

BERT Teacher Mode Transcript, March, 2021

DP:

I have logged in to BERT as the teacher. I have three students available. I have David Holladay who's offline. I have Peter who is offline and I have David Pillischer who is available. So I click or select David Pillisher. It becomes highlighted.

I can either send an invitation or I can Add or I can Remove from the list. I am simply going to Add because I don't think an invitation is necessary. And the David Pillischer moves from the left side of the screen to the right because he is attending class. I have the student's input here. I have the translation below it and I have me. Me is me the teacher. I can either input English text, English UEB Braille or RAW Braille. RAW Braille is wysiwyg which is What You See Is What You Get. English UEB Braille, if you put in correct UEB Braille or English UEB Print. English UEB Print is so that a sighted teacher who does not know Braille can input regular text. "This is test of regular text to Braille." When I press the Enter Key it embosses on my Cosmo and it should be embossing on Mike's Cosmo as well.

MC:

"It is."

DP:

If I press my Read Key.

I can read my Braille. In BERT I have to press my Read Again which is Key number 8 and Spacebar together.

MC:

"So I can read",

DP

(pull it back)

MC:

Yeah I actually read, "this is a test of regular text to braille."

DP:

And it's already translated. If I push... put my cursor on anywhere on those lines, back down here is a translation, in very small print I might add that's, that translates "this is a test of regular text to" and I go down one line and it says b r l for Braille. So a sighted teacher can converse with a blind or deaf/blind student in Braille while they are using their COSMO.

Bring my cursor here again and um I won't tell Michael what I'm writing.

MC:

And so just as Dave is writing some text I'm I'm actually sitting right now in front of the Cosmo. I'm not really sitting in the right position for the purposes of this recording so that we got you know my picture of the Cosmo and myself but we're we're doing this this you know a video to show you guys how the BERT software works and not focusing on ergonomics at this point. David has written something and I will read it. "Today is a good day to have a braille class.

DP:

Now if you press Key 8 and spacebar together it will bring your paper back down.

MC:

That's correct.

DP:

That is how simple it is. As Michael inputs Braille, go ahead Michael input something, you see on the student line you can view the Braille Michael is inputting as he is putting in Braille or writing the Braille. There is also a translation below that line.

MC:

And I purposely made some mistakes.

DP:

That's fine.

MC:

And I'm going to read that..
I can actually read what I've written.

DP:

I click on the line and I get the translation.

MC:

And just so the audience is aware, the participants that are viewing this are aware we can correct uh the mistakes that we make at will so if you write something and you feel that you've written something that's wrong, don't be shy and just you know, hitting the backspace on your computer or if you do uh the erase function on the Cosmo it will erase and you can just write text as you will.

DP:

Michael, will you press enter for me. This line? He had not hit enter at the end of his second line and when he did

MC:

It came out.

DP:

It finished his sentence. I can select to emboss the full conversation for the day or I can just have my Cosmo on and it will record all of our conversations.

MC:

This is absolutely amazing that, you know, from a distance, we have the ability to work with students so that they can learn how to read and write Braille both from a non, from somebody who can't write Braille, to somebody who can. It's just amazing to have this mode of communication, to allow students to learn effectively how to read and write Braille and I just love it as a student. I'm totally amazed by this and and I can't wait to have further classes in the future.

DP:

We are communicating. Today I am in Long Island, New York. Michael number two is somewhere lost in the area of Montreal, Canada. We cannot cross the border personally, but I think there's no restrictions on Braille getting across the border today.

MC:
Absolutely not.