Shalin Shah, a high school student, designed an iPhone app for people who are blind or are visually impaired. Help encourage him by testing his app and give him feedback. On his own initiative, and without teacher input, Shalin, created an app which will:

* Assist a user to take a picture of a page containing text, and it will:
* Tell the user if the focus is correct
* Adjust for brightness
* Adjust for a picture of text on a curve such as a can label
* Take the actual picture when auto settings are acceptable
* Run optical character recognition on the picture
* Read the resulting text using text-to-speech software

The app begins explaining the app and how it works. It then lets the user know if the camera has the picture properly aligned and, if so, announces that it has located all four corners of the text. With voiceover on, the user is told when the picture is taken; when the OCR is processing it; and finally uses a text-to-speech engine to read it to the user. The speed of the reading is adjustable with 3 speed choices. All this is accomplished in a brief time and is done automatically without requiring user input in the process. Because the OCR relies on an online application, the time required is slightly dependent on the quality of the Internet connection.

The app, Voice can be downloaded free from the iTunes store. Shalin is eager to receive evaluations and any tips for improvements and modifications.

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