



VOLUNTEERING AT SETU

Project write up



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PHASE ONE-INITIATING THE IDEA

For this part of the project, my partner Sunny and I came up with the initial idea for our script. We came up with the idea of creating a scenario between a father and their daughter. The daughter struggles to find a job, afraid nobody would hire her due to her lack of experience. The father suggests that the girl should try volunteering for the community. She takes her father's suggestion and ponders on it. The purpose of this piece is to create awareness of how beneficial volunteering can be, without any required experience.

We took a few hours to discuss this idea among us, and this led to the beginning of script writing, which personally for me was the most challenging part.

PHASE TWO-WRITING THE SCRIPT

As I have mentioned above, this was the most challenging part for Sunny and I. We had our first few shots at correcting and perfecting the format. Firstly, our format was incorrect and needed to be adjusted to the finalised version, as it is easier and more legible to read.

We came up with a thirty second final script, in which we would perform in the VIBE studio during college. An example of our final VO script is below:

VO	VOLUNTEERING AT SETU	DURATION: 30 secs VO1: Male TONE: Cheery/Formal PACE: Medium VO2: Female TONE: Formal/Whiny PACE: Medium
VO1	Princess, how's the job hunting coming along?	SK

VO2	What do you think?	CQ
VO3	Who'd hire me?	CQ
VO4	Well, what about volunteering?	SK
VO5	Volunteering? why would I do that?	CQ
VO6	It's a way of meeting new people	SK

PHASE THREE-VIBE STUDIO RECORDING

We then went on to recording our final VO script in the studio. We learned how to use the mixer and additional equipment in there, such as the 'gain', headphone levels, mic levels, using our USB hard drives and to turn on and off the recording button also. We began by adjusting the mic, headphones, and the gain. When that was all adjusted and ready to go, we proceeded to double click the record button and took turns speaking our lines to get clear audio sounds for each of our parts.

PHASE FOUR-ADOBE AUDITION

For this part, we began to use and practise Adobe Audition for this practise assignment. We brought our files onto Audition and added them onto what's called the 'multitrack', where all clips can be mixed and edited onto the track.

Firstly, I added a folder where all the VO recordings were located. I then took them out and began adding my part onto a single track (drag>right click>merge clips) and added my partner Sunny's clips onto another track using the same method. I then began clipping both clips together to create a better sounding track.

I had to cut some of the additional breaths that Sunny and I made, so doing that I grabbed the 'clip' tool to cut out parts of the audio, and cut out the breaths, any other sounds that were unnecessary to keep in. This was to decrease the time so that it fit it to 30 seconds only. When I finished this part, I 'bounced' the tracks, which brought the new merged clips onto a new track.

PHASE FIVE-FX AND FINALISATION

For the FX part, I began adding different effects and altered the track to fit sound ranges etc. I used the 'db' button, located on the track and put it down to a moderate -3db. I then went to the 'effects-rack' and added a 'VO podcast' voiceover for the track. This gave it an immediate and clear VO sound, so that the voices are crisper and clearer. I then went on to use effects such as 'normalise', 'dynamic compressor', 'silence',

‘equaliser’ and ‘reverb’. I used all of these effects to enhance the overall quality of the VO recordings. When I applied all of it, I then went to export the final aif file to the disk. I converted it to aif, then proceeded to export it to different formats to experiment different quality sounds, such as mp3 and wav. I exported it and sent it onto Moodle for checking.

Overall, this practise assignment was challenging for me , as this was my first time working on a professional script, and using the applications like Adobe Audition. After a while, I got used to all of the effects and presets, and I learned a lot of different formats needed to perfect a professional quality VO script.