

Sanako Media Assistant is an interactive media player/recorder specifically designed for language learning. It can play all types of media files including Real Media, Microsoft Windows Media, Apple Quicktime, wav, mpg, mp3, and other common media formats.

Sanako Media Assistant gives users a variety of control and has more functions than a regular media player. It allows users to bookmark and listen to the section they choose multiple times. In addition, users can record their own voices while reading after the voice they listen to. Finally, it allows users to save the file they create in different formats (e.g., mp3, wav).

Bookmarks

When listening to and watching authentic material in a foreign language, you will probably come across passages that you want to return to for additional practice. Click a bookmark when you hear a place you want to mark.

To clear a bookmark, click **Clear** then click the bookmark that is no longer necessary.

Repeat

Sometimes you may want to review a particular important phrase or segment repeatedly. You can use the small tabulators between the Program and Student tracks to select a file segment. Then click **Repeat** and **Play** or **Speak** to run the segment continuously. Click **Stop** when you are finished.



Recap

The **Recap** function is designed to let you move quickly to the previous sentence or part of the file. Divace recognizes a half-second gap between sentences. Clicking **Recap** takes you back to the previous gap. This is useful when you want to practice the same phrase over and over again.



Speak/Pause

Click **Speak** to activate the microphone. The slider on the student track changes to red while your voice is being recorded. If you want to pause, click **Speak** again. Click **Stop** to stop recording.

Use **Speak** instead of **Play** when you want to record your voice to compare to the program track.



Play/Pause

Make sure a file is open in Sanako Media Assistant, then click **Play**. The slider on the program track changes to green while the file is played. If you want to pause, click **Play** again. Click **Stop** to stop playback.



Volume

Adjust the volume by clicking and moving the vertical slider up and down.

The horizontal slider is used to control balance, which means the proportion of program output to student output. If the slider is moved to the far left, only the program track is heard; if it is moved to the far right, only the student track is heard. If the slider is positioned in the middle, both program and student tracks can be heard simultaneously.



Rewind - Stop - Fast Forward

You can rewind and fast forward the program or student track by clicking the **Rewind** or **Fast Forward** buttons. If you want to go directly to the beginning or end of the track, click the appropriate button twice.

To learn more about Sanako media assistant, check: <http://www.sanako-us.com/?Deptid=3193>



Available at <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/download/>

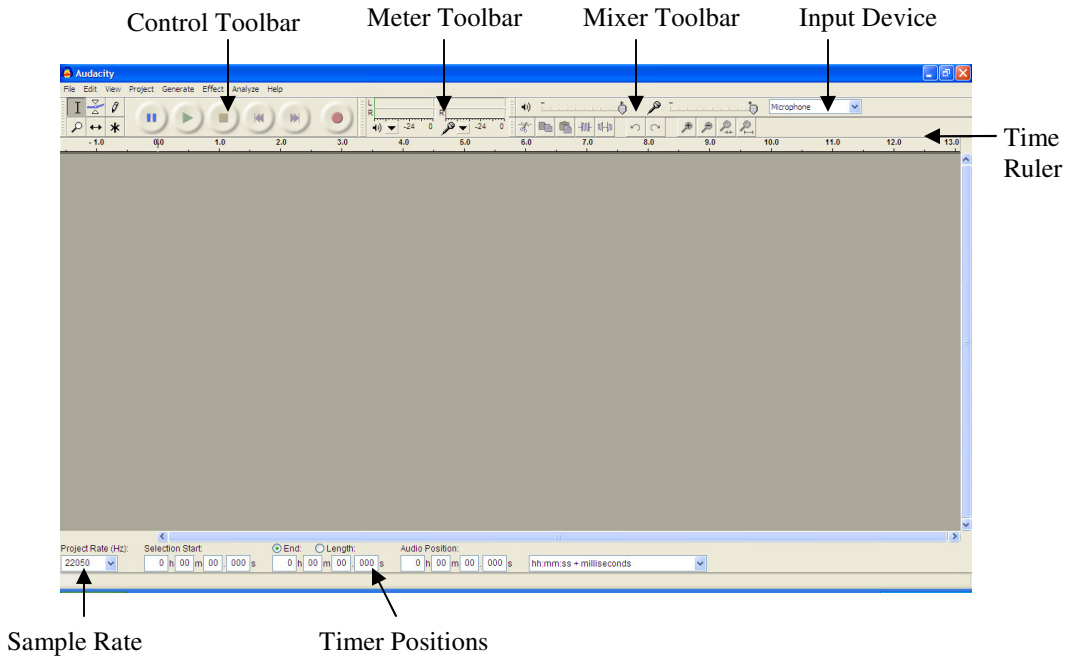
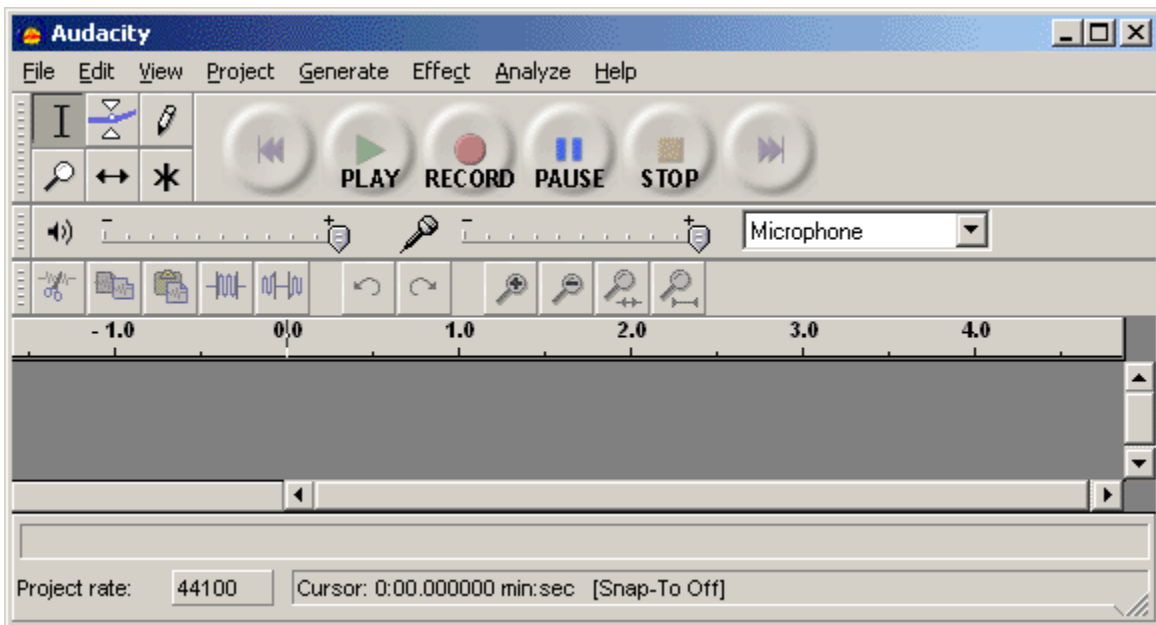


Fig 2



Control Toolbar

This toolbar works very much like a video or cassette recorder.



Record – initiates the recording of an audio file



Pause – temporarily stops the recording or playback. This comes in useful if you record one part of your podcast and then want to prepare yourself for the next section. To restart the recording press the pause button again.



Stop – Ends the recording or playback. This must be done before any further editing is carried out



Play – plays back a recording



Back Skip - Skips to the beginning of the recording



Forward Skip – Skips to the end or to a position where the cursor is placed



The Cursor – This is a very useful tool that can be used to select a certain position in a recording or selecting a sample of the recording to be edited. We'll look at this in more detail shortly.

Audio file storage and transfer (Students submit audio-format assignments; Instructors give audio feedback)

- Using email attachment
- Using WebCT provided by the University (<http://www.calstatela.edu/academic/aa/ess/webct/Webct6/>) contact eLPS for more details (teachme@calstatela.edu)
- Using free online spaces: e.g., www.ning.com

Reference:

- <http://www.csulb.edu/web/labs/langlabs/>
- http://www.sanako-us.com/includes/file_download.asp?deptid=3071&fileid=2571&file=MediaAssistantQRG.pdf&pdf=1
- <http://egarc.ku.edu/software/audacity.html>