YouTube Automatic Captioning

YouTube recently changed its automatic captioning function from an on-demand service that you activated by clicking a button, to a process that is automatically attempted on all videos. The automatic caption button no longer appears.

Once you upload a video, allow time for processing. The captions will be listed in the Subtitles and CC interface if YouTube was able to generate captions. You can then edit them to correct errors, adjust timing, and make other refinements.

You may find that the “Transcribe and Auto-Sync” option is easier to use. You can prepare the caption text in a word processor and copy and paste it into the text entry box; the timing of the captions will be set automatically. Unpublish the automatic captions so that they are not presented to viewers as an option.

You can add additional text to describe other sounds (example – [phone ringing] ) or to identify who is speaking.