

Instructions for Voice Donors

Thank you for being a Voice Donor for someone!

This guide will show you how to register as a voice donor and complete a high-quality recording, through the SpeakUnique website.

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Before you begin

To record your voice with SpeakUnique, you will need:

1. A laptop or computer. Recording is not currently supported on iPads and tablets.
2. An external headset microphone that connects to your computer via the USB port or headphone socket. We do not recommend a specific headset, but headsets made by Sennheiser, Plantronics and Logitech are reliable.
3. A quiet room with no background noise and ideally soft furnishings to remove any echoing.

Your Voice Recording

By signing up as a voice donor, you agree to allow us to digitally blend your voice recording with other people's recording to help create a bespoke voice for an individual.

Initially, your recording will be used to help you "voice recipient" who has nominated you to be a voice donor. However, in the future we would love to also be able to use your recording to help repair and create voices for other people. We will never use just your recording; we will always blend your recording with at least one other individual. You will not be identifiable from your contribution.

If you would prefer that we do not use your recording for people other than your voice receipt, please email privacy@speakunique.co.uk.

Registering for an account

Visit www.speakunique.co.uk/donor to register for an account. You will be asked to complete some personal information and you will need to provide your **unique 8-digit donor code**. This should have been provided to you by your voice recipient - the person you are donating your voice to.

Thank you for being a Voice Donor!

To continue please register for an account below:

Fields marked with a red star * are required for registration.

Email address *

First name *

Last name *

Choose a password * 

Enter your 8 digit donor code * - [More about this ?](#)

Please select your date of birth * Please select your gender *

Day... Month... Year... Male Female Other

How would you describe your regional accent? *

Country:

Region/County/State:

Would you like to join our marketing list?

I agree to the [privacy policy](#) and [terms of use](#)

Next →

Need help? Contact our support team at [<support@peakunique.co.uk>](mailto:support@peakunique.co.uk)

Recording Tips

The next screens contain tips on how to complete a good recording.

We have prepared a short video explaining the recording process.



Recording your voice

For step-by-step instructions on how to record your voice, please watch our video below



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Recording tips are also provided in written format.



Recording Tips

Our state-of-the-art speech synthesis technology works by mimicking what it hears in your recording.
This is what makes it so great at capturing your identity in the voice.

But there are a few things to remember:

Make sure you are in a quiet room with no background noise. For example, if you have any pets make sure they're out of the room, switch off any appliances like the dishwasher or washing machine, and try to record away from any busy streets.

The quality of the audio will also affect the quality of the voice. This is why we ask you to **use an external microphone** (not the one built-in to your computer). Try not to record in a room that is very echoey: rooms with lots of soft furnishings are good, and closing windows and curtains can also help.

Read the sentences in a natural voice - don't over-emphasise any of the words but try not to sound too flat. Otherwise this will come through in your synthetic voice.

Only record when you are reading the correct sentence. Try not to cough or stutter on a word during the recording. If you do or **if you make a mistake while reading a sentence then re-record the sentence.**

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Make sure your external microphone is connected to your computer and is positioned in line with your jaw. You do not want the microphone too close to your mouth as this can lead to a poor-quality recording.



Get ready

Position your microphone so it is level with your jaw

Not too low... ...and not too high

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We offer a selection of different scripts for you to choose from. First select what genre of book you would like to read from; each genre contains a range of titles to pick from.



Choosing a script

First, you are required to read a set of sentences designed to cover all the sounds in the English language.

Next, you will be asked to read sentences from a book. Please select the genre of book you would like to read from:

Science Fiction 	Detective and Adventure 	Period Drama
Bedtime Classics 	Legends and Mythology 	Horror and Supernatural

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Once you have selected a genre, you will see the available titles. Each title has been rated for ease of reading. Use the circle button on the right to select which title you would like to read.



Choosing a script

You have selected **Bedtime Classics**. Please select a book to read from below.

Title	Author	Reading Difficulty	
Alice in Wonderland	Lewis Carroll	Average	<input type="radio"/>
Dick Whittington and His Cat	Edith Carrington	Easier	<input type="radio"/>
Peter Pan	J.M. Barrie	Harder	<input type="radio"/>
Stories by Beatrix Potter	Beatrix Potter	Average	<input type="radio"/>
The Jungle Book	Rudyard Kipling	Average	<input type="radio"/>

Please note that some books may have been edited for clarity and ease of reading. The books have been rated for difficulty based on factors such as length of sentences, structure of sentences and vocabulary. To return to the genre selection please press Previous

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You are now ready to start recording. Please make sure you are comfortable.



Get Comfortable

Set yourself up somewhere quiet and comfortable where you can keep your computer stable. Grab yourself a glass of water or a cup of tea.

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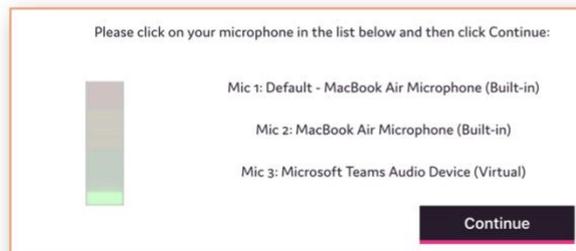
Microphone Permissions

Before you begin recording, you need to ensure the correct microphone is selected. A list of available microphones on your device will be shown on screen, please choose your microphone and click **Continue**.

We need to access your microphone to continue. If there is a box above asking for permission to use your microphone, please click "Allow".

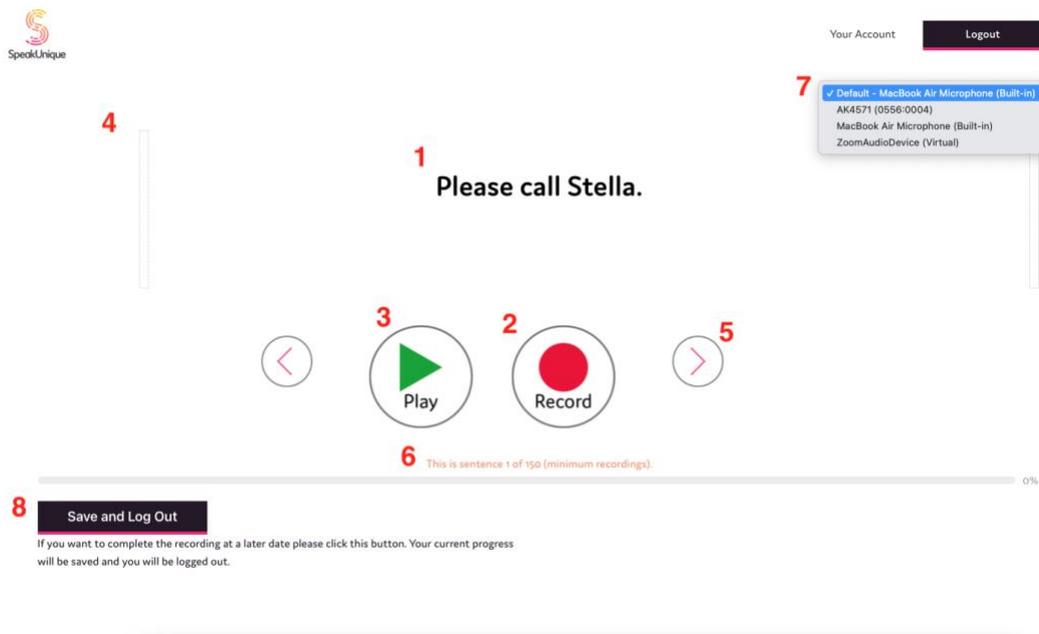
If you have done that and you are still seeing this message, please [reload this page](#).

If there is no box and you are having trouble, look for a small microphone icon in the URL bar at the top of the window and try clicking it to reset your permissions for this page.



If you complete the steps outlined in the screenshot above and the microphone is still not recording, please check the microphone permissions on your web browser and your laptop/computer and ensure you have granted access to www.speakunique.co.uk to access your microphone.

The Recording Screen



1. This is the sentence you need to read aloud.
2. Press **Record** to start recording each sentence.
3. The **Play** button allows you to listen to the sentence you have just recorded - please listen back to sentences frequently to check the quality.
4. The **volume bar** indicates the volume of the recording. An error message will appear if the recording is too loud, too quiet or if your microphone is too close to your mouth.
5. The **arrows** allow you to move between sentences. You can also use the arrow keys on your keyboard to do this.
6. The **progress bar** shows the sentence number you are reading and what percentage of the recording you have completed.
7. Here you can change the external **microphone** you want to use. Please note the name of the microphone might differ from what you expect.
8. Use the **Save and Log Out** feature if you would like to save your recording.

The Screen During Recording

1. Press record and start speaking. If you make a mistake, you are interrupted, you notice background noise or if you cough during the recording please rerecord the sentence.
2. Press **Stop** to stop recording the sentence.
3. A red box will appear around the screen to indicate that recording is in progress.
4. Your synthetic voice can be built on a minimum of 125 sentences and a maximum of 150 sentences.

The **Save and Submit** button will appear once you have reached sentence 126 and can be used when you are ready to submit your recordings to create your synthetic voice. If you wish to record all 150 sentences, please continue recording until you reach the end of the process.

Once you have submitted your recordings, we will notify your voice recipient and you do not need to do anything else.

Thanks for being a voice donor at SpeakUnique!

We'd love to keep in touch, please follow us on social media @SpeakUniqueVB

