



## *Hardware – Equality of Access for People with Disabilities*



### **Task**

1. Explain five modifications to IT devices that are made to give physically-impaired people greater accessibility to them.

- You may wish to consider modifications to both input and output devices such as microphones, keyboards, speakers, screens and mouth-held wands. Touch devices could also be included.
- Look at a range of disabilities e.g. hearing impairment, blindness and movement limitations.

2. Put together a list of the peripherals available to people with disabilities and compare them to the cost of similar peripherals for the average computer user. Add up the costs of having a computer for an average person versus a person with disabilities.

3. Comment on the price differences. Is there an access issue here? Is it ethical? What are the solutions to the differences in price for the average user versus a disabled person?

In your response you should consider: -

- Why disabled people need access to computers and the associated benefits that computers bring
- The stakeholders involved in providing fair and equal access

### **Resources**

<http://www.rit.edu/~easi/pubs/heath.htm>

<http://www.apple.com/accessibility/>

<http://www.washington.edu/doit/Brochures/Technology/wtcomp.html>

<http://www.microsoft.com/enable/>

**Due: End of Week 3.**