

4. Changing the options

Changing the voice and rate of speech

Use the “Speech” control panel to change the voice and rate of speech. A shortcut to the “Speech” control panel can be found under the Edit menu. I recommend "Fred" which is installed with Macintalk 3. I have done all I can to overcome any problems with understanding what Fred is saying by adding clarifications for all of the Master Spell words. Just think of Fred as someone with a strange accent which you have to get used to. I understand everything Fred says now because I've been listening to him and the original Macintalk since the early Talking Moose days.

Admonishing Remarks and Sounds option

You may disable the end test crybaby sound and all of the sampled sounds that are otherwise played for misspellings by unchecking the [Admonishing Remarks and Sounds](#) checkbox by selecting the [Preferences](#) item of the Edit menu. The spoken remarks for misspellings are also more forgiving and encouraging. This might be useful for some younger children who might find the sounds and remarks a bit intimidating.

Speak Letters as Typed

Master Spell will speak each letter as it is typed. This feedback is intended mostly for children and may be very cumbersome to adults and fast typists so it is an option. This option can be found under the General tab of the [Preferences](#) which is found in the Edit menu.

Talkative option

Master Spell is most interactive in pretest activities and giving you status at the end of the test with the [Talkative](#) item checked. Uncheck this option by selecting [Preferences](#) from the Edit menu if you want a faster paced test process.

Check for Proper Case

You may allow Master Spell to check for proper case such as in the case of proper nouns such as “January” or “Arctic” with the [Check for Proper Case](#) option checked. In this case if you submit “arctic”, it would be counted as incorrect. Uncheck this item if you want Master Spell to completely ignore case.

Hide Desktop

With the [Hide Desktop](#) option checked, Master Spell will draw a solid color for the entire background outside of the Master Spell windows. These colors are selected randomly and can be changed to another randomly generated color by clicking the solid color background.

Select Class at Startup

With this option selected, when Master Spell is launched, the user is immediately asked to select his/her class.

Password Requirements

You may turn the passwords requirement for the teacher and pupils on and off individually in the Preferences. See [5. Passwords](#)

Pupil Restrictions

All pupil restrictions can be set from within the Preferences dialog. This includes:

- [Disable New Pupil Creation](#)
- [Lock Test Selection](#)
- [Lock Number of Words](#)
- [Lock Integrate Trouble Words](#)
- [Disable History Clearing](#)
- [Disable Pupil Password Changing](#)
- [Disable Stop Test](#)

With "Disable Stop Test" checked, users will not be able to cancel in the middle of a test. However they could just quit Master Spell without finishing the test. This is an option to make it harder for users to falsify their Test Log.

- [Disable End of Test Retry](#)

With "Disable End of Test Retry" checked, users are denied the chance to retry for half credit, words they spelled incorrectly.