

Tell Me: Don't Just Read, Listen.

Presented by Shardul Jangam for the Hackathon

The Silent Struggle: Why Reading Isn't Always Enough

Time-Consuming Texts

Students, professionals, and researchers face an overwhelming volume of PDFs, notes, and articles. Managing and absorbing long documents is a significant drain on valuable time.

Information Overload

Navigating dense, lengthy documents can lead to fatigue and reduced comprehension, making it hard to extract key information efficiently.

Accessibility Barriers

Traditional reading formats exclude many. Individuals who prefer auditory learning or have reading difficulties face significant challenges, limiting their access to information.

Introducing Tell Me: Your Personal Audio Reader

We built [Tell Me](#) to transform how you consume information. It's a simple, intuitive application designed to make reading effortless and accessible, turning any document into an engaging audio experience.



Reads Anything Aloud

Effortlessly converts PDFs, articles, or personal notes into natural-sounding speech.



Line-by-Line Precision

Ensures no information is skipped, providing a thorough and accurate auditory representation of your documents.



Distraction-Free Design

Features a clean, minimal user interface, allowing you to focus solely on the content being read without visual clutter.

Key Features That Stand Out

- **Real-Time PDF Reading:** Instantly process and read any PDF document as if someone were reading it directly to you.
- **Natural Voice Conversion:** Utilises advanced text-to-speech technology to deliver clear, human-like narration, making listening a pleasure.
- **User-Friendly Interface:** Designed for simplicity, Tell Me is accessible to everyone, regardless of technical proficiency. No steep learning curves, just instant functionality.



Beyond Reading:

Our initial release focuses on core functionality, but the future of Tell Me includes powerful AI-driven features like summarisation, multilingual translation, and deeper content analysis.

Under the Hood: Our Robust Technology Stack

We selected powerful and flexible technologies to ensure Tell Me is reliable, efficient, and scalable.

01

Python 3.13

The core programming language, providing a stable and versatile foundation for the application's logic.

02

Streamlit (GUI)

Enables rapid development of our intuitive and responsive graphical user interface, making the app easy to interact with.

03

pyttsx3 (Text-to-Speech)

Powers the text-to-speech conversion, ensuring high-quality, natural-sounding audio output.

04

pdfplumber (PDF Extraction)

Handles the complex task of accurately extracting text from various PDF formats, ensuring comprehensive coverage.

05

Tkinter (File Selection)

Provides a seamless and native file selection dialogue for users to easily choose their documents.

Overcoming Development Hurdles

The hackathon environment presented unique challenges, but our team successfully navigated them to deliver a functional prototype.

PDF Format Variability

- Dealing with diverse PDF structures (scanned images vs. text-based) required robust extraction logic.
- Ensuring accurate text parsing across different layouts.

Environment Setup

- Managing dependencies and ensuring seamless integration of TTS engines across different operating systems.
- Troubleshooting compatibility issues.

Balancing Simplicity & Functionality

- Striking the right balance to keep the user interface minimal while delivering core features effectively.
- Resisting feature creep to maintain a focused user experience.

Hackathon Time Constraints

- Prioritising critical features to deliver a complete, working product within a compressed timeline.
- Iterating rapidly based on immediate feedback.

The Road Ahead: Future Vision for Tell Me

Our commitment to enhancing accessibility and information consumption extends far beyond this hackathon.



AI-Powered Summarisation

Automatically condense lengthy documents into key takeaways, saving even more time.



Multilingual Translation

Break down language barriers with instant translation and spoken output for global content.



Mobile App Version

Bring [Tell Me](#) to iOS and Android, allowing on-the-go listening and learning.



Cloud Storage Integration

Seamlessly access documents from Google Drive, OneDrive, and other cloud services.



Impact & Vision: Empowering Every Listener

Time Efficiency

Significantly reduce time spent on reading for students, professionals, and researchers, freeing up hours for deeper work and creativity.

Enhanced Accessibility

Break down barriers for individuals with reading disabilities and those who learn best auditorily, fostering true inclusivity.

Information Democratisation

Empower anyone, anywhere, to consume information by allowing them to [listen instead of read](#), making knowledge truly universal.