How to Prepare Handouts for Dyslexic Students

1. Left justify; it helps a dyslexic person find their place more easily.
2. Ensure line spacing and margins are of an adequate size (1.5 is a good line spacing default on Word).
3. Leave a line between paragraphs as opposed to indenting.
4. Black ink on white paper can lead to eyestrain. Cream or other soft coloured paper can reduce 'glare' and be easier to read. Alternately write in blue or grey.
5. Avoid glossy paper and gloss laminates; use paper and laminates with a matt finish.
6. The minimum size font should be 12.
7. Dyslexia is a disability, which can be very sensitive to particular typefaces, both in print and on screen. Many dyslexic people find that the readability of a piece of text varies greatly depending upon the font (typeface or type style) used. Serif fonts such as Times New Roman can be too decorative. Sans Serif fonts such as Ariel, Comic Sans, Verdana and Trebuchet are recommended, although this depends on personal taste.
8. There are free Dyslexia-Friendly fonts such as OpenDyslexic, which may help the 10% of dyslexics who reverse letters, as the letters are thicker in parts to give gravity to the letters and prevent the brain from reversing them. Again this is a matter of preference.
9. Use Headings; these should be in Bold and any important information should be inside a text box.
10. Use Bold to highlight; underlining or italics tend to make words run together.
11. If providing information or instructions these should be as numbered points, not bullet points.
12. Use short, simple sentences: 12-15 words per line are recommended.
13. Keep the design simple and consistent throughout