Name of software/synthetic voice	TechDis Toolbar http://access.ecs.soton.ac.uk/ToolBar/	Vozme http://vozme.com	Odiogo http://www.odiogo.com/
Overall Impression	The tool itself provides a wide range of accessibility features and benefits but although the TTS element is clear it doesn't provide the best TTS results of the 3 tools compared. Good blog integration but selecting the option to read the entire page rather than just select text didn't work reliably. However of the three tools evaluated this is the quickest and easiest tool for a user to select specific text to be converted. Doesn't provide an option to download the audio file generated or podcast functionality.	Very good blog integration and certainly does what it does reasonably well. Also provides ability to download as .mp3. Less easy for the user to read a whole blog post but this is possible as well as a choice from two voices via the site homepage and voice in the pop-up launched from the blog button http://vozme.com/index.php?lang=en	The provides excellent blog integration and very clear and natural sounding results. Also provides podcast functionality and ability to download files as well as different feed formats. However have also found some faults with the blog integration whereby recent posts are not yet available and older posts no longer available. This may be a bug due to changes on my blog and have raised a support ticket to try to resolve the problem.
Overall, how do you rate the quality of the voice?	2nd place. Reasonably clear and for some readers/listeners I suspect the Scottish accent may be preferred but the conversion does seem to result in abnormal pauses.	3rd place. Clear but not very natural. The female voice seems slightly clearer than the male voice.	1st place. Very good. This for me has the most natural sounding voice of the three tools listed here
Pleasantness			
How would you rate the voice in terms of how pleasant it was to listen to?	Reasonably pleasant - Scottish accent a nice alternatively to the standard American sythesized sound.	Quite slow with no user control for speed but pleasant enough and quick to access from blog.	Very pleasant and certainly better than the other two tools compared evaluated.
How important is the pleasantness of the voice for your intended application?	Less important than the ease of use but still important - otherwise the choice might be to use an offline tool to create files which are more pleasant and then attache to post rather than enabling automatic conversion.	Less important than the ease of use but still important - otherwise the choice might be to use an offline tool to create files which are more pleasant and then attache to post rather than enabling automatic conversion.	Less important than the ease of use but still important - otherwise the choice might be to use an offline tool to create files which are more pleasant and then attache to post rather than enabling automatic conversion.
Comprehension			
How would you rate the voice in terms of how easy it was to understand?	2nd place. Easy to understand but abnormal pauses a bit confusing.	3rd place. Reasonably clear but not very natural and some warbling evident.	1st place. Very easy to understand.
How important is comprehension for your intended application?	For the purpose of my blog which I've used for testing full comprehension isn't as important as it would be on a blog use for communicating with students rather than staff. Howeva as I would use this blog to demonstrate the possibilities the perceived level of comprehension is important if colleagues are going to be encouraged to use TTS with their learners.	For the purpose of my blog which I've used for testing full comprehension isn't as important as it would be on a blog use for communicating with students rather than staff. However as I would use this blog to demonstrate the possibilities the perceived level of comprehension is important if colleagues are going to be encouraged to use TTS with their learners.	For the purpose of my blog which I've used for testing full comprehension isn't as important as it would be on a blog use for communicating with students rather than staff. However as I would use this blog to demonstrate the possibilities the perceived level of comprehension is important if colleagues are going to be encouraged to use TTS with their learners.
Pronunciation			
How would you rate the voice in terms of pronunciation?	1st place. Very good the accent probably helps in this case.	3rd place. Not the best - limited pronunciation.	2nd place. Very good but pronunciation not as good as TechDis toolbar solution.
How important is pronunciation for your intended application?	Similar to comprehension less important on my blog than it would be when used with students where key terms and phrases are likely to be more important.	Similar to comprehension less important on my blog than it would be when used with students where key terms and phrases are likely to be more important.	Similar to comprehension less important on my blog than it would be when used with students where key terms and phrases are likely to be more important.
Prosody			
How would you rate the voice in terms of how it dealt with punctuation, pauses etc?	3rd place. Seemed less able to cope with punctuation and appears to add abnormal pauses where they shouldn't exist.	2nd place. Very sythesised sound and little variation in pace but still ok.	1st place. Best of the tools evaluated.
How important is prosody for your intended application?	This would be more important on a blog used with students however it's arguably very important if visitors are going to be encouraged to listen to text based posts as podcasts on a mobile device without being able to see/read the text at the same time.	This would be more important on a blog used with students however it's arguably very important if visitors are going to be encouraged to listen to text based posts as podcasts on a mobile device without being able to see/read the text at the same time.	This would be more important on a blog used with students however it's arguably very important if visitors are going to be encouraged to listen to text based posts as podcasts on a mobile device without being able to see/read the text at the same time.
Comfortable to listen to for a long period			
How would you rate the voice in terms of how comfortable it would be to listen to for a long period of time?	2nd place. Provides an audio version of the text and so technically accessible but doesn't really replace the need for a manually recorded podcast so not really that good for longer recordings.	3rd place. Wouldn'r recommend for longer periods.	1st place. Best of the tools reviewed but still wouldn't replace a manually recorded podcast or the quality possible with other off-line conversion tools.
How important is listening comfort for your intended application?	Important as far as podcast functionality is concerned so this isn't really a suitable solution for podcasts.	Important as far as podcast functionality is concerned so this isn't really a suitable solution for podcasts.	Important as far as podcast functionality is concerned this provides a resonable solution to posts which I wouldn't otherwise record as a podcast but doesn't replace the important examples where I would also record a podcast.
Responsiveness			
How would you rate the voice in terms of how responsive it was?	3rd place. Toolbar needs to be loaded first then takes a while to generate the audio and wasn't reliable when selecting the whole page option so have to select text first..	2nd place. Launches a pop-up window and then generates the audio but does this quite quickly.	1st place. For the end user this is the most responsive of the tools evaluated and plays embedded in the blog page. However this assessment is based on an asuption of the technical problems being resolved.
How important is responsiveness for your intended application?	Response doesn't have to be instant but needs to be timely. Each of these tools seem ok in this respect.	Response doesn't have to be instant but needs to be timely. Each of these tools seem ok in this respect.	Response doesn't have to be instant but needs to be timely. Each of these tools seem ok in this respect.
Speaking rate			
How would you rate the voice in terms of the rate of speech?	2nd place. Quite fast and not adjustable by the end user. Despite some abnormal pauses still better than vozme with a more natural pace.	3rd place. Quite slow and not ajustable by the end user. Would be better if this did provide user adjustment.	1st Place. Again the best of the three tools compared but also no user control.
How important is speaking rate for your intended application?	Not essential but would be better if there was user control over pace.	Not essential but would be better if there was user control over pace.	Not essential but would be better if there was user control over pace.
Naturalness			
How would you rate the voice in terms of how human it sounded?	2nd place. Quite natural sounding compared with vozme probably helped by the Scottish accent.	3rd. Poor in this respect sounds very synthesized.	1st place. The most natural sounding of the three tools compared.
How important is naturalness for your intended application?	In the case of my blog not too important in terms of providing an alternative format to the blog text posts but very important in terms of providing an automated podcast version.	In the case of my blog not too important in terms of providing an alternative format to the blog text posts but very important in terms of providing an automated podcast version.	In the case of my blog not too important in terms of providing an alternative format to the blog text posts but very important in terms of providing an automated podcast version.
Listening effort			
How much effort was required to listen to the voice?	2nd place. Would be even better without the abnormal pauses but still quite good.	3rd place. Slow but sounds warbled in places so effort required to listen and understand longer blog posts.	1st place. Quite easy to listen to possibly helped by the automated jingle at the beginning of each conversion.
How important is listening effort for your intended application?	very important that not much effort is needed for the podcast functionality but less important for every single blog post.	very important that not much effort is needed for the podcast functionality but less important for every single blog post.	very important that not much effort is needed for the podcast functionality but less important for every single blog post.
Appropriate tone			
Was the tone of the voice appropriate for your intended application?	2nd place. Tone quite good.	3rd place. Again very artificial - female voice arguably better tone and would be better if user could choose voice.	1st place. Very good but again would be better if there was user choice with different voice/tone options.
How important is appropriate tone for your intended application?	Desirable but not essential.	Desirable but not essential.	Desirable but not essential.
Acceptance			
Based on your answers to these questions, do you think that this voice would be acceptable for your intended application?	Yes. I the Scottish accent helps to make the conversion sound more natural and the toolbar also offers additional accessibility functions.	Yes. This is not the most natural sounding solution but does integrate well and provides an option to download the file which the TechDis Toolbar doesn't.	Yes.* This is the most natural sounding and provides very good integration and functionality including downloads and podcast feeds. (*Assuming the technical issues are resolved)