



Module 2

Unit 7

Tasks

Task 1: Multiple choice.....	2
Task 2	4
Task 2: Handout	5
Task 3	6
Task 4	7
Task 4: Handout	8

Module 2

Unit 7: Language

Task 1: Multiple choice¹

Question 1

Which statement is not true?

- a) The words in audio description replace images so they should be vivid and paint a picture in the mind of the blind viewer.
- b) The language used should be brief and as descriptive as possible due to time constraints.
- c) AD should include metalanguage, such as “we see” or “in front of us”.
- d) AD language should include specific vocabulary.

Question 2

Which AD contains the least vivid language?

- a) A lady in a pink turtleneck walks by with her dachshund on a leash.
- b) A lady in a sweater walks by with her dog on a leash.
- c) A lady in a pink sweater walks by with her dog on a leash.
- d) A lady in a turtleneck walks by with her dachshund on a leash.

2



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¹ The responses are based on the ADLAB PRO core videos. Only one answer is correct.

Question 3

The language of AD

- a) may include subjective adverbs, such as characteristically or appropriately.
- b) may include simple present tense and short sentences.
- c) should not include varied syntax.
- d) should include longer and more complex sentences for fast action and short sentences for descriptive, illustrative scenes.

Question 4

Which is the best way to describe a character's appearance?

- a) ...wearing a green hat, a pink suit and dark grey high heels.
- b) ...wearing a green hat, dark grey high heels and a pink suit.
- c) ...wearing dark grey high heels, a green hat and a pink suit.
- d) All of these descriptions are equally good.

Question 5

Which description does not include a metaphor or a simile?

- a) The stage stands on end and sinks like the Titanic.
- b) He holds the syringe and inserts it in the buttock.
- c) The lightning hits the water. A web of blue zigzags, illuminating the raging ocean.
- d) The building was as tall as ten elephants stacked one on top of the other.

Module 2

Unit 7: Language

Task 2

Aim(s):

- Learners can characterize AD appropriate language (brief, vivid, genre-specific).
- Learners can use AD appropriate language.
- Learners can identify various degrees of subjectivity in AD (depending on constraints).

Grouping: individual and group discussion.

Approximate timing: 10 minutes and 10 minutes of group discussion.

Material and preparation needed:

- A list of words.

Development:

1. Searching for synonyms: Learner receive a list of words and have 10 minutes to provide as many synonyms for them as possible.
2. Discussion: Learners present their synonyms to the group and all discuss which synonyms would be especially applicable to AD due to their vividness and exact meaning.

Task 2: Handout

Verbs

- to walk:
- to smile:
- to take:
- to open:

Nouns

- car:
- dog:
- sweater:
- building:



Module 2

Unit 7: Language

Task 3

Aim(s):

- Learners can characterize AD appropriate language (brief, vivid, genre-specific).
- Learners can use AD appropriate language.
- Learners can identify various degrees of subjectivity in AD (depending on constraints).

Grouping: groups.

Approximate timing: 60 minutes (outside contact hours) + 30 minutes in class.

Material and preparation needed:

- None, materials will be selected by learners.

Development:

1. Material selection: Learners work in groups and search for short clips that could be audio described by using a simile or a metaphor.
2. Description: Learners present their clips in class and all groups prepare ADs.
3. Discussion: ADs are presented by all groups and the best solutions are selected.

Module 2

Unit 7: Language

Task 4

Aim(s):

- Learners can characterize AD appropriate language (brief, vivid, genre-specific).
- Learners can use AD appropriate language.

Grouping: individual.

Approximate timing: 30 minutes.

Material and preparation needed:

- Handouts for learners including pictures and brief descriptions.

7

Development:

1. Editing: Learners receive handouts and edit the descriptions by replacing general words with more specific ones.
2. Discussion: They present their solutions in class.

Additional comments:

In a follow-up, clips may be used instead of the static images to conduct the same exercise and practice the use of more specific and vivid language.

Task 4: Handout

Description 1

A picture from:

<https://www.pexels.com/photo/brown-american-pit-bull-terrier-and-white-suv-1597674/>

Description: A brown and white dog lies in front of a white car. The car is parked near a river bank with green trees and bushes. It's a sunny day with a blue sky peppered with white clouds.

Description 2

A picture from:

<https://www.pexels.com/photo/woman-in-blue-crop-top-and-distressed-blue-denim-jeans-holding-black-handbag-walking-on-road-1353029/>

Description: A young woman in a blue top and jeans walks across the street.

Description 3

A picture from:

<https://www.pexels.com/photo/flour-in-a-jar-5765/>

Description: An open container with a white powder spilling from it lies on a brown surface.

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