

ReadRite™ 2.0 — Interview Questions and Answers

Suggested answers for Tim Trott. Put them in your own words; they're a starting point, not a script.

1. What is ReadRite, in one sentence?

ReadRite is a Windows program that reads your script before an AI voice does, works out how each tricky word should sound from its sentence, and marks it so the voice says it right.

2. What problem does it solve?

English has words that are spelled the same but said differently depending on meaning: read and read, lead and lead, wind and wind, contract and contract. An AI voice has to guess which one you mean. When it guesses wrong in an audiobook or a training video, listeners notice, and it makes the whole production sound careless.

3. Don't the big AI voices already handle this?

Some of the newest, most expensive voices handle many of these words well, and that's good news. But plenty of people use standard voices, built-in voices, free voices, or voices inside other software, and those still guess. Even with a good voice, ReadRite gives you a report of every one of these words, so you can check them instead of listening to a whole book hoping to catch a mistake.

4. How is that different from a pronunciation dictionary?

A dictionary can only hold one pronunciation per word. That doesn't work for read, because the right answer changes from sentence to sentence. ReadRite looks at the grammar around the word, such as 'will read' versus 'had read', 'to wind the clock' versus 'the wind blew', and picks the right one each time.

5. What happens when ReadRite isn't sure?

It says so. 'I read it' could be past or present, and nothing in that sentence tells you which. ReadRite leaves it alone and lists it in the report with both choices. I'd rather it ask than guess wrong. If you know which you meant, you type the spelling from the chart, like RED or REED, and convert again.

6. Do I need to know phonetics?

No. That was important to me. The chart uses plain spellings with the stressed syllable in capitals: KON-trakt for the noun, kun-TRAKT for the verb. Anyone can read that. ReadRite handles the technical part for the voice behind the scenes.

7. Will it change my manuscript?

Never. ReadRite always writes a new file next to yours and leaves your original exactly as it was.

8. What files does it work with?

TXT, Word (DOCX) and EPUB. You can get back the same kind of file, plain text, or, for professional voice services, SSML pronunciation tags or phoneme text.

9. Has it been tested with a real voice service?

Yes. I tested ReadRite's SSML output in Amazon Polly. Polly said every word the way ReadRite marked it. I also run every version through a large set of automated tests and through my own full-length novels before release.

10. Who is it for?

Indie authors making AI audiobooks, people building online courses with text-to-speech, YouTube and video creators, podcasters. Anyone who sends text to an AI voice and wants it right the first time.

11. Why did an author build this?

Because I write books, and I want them heard the way I wrote them. I kept hearing AI voices say a word the wrong way, and I realized the fix wasn't a better voice, it was understanding the sentence first. So I built the tool I wanted.

12. How much does it cost, and where do I get it?

It's $19.95, one time, no subscription, at ReadRite.US. You can try it free on one script of up to 2,000 words first, so you can hear the difference before you buy.

A demo to offer the host

Offer to play a short before-and-after: the same sentence read by a voice without ReadRite, then with it. For example: "Yesterday she read the letter. The wind was cold, so she had to wind the clock." Hearing it does more than any explanation.