

Notes from Robert on smart phones 18 August 2015

In October, Robert is expected to get a smart phone, which will replace his old feature phone. He's anxious to get a smart phone to replace his feature phone, and I asked him why. His first and overwhelming response: All current navigation on the feature phone is done through the keypad. When he gets a smart phone, he will be able to take advantage of voice-to-text technology.

(Note: As if on cue, today, Dragon Naturally Speaking announced "Dragon Anywhere", an app available for iOS and Android) See article: [Nuance's new Dragon Anywhere app will transcribe for as long as you can speak](#), by [Jacob Kastrenakes](#), on August 18, 2015 11:30am.

<http://www.theverge.com/2015/8/18/9165425/nuance-dragon-anywhere-ios-android-dictation-app>

Note: Just Make Sure You Have a Good Connection.

Robert has discussed with his family the need for a smart phone as opposed to a simple feature phone; he feels strongly that having a smart phone will greatly facilitate his ability to function at school, work, and in general. Communications will be much easier for him and for many more, if not most people, with mobility disabilities. Robert is also of the opinion that the smart phone will not only enable him to overcome certain limitations because of his mobility problems, but will offer much more "computing" power in the palm of his hand. He believes that he'll be able to do more of his homework because of the computing power on the smart phone.

Feature phone problems:

1. Can barely see the small print.
2. Hard to navigate around a screen, using keypad only.
3. Has hardly any capabilities other than text. Because of his disabilities, he wants the much more efficient method of communication available on smart phones: Speech to text. Texting is very time consuming and slow, and he feels he would be much more productive using speech-to-text technology.