

LITERARY TEACHING ASSISTANT

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One of the largest issues teachers are facing is to get their students to read. Students claim there is not enough time in the day to pick up a book and read their assigned text, leading to them being unprepared for a class discussion or lecture. Hard copy books are expensive in today's economy, leading more and more people to digital copies. The Literary Teaching Assistant resolves these issues by bringing assigned readings into the digital world. The application streamlines the reading and annotation process, allowing students to create annotations without fear of margin space. Long gone are the days of buying a pack of multi-colored highlighters. Students have the option to choose any color they wish and highlight parts of text. Students can save key locations in the text, and instantly move to that location with a click. There is a simplified dictionary and pronunciation feature, allowing students to quickly look up a term without having to leave the software. Students can place images in the text, aiding in the visualization of the text. All data is stored on a local database and created on a windows platform using primarily C# coding language, as well as XML and SQL. The application was created in consultation with high school educators to target English classes, however, this software can be used for other classes as well. Future development of this project will be directed towards the interface of the application and final release of the software to students.