

Kadamb Inclusive Learning Tools (KILT)

Sonal Majeethia
(Founder)



About the company

- Kadamb Inclusive Learning Tools (KILT) was formed on 24th April, 2020 as a sole proprietorship company in Mumbai, India. <https://kadambtools.in/>.
- It was founded by Sonal Majeethia, an electrical engineer turned special educator and a parent of a young adult with learning difficulties (LD).
- KILT aims to promote equitable education through the use of technology for marginalized students.
- The current version of KILT is a tool that is focused on content from the Ministry of Education, Government of India recognised National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) curriculum, but the platform is extensible to any other educational content.



Vision

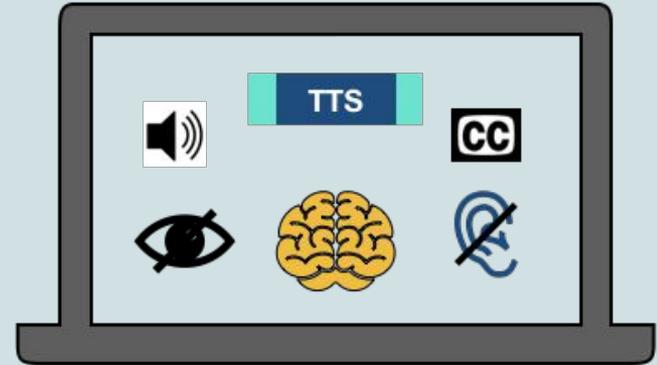
- Create a level playing field for marginalized students with the help of technology.
- Break accessibility barriers by promoting e-inclusion.
- Create digital content according to the World Wide Web Accessibility Guidelines (W3CAG) and the principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL).
- Promote learning engineering research collaborations amongst people with disabilities, teachers, special educators, special needs schools, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and Ed-tech companies, and the design of e-learning solutions that suit the needs of Indian E-learners.

**Increasing Accessibility
To
Promote Inclusion!**



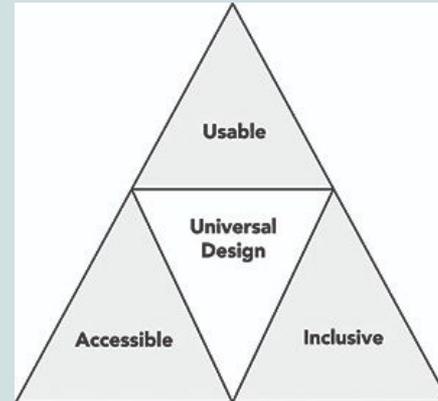
Accessibility – Basic requirement for promoting inclusion

- **‘Quality Education’** is one of the **United Nations’** sustainable development goals. Print and digital content accessibility is of prime importance for providing quality education because ability to access information easily is the first step of learning.
- **‘Accessible India Campaign’** aims to create universal accessibility and equal opportunities for people with disabilities. One of the three main components of this campaign is providing ‘accessible information’ to everyone.
- KILT’s vision and mission to provide **accessible** and **universally usable digital content** is very much aligned with the **worldwide** movement for the promotion of e-inclusion.



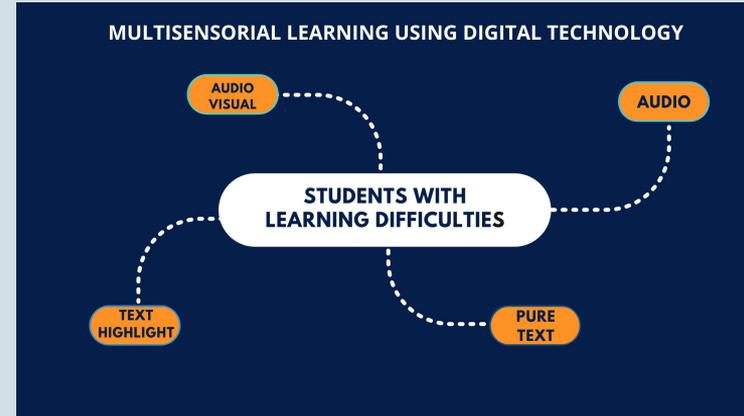
UDL – Design that works for everyone!

- UDL refers to the process of proactively designing learning experiences that assure accessibility and inclusion for **all types of learners**.
- UDL principles are derived from the current research in cognitive science.
- UDL supports **learner variability**.
- **UDL** and **accessibility** are both equally essential for creating inclusive learning experiences.



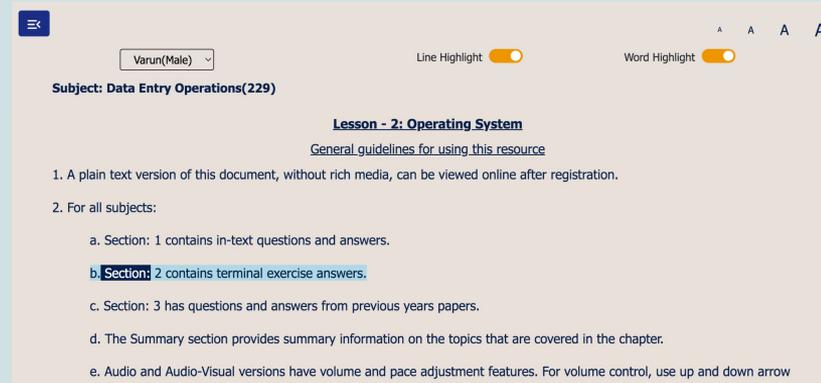
About the tool - 1

- KILT is a **web based platform** that provides comprehensive guides with a focus on enabling students with LD to **study independently**. It is aligned with UDL principles and offers **multisensorial learning support to all**, including **students with LD**.
- It is designed and developed using an **accessibility-first approach** based on **published research and UDL guidelines** to provide **multi-modal content to K-12 students**. Users have options for selecting a preferred modality with the desired level of support for engaging meaningfully with the text.



About the tool - 2

- KILT's content is available in three different modalities: **pure text**, **audio** and **audio with text highlighting**, with **pace adjustment**. Content is also provided with multiple levels of support for each modality. Students select preferred **modality and level of support**.
- Neuro-typical students may access the tool as an **e-guidebook**, students with visual impairment as an **audio book**, and students with reading difficulties prefer **audio with text highlighting**.



The screenshot shows the KILT interface with a user profile dropdown set to 'Varun(Male)'. There are two toggle switches: 'Line Highlight' and 'Word Highlight', both of which are turned on. The subject is 'Data Entry Operations(229)'. The lesson title is 'Lesson - 2: Operating System'. Below the title is a link for 'General guidelines for using this resource'. The main content consists of a numbered list: 1. A plain text version of this document, without rich media, can be viewed online after registration. 2. For all subjects: a. Section: 1 contains in-text questions and answers. b. Section: 2 contains terminal exercise answers. c. Section: 3 has questions and answers from previous years papers. d. The Summary section provides summary information on the topics that are covered in the chapter. e. Audio and Audio-Visual versions have volume and pace adjustment features. For volume control, use up and down arrow.



About National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)

- **Ministry of Education, Government of India** recognised curriculum that provides **equitable pre-degree education** through **distance learning mode**.
- **Quality inclusive education to marginalized student populations** like girls / women, differently abled or students from minority groups. It is also adopted by the parents for homeschooling.
- It offers a **variety of subjects** and provides up to 5 years to the students to finish their **secondary or senior secondary course** requirements. Students have the flexibility to choose subjects from a variety of options. Students must complete a minimum of five subjects at their own pace for completing **secondary or senior secondary certificate programs**. These attributes greatly help marginalized students with their education process.
- More information is available on their website: <https://www.nios.ac.in/>



Utility of the tool

- Students need **extensive revision practice** in order to **clear** the final exams as **NIOS content** is **voluminous**. Apart from this, those opting for this curriculum have **other commitments** or some form of **disability**.
- There is a huge need for **accessible** and **precise guidebooks** and **study resources**. Existing resources are not easily accessible.
- KILT's **unique tool** fills this gap by providing **precise, multimodal** and **accessible** support resources for **independent study routines**. It aims to support parents, subject teachers and special educators **for teaching** and to support students **with their exam preparations**.

Kadamb Inclusive Learning Tools

Course Content

- Lesson 1: Basics Of Computers
- Lesson 2: Operating Systems
- Lesson 3: Basics Of Word Processing
- Lesson 4: Formatting Documents

Subject: Data Entry Operations(229)

Lesson - 1: Basics Of Computer

[General guidelines for using this resource](#)

1. A plain text version of this document, without rich media, can be viewed online after registration.
2. For all subjects:
 - a. Section: 1 contains in-text questions and answers.
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 - c. Section: 3 has questions and answers from previous years papers.
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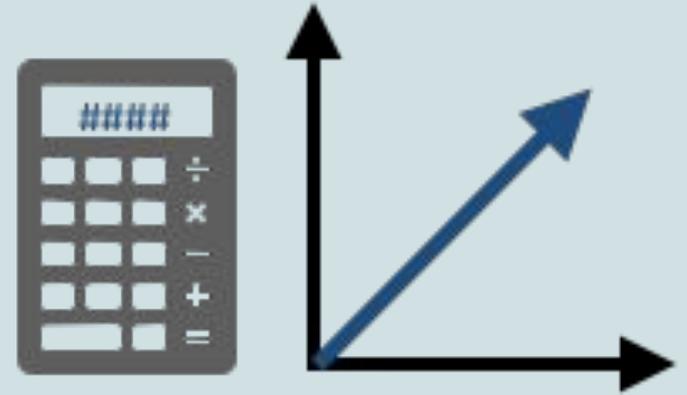
Market Research

- According to NIOS, the curriculum has enrolled approximately **4.12 million students** in the **last five years**, with **1.9 million students** enrolled in the curriculum for **the academic year of 2020**. The current tool aims to address about **10%** of this market. Adding resources for more subjects in English and in other vernacular languages will add to this market base.
- **The Ministry of Education, Government of India** has provided the guidelines for the development of e-content for children with disabilities. KILT's platform fulfills more than **80%** of this criteria and can be extended for any other educational content.



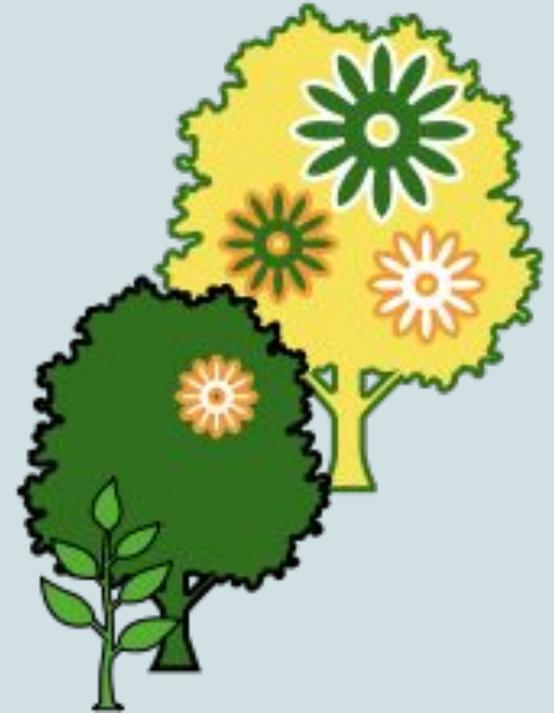
Scalability

- The platform is designed in an extensible manner so that it can be scaled to any kind of educational content. We initially aim to support other subjects in the NIOS curriculum targeted to the Indian schooling system. This could be **expanded to other areas and different languages.**
- Improve on platform by adding more research based features to provide **better accessibility.** For example, Including **short videos and ability to add personal notes while reading the content.**
- Create an **efficient research** network for studying the utility of the tool and improve the resource based on research feedback.



Growth and Profit

- Upon receiving the funds, KILT aims to create more support resources for NIOS subjects, starting with the most frequently taken subjects.
- KILT has been collaborating with NGOs, special schools for alpha and beta testing as well as for content development. This assures efficient content development and testing and ease of scaling up the platform.
- KILT will also involve adults with special needs and mothers of children with special needs who gave up their careers to support their children for the task of content development.
- The tools are provided to the students for a yearly subscription fee. This model guarantees steady growth in terms of revenues.



About the Founder - Sonal Majeethia

- Worked as an electrical engineer after receiving a masters degree from University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee. She shifted to the field of special education to support her son. She has received an MA - Special Educational Needs and Inclusion from University of Northampton - UK.
- A passionate Educator with specialization in teaching students with specific learning disabilities. She has been working with schools, NGOs and families with special needs for more than 12 years.
- She has developed this platform based on her experience with her students and her son and is extremely determined to take it forward after learning about e-inclusion being a worldwide movement.
- She tirelessly works in her community towards bringing awareness about accessibility and UDL.



Reason for the nomination

- KILT's work is in sync with the worldwide accessibility movement. We aim to generate more accessible educational content, involve marginalized communities in the design, development and testing processes and create an efficient ecosystem to promote e-inclusion.
- This award will be immediately put into a productive use for creating more educational content along improvisation of the current platform.
- KILT's informal partner network will be formalized using the funds from the award which could positively impact two special schools and three other individuals with different learning needs.

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