What is Assistive Technology, Accommodations, and Adaptations?

AT is….

- ✓ a game changer
- ✓ access, transforming
- ✓ problem-solving access
- ✓ about asking "how can we...?" and "what can she/he do with the right support?"
- ✓ about discovering new strategies and tools to expand access and opportunity
- ✓ about building the best toolbox
- ✓ a team effort, including the person
- ✓ a process of involving more than just the person to access potential
- ✓ goal driven
- ✓ a dynamic process
- ✓ evolving and constant research
- ✓ (can be) magical
- ✓ a journey, not a destination
- ✓ a tool
- ✓ a process
- ✓ a tool used by a person
- ✓ to express themselves and interact with the world
- ✓ dynamic and ongoing
- ✓ everything
- ✓ a set of words that creates something "special" for a person / creates a separate group (not good!)

- ✓ a state of mind, analogous to the maker movement
- ✓ a state of mind is not all that compatible with the status quo and business as usual

AT is not….

- ✓ a crutch, cheating
- ✓ quantifying deficits
- ✓ about justifying why something has always been done a certain way
- ✓ done
- ✓ always high-tech
- ✓ a magic wand
- ✓ one size fits all
- ✓ causing an unfair advantage
- ✓ an immediate fix
- ✓ a destination
- ✓ a specific device/app/piece of equipment
- ✓ the complete solution
- ✓ a persons identity [i]
- ✓ a product
- ✓ thinking for a person
- ✓ making connections between ideas for a person
- ✓ analyzing information for a person
- ✓ completing an assignment for a person
- ✓ providing an unfair advantage for a person
- ✓ a one-time event
- ✓ without continual attention

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[i] Unless the person using the AT defines it that way