**Robobraille**

**Michael:** [00:00:00] Okay. So in this short video, we are going to investigate Robobraille, which is a website that anybody can access. It's a free service and what it allows you to do is upload a variety of different document types from a variety of different places and have those documents converted into a number of accessible formats.

You upload your file, provide an email address, and you will be sent an accessible version of whatever document you provided. So we're going to have a look and see how that works now we can see on the front page here, we've got a number of options. We can either do file, URL or text there. So I'm going to start with file something nice and easy.

I just go down to the bottom and I click on choose files and I've got this PDF file I've already organised here. Now. I think the thing to consider here is that sometimes you might encounter a PDF file where you're trying to select the text in it and you simply can't select the text because it's an inaccessible PDF file.

Now, some people might use programs like Claroread or Read and Write, which are tools commonly seen to support students in higher education to work around challenges they might be facing with reading. They can use those programs to convert documents so that you can actually get the PDF file and select the text and copy and paste text

and also it makes these documents accessible to screen reading programs like Read and Write or Claroread. If you don't have access to tools like that, this is a great tool to use. So anyway, we're going to give this a go. Now I've chosen my PDF file. I'm going to click on upload and we can see if I've got a number of different options.

So here is where things get really interesting. You can see that we've got a number of different options here. We can have it converted into MP3 audio. So that's fantastic. That means that you can upload an inaccessible PDF file and get an audio file sent to you by email, you could load that onto your phone and go for a walk and listen back to the text or the photograph or the texts that you actually

put through right by braille. We can also have it converted into braille as well and there are ebook and general accessibility conversion options there as well. Now, before we continue here, it's worth considering just the sheer range of document types that we can upload here. So you've got stuff like different document types, PowerPoint presentations, text files, but as mentioned, you can also upload

ePub and mobi files so ebook formats, but then at the end here, we've actually got a whole bunch of different image, file formats, including JPEGs, bit maps and stuff like that. So there's really a huge amount of flexibility for what you can actually upload. Okay. I'm going to change this to accessibility conversion

and we can see there that I've got a number of different options for the kind of document type that I can get out. I could even convert this into an Excel spreadsheet if I really want to do that, but I'm going to choose something like a document. Just keep it nice and simple here and then I simply go and add in a email address at the bottom, and I can have that file sent to me.

Let's look at some of the other options. So I could have this converted into MP3 audio as mentioned so I can choose my voice type here and there are a huge range of different voice types, different accents that you can choose as well. So that's fantastic. I can even adjust the speed. Which is something to consider, you know, you might want to convert a number of different file types and just try different speeds and find something that's best for you, because it will have a huge impact on how accessible that file format is

when you listen back to it, as mentioned, we can also do braille here and I've got a number of different options here. So unified English braille, or a number of different language types there, we can adjust the contraction level to one or two and we can actually modify the target format there. So there's a great deal of granularity for how you can

 Actually get the braille output, um, set up within Robobraille, and finally, with an ebook. We've got a number of different options there, including good old standard EPUB or mobi format that you could then read on a Kindle later on if that was your preferred format. Now I'm just going to go back to a previous page here.

I'm going to hit back in my browser because what I wanted to point out is that the input types can also change as well. So for instance, I could change it to URL. Now, URL is basically a web address and what this is saying is that if there was a particular document type, like a document or a PowerPoint file or

uh, you know, an E pub file or something like that, but he's hosted online at a particular website. You can point Robobraille to that exact web address, and it will take that file and divert it for you. You can just do it with a web page, I believe as well, because it says HTML. So rather than uploading a file from your computer, you're actually

pasting in a web address there so that Robobraille could take that text information that might appear on that webpage and can convert it for you. There is also a text option as well, because obviously what you might want to do and this is why I've just jumped back to this page is actually copy and paste a load of text from a web page, paste it into this box here, and then later on, choose braille as your output type there.

So you can see setting up your inputs and your outputs is going to give you a huge range of flexibility for the type of document that you can receive later on.