

A Exporting transcriptions

In order to feed your transcriptions into the forced alignment program, you will need to **export** your transcriptions as a **tab-delimited .txt file**.

To do this in ELAN, go to *File > Export As > Tab-delimited Text...* A new window will open up, prompting you to specify the tiers that you want to export (Fig. 17).

Select the tiers of **all transcribed speakers**, including the tier for **background noises**. You can change the order in which the tiers are written to file by moving them up and down in the list using the two arrow buttons below. Begin with the main speaker(s) at the top of your list, then include the interviewer tier, and finally, the noise tier.

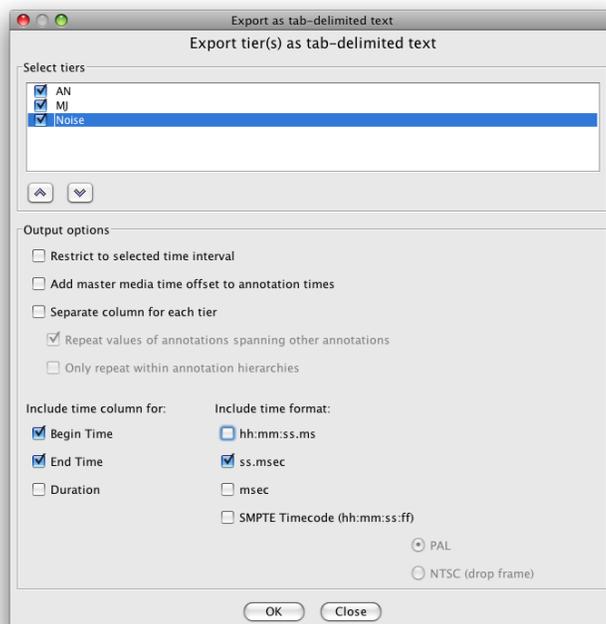


Figure 17: **Exporting transcriptions as tab-delimited .txt files.**

In the lower half of the window, you can specify various **output options**. Here, you should check the following boxes (see Fig. 17):

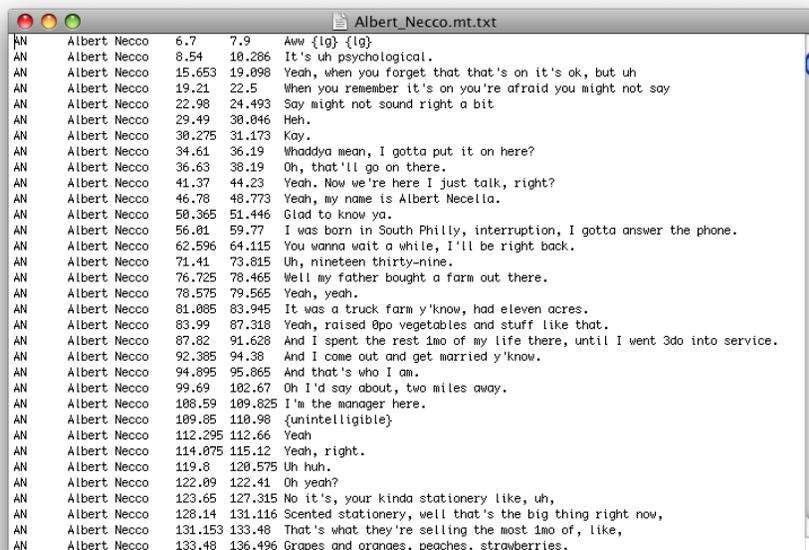
- **“Include time column for”:**
Check “Begin Time” and “End Time”, but **uncheck** “Duration”.
- **“Include time format”:**
Check “ss.msec” but **uncheck** “hh:mm:ss.ms”.

Finally, click on “OK” and enter the **name** and **location** under which you wish to save the file. You should save the exported file under the **same name** as that of the original sound file, but with a **.txt extension** instead of **.wav**.

Click on “Save” to save the export file.

To double-check that your export file has the right format, you can open it with any text-editing program, such as *TextEdit*. The data file now should contain five columns (see Fig. 18):

1. speaker ID (such as AN, MJ, IV etc.)
2. speaker name
3. beginning of breath group interval (in sec)
4. end of breath group interval (in sec)
5. transcribed text



```
AN Albert Necco 6.7 7.9 Aww {lq} {lg}
AN Albert Necco 8.54 18.286 It's uh psychological.
AN Albert Necco 15.653 19.898 Yeah, when you forget that that's on it's ok, but uh
AN Albert Necco 19.21 22.5 When you remember it's on you're afraid you might not say
AN Albert Necco 22.98 24.493 Say might not sound right a bit.
AN Albert Necco 29.49 30.046 Heh.
AN Albert Necco 30.275 31.173 Kay.
AN Albert Necco 34.61 36.19 Whaddya mean, I gotta put it on here?
AN Albert Necco 36.63 38.19 Oh, that'll go on there.
AN Albert Necco 41.37 44.23 Yeah. Now we're here I just talk, right?
AN Albert Necco 46.78 48.773 Yeah, my name is Albert Necella.
AN Albert Necco 50.365 51.446 Glad to know ya.
AN Albert Necco 56.01 59.77 I was born in South Philly, interruption, I gotta answer the phone.
AN Albert Necco 62.596 64.115 You wanna wait a while, I'll be right back.
AN Albert Necco 71.41 73.815 Uh, nineteen thirty-nine.
AN Albert Necco 76.725 78.465 Well my father bought a farm out there.
AN Albert Necco 78.575 79.565 Yeah, yeah.
AN Albert Necco 81.085 83.945 It was a truck farm y'know, had eleven acres.
AN Albert Necco 83.99 87.318 Yeah, raised 8po vegetables and stuff like that.
AN Albert Necco 87.82 94.628 And I spent the rest 1mo of my life there, until I went 3do into service.
AN Albert Necco 92.385 94.38 And I come out and get married y'know.
AN Albert Necco 94.895 95.865 And that's who I am.
AN Albert Necco 99.69 102.67 Oh I'd say about, two miles away.
AN Albert Necco 108.59 109.825 I'm the manager here.
AN Albert Necco 109.85 110.98 {unintelligible}
AN Albert Necco 112.295 112.66 Yeah
AN Albert Necco 114.075 115.12 Yeah, right.
AN Albert Necco 119.8 120.575 Uh huh.
AN Albert Necco 122.09 122.41 Oh yeah?
AN Albert Necco 123.65 127.315 No it's, your kinda stationery like, uh,
AN Albert Necco 128.14 131.116 Scented stationery, well that's the big thing right now,
AN Albert Necco 131.153 133.48 That's what they're selling the most 1mo of, like,
AN Albert Necco 133.48 136.496 Grapes and oranges, peaches, strawberries,
```

Figure 18: **Format of exported tab-delimited .txt transcription file.** Each row corresponds to one transcribed breath group. Columns consist of speaker ID, speaker name, beginning and end of breath group in seconds, and transcription text.