

**Praat handout #1****Downloading and installing Praat**

**Praat** [pra:t] (Dutch for 'talk, tattle, boasting') is a freeware program for speech analysis. It is provided by Paul Boersma and David Weenink of the Institute of Phonetic Sciences, University of Amsterdam. This handout tells you how to download and install Praat on your own computer.

The Praat software is frequently updated by its authors. The changes are usually small, but if you are using this handout along with a different version of Praat than the one listed below, you may find that some of the functions and features look or act slightly differently from the way they are described here.

*These instructions were updated for Praat version 4.3.20 on August 24, 2005.*

**1.1 Downloading and installing Praat**

To download Praat:

- (1) Go to the Praat web site (also available from our class home page):  
<http://www.praat.org>
- (2) Download the version of Praat for your operating system: click on the appropriate link (i.e., "Windows") at the top left of the Praat main page and follow the directions.
- (3) Install Praat on your computer — usually by clicking on the file that you have downloaded and telling the installer program where to put the Praat program.

**1.2 Problems?**

- If you don't have access to an Internet connection for downloading Praat, a "Praat installation" CD-ROM can be signed out overnight from Mrs. Samelia McIver in the Linguistics office, Dey 318. (Two copies are available.)
- If you are unfamiliar with using your computer, or with installing new software, you may be able to get some help from ITS [Information Technology Services].
  - ▶ Walk-in: IT Response Center: Lower level, House Undergraduate Library
  - ▶ Phone: 962-HELP
  - ▶ Web site: <http://help.unc.edu>
  - ▶ Online chat: <http://www.unc.edu/atn/itrc/chat/>
- If you can't hear sounds when you try to listen to a sound file (see Praat handout #3), try:
  - (a) Plug headphones into the headphone/audio jack on your computer (it may be green)
  - (b) Find your computer's control panels and make sure that the audio volume is not set too low and is not muted. In Windows, you probably do this by clicking on the Start menu and then Settings > Control Panel > Sounds & Audio Devices.
- If you have other problems downloading, installing, or using the Praat software, please let me know: [jlsmith@email.unc.edu](mailto:jlsmith@email.unc.edu)