



# Audio Files for Te Reo Ataahua - Basic Te Reo Maori

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The poster summarises work to date on providing a viable means of alternative delivery for Te Reo Ataahua programme. The programme involves students obtaining a workbook by registering at the Bay of Plenty Polytechnic and a radio programme on Moana AM. The radio programme is broadcast twice daily.

The poster examines the issues related to providing a means for students to access the radio programme component over the Internet. This would allow a student to listen to a programme:

- at a time to suit,
- even if a programme was missed, and/or
- as many times as the student wishes.

It is possible that providing this 'asynchronous channel' for delivery (meaning the student doesn't have to be in front of the radio at same time it is being broadcast) might make the programme more accessible for other possible audiences.

Finally, the poster identifies opportunities and advantages in delivering the programmes on CDROMs using various audio formats.

**Keywords:** Sound files, .wav, .mp3, Te Reo, Te Reo Ataahua

## 1 SUMMARY OF RESEARCH PRESENTED

One typical 30 minute radio lesson was converted to a digital format suitable for Internet delivery. The poster compares the results from:

- a technical point of view - sound quality of the file when it is being played through your computer, and
- a sociological point of view - whether the time waiting for the files would be acceptable, or if the student might 'switch off' before getting the chance to listen.

## 2 DELIVERY CONSIDERATIONS

Delivery over the Internet always involves decision and compromise. Three aspects were researched and presented on the poster.

### 2.1 Common File Format versus a Format with Good Compression

While just about any computer can be expected to play a .wav file, that is not the best method of delivery. .mp3 files are not quite so common, but offer a massive advantage in compression. Players

for .mp3 files (such as the Windows Media Player which comes with almost all computers...) are readily available for free download.

### 2.2 Size of File versus Quality of Audio

To get really good quality sound, the file size becomes unworkably large, and this creates unacceptably long downloads for people on a dialup connection to the Internet.

The poster provides a summary of the results of converting to both .wav and .mp3 formats, comparing sound quality and size of the resulting lesson.

### 2.3 Provision on CDROM

The provision of the entire programme on CDROM to libraries and individuals is examined from a cost point of view, comparing the delivery parameters with Internet delivered materials.

## 3 FURTHER STUDY

Once some of the initial discussions have taken place, this project could further address a range of other related issues, including

- delivery of the course workbook electronically: it must not compromise the potential for EFTS funding,
- provision of smaller/shorter segments: splitting the files in such a way that the delivery could be even more acceptable, and
- provision of 'streaming audio': effectively an on-demand broadcast system (rather than requiring the student to download an entire file before listening).

## REFERENCES

Wallingford, N. (2004). Audio Files for Te Reo Ataahua - Basic Te Reo Maori. <http://www.bcs.net.nz/tereo.htm>