



SANAKO Media Assistant



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An Innovative Experience for Language Learning

SANAKO Media Assistant is a unique digital interactive audio video recorder that offers invaluable ways to create stimulating language learning exercises. Media Assistant greatly assists students as they develop their listening and oral proficiency in foreign languages by providing opportunities to listen and respond in the target language, and also to create their own multimedia exercises. Media Assistant enhances users' learning experience by offering an exceptional interactive experience which features the integration of digital audio and video with the use of images and text.

Exciting Language Learning Tools for Teachers and Students

SANAKO Media Assistant opens an array of audio files, video clips from CD, the network and the Internet for stimulating use within a teaching environment. It also supports the recording of student commentary alongside playback to allow comparison with the original program. Media Assistant is a unique tool for improving pronunciation and intonation, while allowing users to easily create stimulating learning material by using subtitles, instructions, and named bookmarks with image attachments - all controlled by an easy-to-use interface.

SANAKO Media Assistant Duo, Solo and Lite

Sanako Media Assistant is available in three versions to suit different multimedia learning environments. SANAKO Media Assistant Lite and Solo are both stand-alone versions for independent language study - Lite for remote students working at home, Solo for institutional environments within your establishment. Duo is a version designed for teacher-led multimedia language learning environments such as the Sanako Lab 300. Learning materials created with Media Assistant Duo or Solo for language lab use can also be used with the stand-alone solutions Solo and Lite outside the lab.

Additional Functionalities in **SANAKO Media Assistant Duo**



SANAKO Media Assistant Duo

SANAKO Media Assistant Duo is the multimedia language lab version of the SANAKO Media Assistant family. It contains all the independent language learning features of SANAKO Media Assistant Solo, plus several innovative features, listed below, that enable students to practice language skills in pairs or groups. For the teacher, it provides a simple and effective method of using this technology in an examination, allowing for easy collection of all student recordings.

Communication in Pairs and Groups

The teacher can assign language practice exercises to students in pairs or groups. Progress can be discreetly monitored and advice or support given as and when required with a simple click of a mouse button.

Phone Mode

Why not allow students to perform role play situations by simulating telephone calls – it's quick and easy to do, and is an enjoyable way to develop oral and listening skills!

Calling the Teacher

Students can talk to the teacher without disturbing others in the lab by clicking a Call button and, if required, sending a supporting text message to the teacher. The teacher can then choose to answer the call and assist that student individually.

Program Transfer

The teacher can transfer source material to student computers. This material can be cassette- or CD-based or take the form of files, web pages, or applications. Students work independently on this material and save their modified material to the hard disk. For certain drill-type exercises or examinations, the student's voice can be recorded during the program transfer.

Oral Examinations and Multiple-choice Tests

Conducting multiple-choice listening comprehension tests is easy! An oral test can be given to all students at the same time and yet their individual recordings can be retrieved within seconds and assessed individually.

Chat

The teacher can initiate and end a controlled text chat session with a selected group of students. The chat feature can provide an additional layer to classroom collaboration beyond standard audio communication.

Teacher Instruction Windows

An instruction window is provided should the teacher need to give written instructions for the use of the multimedia content.



Functionalities of **SANAKO Media Assistant**



SANAKO Media Assistant provides students with all the tools they need to perfect their foreign language skills.

Playback and Record

Make use of different audio sources to improve pronunciation and intonation! With SANAKO Media Assistant, users can play back audio and video files and audio CDs. It is also possible to simultaneously record comments, Internet radio broadcasts, responses or translations while playing back content.

Media Playback with Variable Speed

The variable speed playback feature allows students to reduce playback speed on material if they are having difficulty following. The ability to control the pace of media playback gives students a sense of active participation in learning.

Bookmarks

Up to 10 bookmarks can be used to locate places in the program track to review for additional practice or annotation. Clicking a set bookmark starts the file playing from the selected place. The bookmarks can be named and they can also be used to link images to be displayed at desired intervals during the playback of any file. It is also possible to attach a document to bookmarks.

Recap and Repeat Functions

Sometimes it can be useful to drill a particularly important phrase or segment repeatedly. The Recap function is designed to quickly repeat the previous sentence or part of the file. Simply select a file segment and repeat the segment continuously to reinforce student learning.

Digitize Audio and Video

Many institutions have language learning material in analog format, such as audio and video cassettes. The Media Assistant allows teachers to easily convert them to digital format, no sophisticated IT skills are required.

Open Files, Websites and Streams

Media Assistant allows you to make use of a wide variety of file formats for language learning. Users can watch video files; listen to audio clips from hard disk or stream media from the Internet while recording their own voice for comparison with the original. Digitized resources are easier to access for use, and the quality is not affected by age and usage, as is the case with analog teaching material. However, teachers can easily continue to use their analog material as and when needed.

Create Exercises and save Files

New media exercises can be created and saved for classroom or independent study. The easy creation of new exercises offers more freedom and creativity in preparing teaching materials, and makes it easier for teachers to cater to different skill levels - no need to spend time and money searching for and buying off-the-shelf teaching content!

File Packaging

The file packaging feature allows users to package material that is created outside of the school environment. This gives the teacher greater flexibility in creating teaching material, as it can be done off-site, e.g. at home, and easily used at school during classroom teaching.

Voice Graph

A graph can be viewed for both the program and student tracks. This visual representation of the voice tracks allows students to compare their recorded output to the original or model track for detailed voice analysis.

Audio Active Comparative Corrective (AACC)

The AACC function allows the student to listen to teacher-developed exercises and to create their own. This innovative function allows students to learn new phrases faster and correctly.

Mark-to-Speak Mode

In the Mark-to-Speak mode, gaps can be inserted automatically into source material, while students are recording their voices. This unique facility allows for the creation of exercises during playback.

Text Synchronization

Create exciting new learning material by subtitling audio or video! Media Assistant contains a simple to use text synchronization feature that can be used to type a transcript, attach images or record a commentary to annotate the original content of a program file.

Publishing a SANAKO Media Assistant File on the Web or CD

Extend your multimedia learning experience to the Internet by using a simple method to publish completed exercises to the web. Creating self-paced exercise CD-ROMs could not be easier!



Subtitles can be used with video material to create effective learning exercises.



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SANAKO Media Assistant System Requirements

- Windows® XP, 2000
(variable speed playback supported in Windows® XP only)
- Pentium® 200 MHz
- 64 MB RAM (128 or more recommended)
- 40 MB free hard disk space
- SVGA video adapter 800 x 600, high Color
- Sound Card, AC '97 compliant PCI audio

Optional Accessories

- Video capture card (with Video-for-Windows/DirectX support)
- Headphones and microphone for audio digitization

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High Technology from Finland

SANAKO Media Assistant Duo Additional Requirements

- SANAKO Lab 300 Software
- SANAKO Headset Adapter
- System Connection Unit
- Network interface card
- TCP/IP protocol



SANAKO Lab 300 Media Assistant Duo, Voice Graph view in Student User Interface

Functionality in different SANAKO Media Assistant versions

FEATURE	DUO	SOLO	LITE
Play, Record, Stop, Recap, Rewind, Fast Forward	✓	✓	✓
Variable-speed Playback, Windows Media® Player 10 required	✓	✓	✓
Volume Level and Balance Control	✓	✓	✓
Slider for Instant Access/Playback	✓	✓	✓
Playback of Real®, Microsoft® Windows Media® and Apple® QuickTime® formats	✓	✓	✓
Streaming from the Web (asx)	✓	✓	✓
Record from Microphone	✓	✓	✓
Digitize Audio with Optional Capture Card	✓	✓	
Digitize Video if Suitable Hardware is fitted	✓	✓	
Capture from CD-ROM and Media File	✓	✓	
Text Synchronization Authoring and Saving	✓	✓	
Text Synchronized Files Play	✓	✓	✓
AACC Authoring and Saving	✓	✓	
Open AACC Exercises	✓	✓	✓
Bookmarks and Titles for Bookmarks displayed	✓	✓	✓
Bookmark Titles saved	✓	✓	
Mp3 and wma Formats saved	✓	✓	✓
Instructions Authoring	✓	✓	
Open Files with Instructions	✓	✓	✓
Mark-to-Speak	✓	✓	✓
Attach Image Annotations to Source Material	✓	✓	
Playback Source Material with Image Annotations	✓	✓	✓
Voice Graph	✓	✓	✓
Call Teacher	✓		
Group and Student Identification for Interaction within a Classroom using the SANAKO Lab 300 System	✓		

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