

Name: _____

Teacher: _____

Period: _____

Date: _____

“The Voice of Siri”

1. When did Siri first launch and with which iPhone?
2. Who is the original voice of Siri? Give both first and last names.
3. How did Susan find out about Siri?
4. According to the podcast, how did Susan feel about taking credit for being the voice of Siri?
5. What is ironic about Susan being the voice of Siri?
6. According to the podcast host, what does the word “concatenated” mean?
7. Who is the director of text-to-speech research at Nuance?
8. Select two quotes from the podcast that **best** explains how random words get turned into virtual assistant sentences:
 - a. “In principle, what you do is, is you get a voice talent into a studio, they sit there for a number of hours and you capture a flow of speech.”
 - b. “Then we’ll pick that apart to get the sort of ‘la ho ca’ sounds out”
 - c. “They’d have automatic process to transcribe what was spoken”
 - d. “...from the transcription another automatic process will segment the sound into the most likely segments...”
 - e. “We then go and search in the database and pull out those sounds, and then stick them together”
9. According to the podcast, what is the biggest request for text-to-speech designers?
10. What has happened to Siri’s voice over the past ten years?

Bonus Questions:

11. What do you think should change about virtual assistants – like Siri, Alexa, and Bixby?