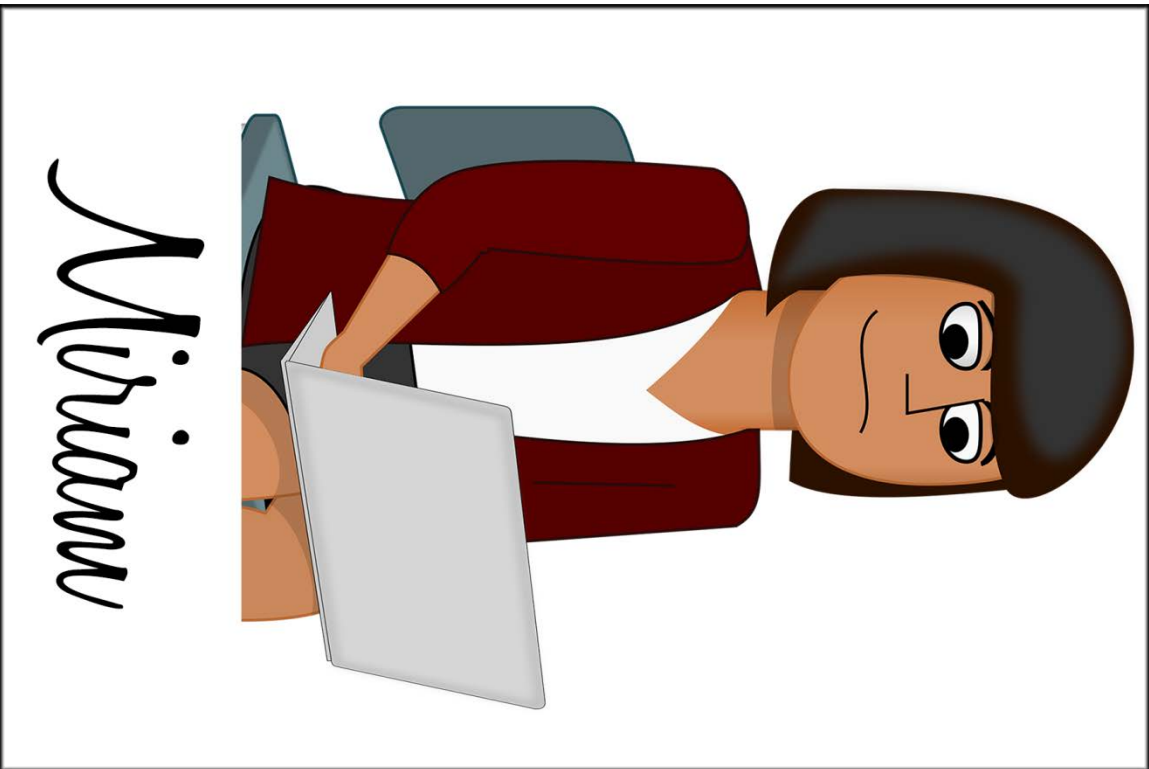
R or A

My name is Ann and I am a Chemistry major with ADHD, a learning disability that makes it difficult for me to concentrate. I use learning software (Kurzweil) on my laptop and find that reading and listening to text at the same time really helps my learning. I am 20 years old and hope to become a pharmacist. I share an apartment with two other female students.

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Ramona



Miriam

R or A

My name is Miriam. I am an international student who has come to Canada to complete a college program in Hospitality Management and improve my English language skills (in both spoken and written form). I met the English-language requirement for my program but I become stressed when in-class discussion moves too quickly or includes a lot of new terminology. I appreciate captions and transcripts when video and audio materials are presented in class, as well as electronic copies of lecture notes in advance of a class. I am living with a Canadian host-family.

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R or A

My name is Ramone and I have recently retired after 30 years in my field. As an avid outdoorsman, I've decided to begin my retirement by taking some blended (mixed face-to-face & online) courses in Geography and Environmental Studies through my community college.

I have a form of colour-blindness which makes it difficult for me to distinguish between reds, greens, browns and oranges. I also recently had to get a stronger prescription for my reading glasses. I live with my wife and love visits with my grandchildren.

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R or A

My name is Alex. I am a 3rd-year Business student and I want to be a chartered accountant when I graduate. I am on the autism spectrum and prefer to do my work independently rather than in a group. I can have difficulty understanding someone if they do not say exactly what they mean. I can struggle with overstimulation; for example, I don't work well under fluorescent lighting and can be hypersensitive to smells or background noise.

I am 20 years old, and I watch wrestling with my friends every Monday night.

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R or A

My name is Kelly and I am a 1st-year horticulture student. I sustained a brain injury that affects my vision. My vision changes from hour to hour and minute to minute based on the exposure to:

- Fluorescent lights
- Computer screens
- Movement (e.g. traffic on a road)
- Fatigue

When I am exposed to these triggers, I experience blurred and double vision.

I am 25 years old and I am looking forward to a career in landscaping.

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Khalid



Mariela

R or A

My name is Maridee and I am a 3rd-year Business student.

I am a single mother of a rambunctious 4-year old. As a mom, it can be hard for me to find childcare for my daughter and transportation that fits with my class schedule. When I cannot find those, I usually have to skip class. Another problem can be managing expenses.

As a mature student, it's easy to feel like an outsider in my classes and group work can be so difficult to fit into my schedule with all my other responsibilities.

I am 34 years old and my daughter, Celeste, is four. Right now, Celeste wants to be a fire fighter when she grows up.

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R or A

My name is Khaleed and I am a 2nd-year Arts student studying political science.

I live with depression. It is recurrent and can vary in its severity. I was hospitalized 4 years ago. Sometimes my depression comes in the form of feeling like a failure, or worrying that I have let everyone down. It is difficult to stay motivated to even attend class, particularly when experiencing an episode of depression.

I am 20 years old and I would like to follow in my mother's footsteps and become a crown prosecutor.

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Natalie

R or A

My name is Natalie and I am a 2nd-year Science student doing a major in biology and a minor in environmental studies.

I live with anxiety and I can find it difficult to even figure out where to start with my assignments and projects. When I do start, I can obsess, worrying that my assignment or test has to be perfect and taking more time to complete them. I often feel like the stakes may be significantly higher than they really are.

I am 19 years old and live with my older sister.