

What is CART?

CART means “Computer-Assisted Real-Time Transcription”

CART is provided by a trained individual called a real-time or court reporter. Using a stenographer machine linked to a computer, these reporters type spoken words, which then appear as text on a computer monitor, television or projection screen. This service allows people with hearing loss to know what is said at a certain venue.

Who Uses CART?

People who are deaf or hard of hearing are the most frequent users of CART. Individuals who are deaf-blind may also use CART if the text size is increased and the text color is darkened.

Where is CART Used?

Jurors, plaintiffs, defendants, attorneys and others use CART in the court system. It can also be used for conferences, conventions, meetings, classrooms and various other settings where people need a visual transcription of speech.

Look Inside for More Information Regarding CART



Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

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Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Captioning Information

Computer

Assisted

Real-Time

Transcription



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CART & the ADA

Is CART Required Under the American's with Disabilities Act (ADA)?

CART is included in the ADA definition of "auxiliary aids." This means that people who are deaf or hard of hearing have the same right to CART as they would have to sign language interpreters or assistive listening devices. However, the provider may select which auxiliary aid is used as long as the person with hearing loss determines it provides "effective communication."



Technology Associated with CART

Off-Line Captioning

Captioning that is produced after a video segment has been recorded is called off-line captioning. A captioner watches the video recording and creates captions, which are timed to the video footage. The captions are usually embedded on a videotape with the program picture and sound before the program is broadcast or distributed. Most captioned programs are produced off-line.

Real-Time Captioning

Captions that are created simultaneously during a video program or conference are produced by real-time captioning. A trained stenotypist records spoken content by typing phonetic codes on a special keyboard that allows high-speed transcription. A computer that is loaded with custom software translates the phonetic codes into the proper text. To display the captioning as quickly as possible, the words are shown in a scrolling style.

Closed Captions

Captions that appear only when telecaptioning decoders are activated are called closed captions. Closed captioning is typically used for television broadcasts and movie videotapes. Closed captioning allows people who are deaf or hard of hearing to enjoy the same broadcasts and video materials as other users.

Open Captions

Captions that are visible by using a captioning decoder are called open captions. When a video is open captioned, the text is permanently part of the picture. Open captions are advised for any situation where a decoder may be difficult to obtain or operate, such as in a hotel, convention center, or museum. For this reason, open captioning is recommended for training and promotional videos.

C-Print

Computer-aided speech-to-print transcription systems are called C-Print. A typist called a C-Print captionist types a teacher's lecture (and students' comments) into a laptop computer. The typed information is displayed simultaneously on a second laptop computer or television monitor for students to read during class. Afterwards, the printed text is available for students to review.

