



Module 2

Unit 10

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Module 2

Unit 10: Recording

Task 1: Multiple choice¹

Question 1

AD can be recorded by:

- a) the audio describer.
- b) a voice talent.
- c) using a synthetic voice.
- d) all of the above.

Question 2

In an AD script a timecode normally includes:

- a) minutes.
- b) seconds.
- c) hours.
- d) minutes and seconds as well as hours for longer productions.

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

Question 3

In an AD script a keyword can be:

- a) a characteristic sound, which precedes a given description.
- b) an instruction how a particular text segment should be read out.
- c) a word that best characterises a given scene.
- d) none of the above.

Question 4

When formatting the AD script, one may consider separating the AD text from other elements of the script using:

- a) a different font size.
- b) a different font style.
- c) a different font colour.
- d) all of the above.

Question 5

During AD recording the role of the sound designer is to:

- a) correct factual errors in the AD.
- b) improve the style of the AD.
- c) see to the smooth running of the technical aspects of the recording.
- d) all of the above.

Module 2

Unit 10: Recording

Task 2

Aim(s):

- Learners can compare and contrast AD scripts as regards the formal requirements.
- Learners can list the formal requirements for an AD script to facilitate recording.

Grouping: pairs.

Approximate timing: 60 minutes.

Material and preparation needed:

- Two AD scripts – see Handout.

Development:

1. Comparing and contrasting: Working in pairs learners compare and contrast the two AD scripts in terms of the formal requirements for recording purposes (timecodes, etc.). The first script was meant to be recorded by a voice talent, whereas the second one was voiced by the describer herself. Learners note down the similarities and differences.
2. Discussion: Learners discuss their findings with the trainer and the group. Based on this exercise as well as other material (e.g. the core video) covered in this Unit, a list of potential formal elements that facilitate recording is compiled by the trainer or

one of the learners. A flipchart or a whiteboard is used to structure the results.

Additional comments:

1. AD script 1 is a portion of an AD script for *Notes on Blindness* (Middleton & Spinney, 2016). It has been made available courtesy of Louise Fryer (the audio describer) and Archer's Mark film studio. AD script 2 is a portion of an AD script for *Inglourious Basterds* (Tarantino, 2006) and has been reproduced from A. Remael, A., Reviers, N., & Vercauteren, G. (Eds.), *Pictures painted in words. ADLAB audio description guidelines* (pp. 73-74). Trieste: EUT. Retrieved from https://www.openstarts.units.it/bitstream/10077/11838/1/ADLAB_UK.pdf
2. AD scripts 1 and 2 have been reproduced in the original format.



Task 2: Handout

AD script 1

01:55(clunk) Darkness. Radial blood vessels on a retina. An Archer's Mark Production. Starring Dan Skinner Simone Kirby

"this is cassette 1 track 1. A note on the eye & the brain...what my wife looked" Faded holiday shots of a seaside – blurred figures paddle

"hello & welcome to" written & directed by Peter Middleton & James Spinney

03:10 A match kindled in the darkness goes out[speech] leaving a black screen. " just come back" White Letters: Notes on Blindness

03:40 [long time ago isn't it? Mmmm] Rain on a windscreen blurs green countryside [remember the detail] John & Marilyn in the car John peers at a map with a magnifier.[that's it Cirencester]

4.30 [it was horrible] grey wallpaper peels at the seams. The couple lie in bed, her hand on his on the eiderdown, dim light filters through net curtains . John, bearded, wearing glasses, peers out [main street] Marilyn, beside him, frowns. lights gleam in darkness, illuminating a lens [..of vision] John looks up, blue eyes milky,"?" close-up of a doctor mouthing words [preserve a little bit of sight]. John listens impassive [you never believe that] a blood shot eye "you keep on hoping", the pupil hugely dilated.

"the final operation, yes" a needle glints.

“you were just out of hospital when Tom was born. He’s smiling”

Marilyn & an infant silhouetted.

“he’s smiling at you” shadowy shapes give way to black.. In dim light

John traces his hand along the length of a desk,

“click” the glare of angle-poise – a disc of light

“ still had a little bit of vision”. He feels the spines of paperbacks on

a shelf. His hand finds the back of a chair “a flicker as you moved

across it” one of four drawn up to a table.[“it was on or off” the

light with its 1970s fabric shade goes out

“it would last long” A 10-year-old girl sits on the floor the

taperecorder in her lap” what was going on “ A baby held over a font,

a circle of water ripples below. John stares down at it [“cries”] lights

overhead line a stone corridor...”in the university “ daylight floods in

from a diamond-leaded window. John walks towards us. Now in

silhouette.

AD script 2

10:02:00

(end of music, chopping sound)

In the warm light of the autumn sun. At the edge of a large meadow

on top of a hill stands a little stone cottage.

10:02:08

(1 loud chopping sound)

Nearby a brown-haired man is chopping wood. Next to him a young

woman hangs out laundry. She pauses, listens... (faint car sound) and

spots approaching vehicles. (music)

10:02:29

“Papa!”

The man stares at the vehicles. He wears poor clothes. Two girls hurry out of the cottage. To them:

10:02:37

„Geht zurück ins Haus und schließt die Tür!“

To the young woman:

“Julie?”

He sits down on the (chopping) block.

10:02:47

(guitar music)

The vehicles come closer: three motorbikes escort a car. Hurriedly Julie runs to a water pump and fills a bowl. Her father takes a dirty handkerchief and closes his eyes for a moment. Then he glares at the vehicles.

10:03:07

(piano and guitar)

Julie puts the bowl down in front of a cottage window.

10:03:12

“Hier, Papa”

Julie puts the bowl down in front of a cottage window.

10:03:12

“Hier, Papa”

Her father wipes his face. With a tired look he gets up and ambles to the cottage.

10:03:25

„Danke, mein Schatz. Jetzt geh zu deinen Schwestern.“

The axe is stuck in the block. Julie turns to the door.

“Nicht rennen”

He glances in the window, then resolutely pours water over his face and his dirty, ripped shirt. The vehicles stop at a distance behind him next to some cows.

10:03:44

“Jawohl”

fast: A Colonel gets out of the car.

10:03:49

“wie sie wünschen, Herr Oberst”

The Colonel crosses the meadow.

10:03:56

"Ich bin Perrier LaPadite."

The Colonel reaches out his hand.

"Natürlich. Nach ihnen."

He makes an inviting gesture. (door) In the cottage. LaPadite and Landa step through the low door. The girls are looking at them seriously.

Module 2

Unit 10: Recording

Task 3

Aim(s):

- Learners can prepare an AD script for recording.
- Learners can read out an AD script prepared for recording.

Grouping: individual, pairs.

Approximate timing: 60 minutes.

Material and preparation needed:

- 'Raw' AD scripts from a previous exercise in another unit.

Development:

1. Script adaptation: Learners select a 'raw' AD script (without timecodes, instructions for the voice talent, etc.) from a previous exercise in another unit. Based on knowledge from Task 2, they adapt the script for recording purposes. They work individually.
2. Voicing: Learners work in pairs. They swap their scripts and read them out, paying attention to the inserted timecodes, instructions, etc. The other learner monitors and, if necessary, makes the necessary changes to the script so that it is more suitable for recording purposes.

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3. Presentation and discussion: Selected scripts are read out in front of the whole class, followed by a discussion of the encountered challenges and the proposed solutions.

Additional comments:

If learners have the necessary equipment, they may record the AD and then play it for the whole class.

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Unit 10: Recording

Task 4

Aim(s):

- Learners can identify technical facilities for recording AD.
- Learners can name technical facilities for recording AD.

Grouping: individual, pairs.

Approximate timing: 45 minutes.

Material and preparation needed:

- Additional videos on recording in this unit.

Development:

1. Video watching: Learners watch the videos and identify and note down the mentioned technical facilities for AD recording. They work individually.
2. Comparing and contrasting: Learners work in pairs. They compare and contrast their notes as regards the technical facilities for AD recording.
3. Discussion: The identified facilities are discussed with the rest of the class and the trainer. A list is compiled. A flipchart or a whiteboard may be used to structure the results.

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Additional comments:

If the trainer has such a possibility, they can organise a visit to a professional AD recording studio. Learners may be given a tour of the studio, followed by an opportunity to record an AD. For this purpose, they can bring with them scripts prepared in Task 3. Learners should swap scripts so that each person works with a script they have not prepared themselves.



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