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Assignment 1

Smart Travel

# Assignment 1 Write Up

For assignment one I was asked to produce a voice over for the Smarter Travel Competition. I had to complete a script, recording of my voice and a backing track to use in the voice over. In this write up I will detail what I did in order to complete the voice over.

## Recording

First off I had to write the script. I produced a script I was happy with and went on to record my first draft of the audio. We were provided a studio at WIT which we could go to and use freely to record our audio. Before recording I made sure my script was okay. I printed out my script and made my way to the studio to record it. After setting everything up in the studio, preparing to record and setting up the volumes, microphones correctly I began recording. It took me 4 attempts to be happy with what I have recorded.



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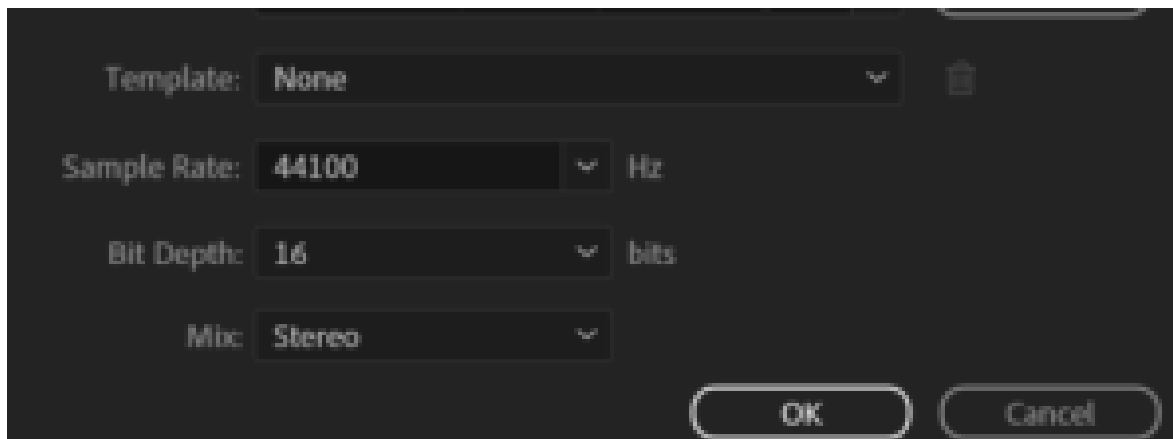
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When I had my script recorded I was ready to begin editing.

# Editing

I began editing by selecting the voice over that sounded the best. I then inserted the recording into Garageband in order to start editing. The first and most important thing I had to do was to cut out the pauses between each line. During recording I kept making pauses after each line in order for it to be easier to edit later on. I spliced the audio at the beginning and end of each line and removed the pauses in between.

After I was done I extracted the audio and inserted it into Adobe Audition. In Adobe Audition I used a sample rate of 44100hz, a but depth of 16 bits which is CD quality and stereo mix.

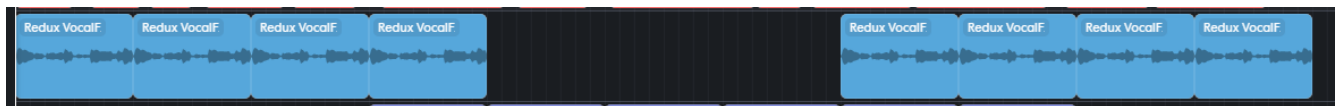


In Adobe Audition I went into more detail with the pauses, I shortened some even more and made other sections between vocals longer in order to make the whole thing sound more natural and not like I was reading from a page.

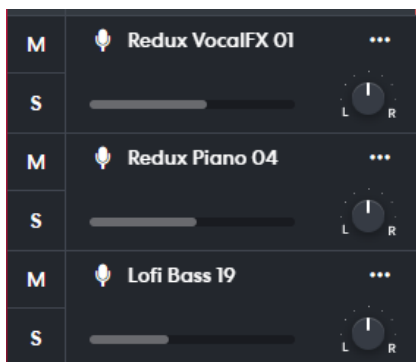
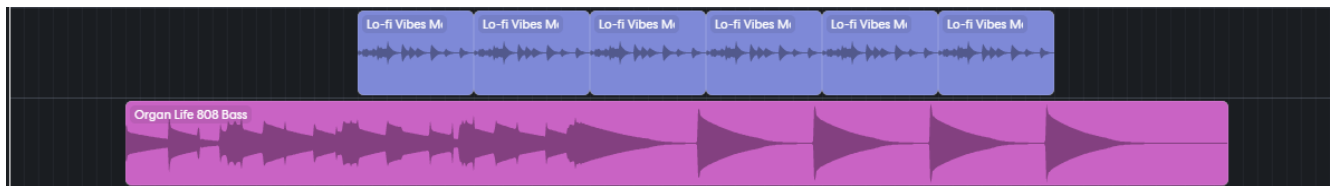
I then exported the audio and was ready to start creating the backing track.

I decided to use bandLab for creating my backing track as I don't have a mac device at home and needed something that I could use on windows. I started by searching the bandlab library for loops and samples that I liked. After searching for a bit I found some samples that I liked and decided to start splicing and mixing them.

I created my first track which would act as the base of the backing track:



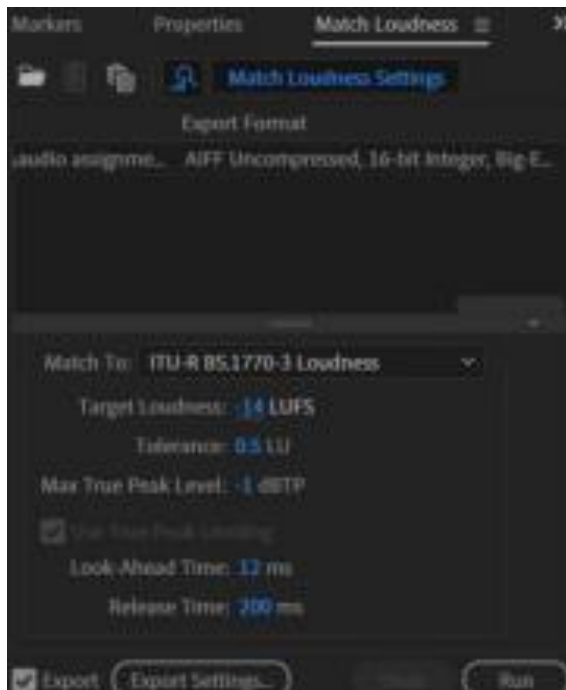
I thought this sounded pretty good so I decided to go with it. The next thing my backing track needed was some bass and maybe some addition sounds/loops. I kept searching the library and finally came up with more ways to enhance my backing track. The next two tracks I created looked like this:



I then adjusted the volumes of each track to make sure the sound was balanced out and no track was too loud.

This was my backing track completed, I decided it sounded alright and inserted my voice recordings on top of it. I then created a mixdown.

## LUFS – media quality



After recording my script, creating a backing track and mixing both of them down to one audio file I had to change the loudness on my finished mixdown to –14LUFS. I inserted my audio into adobe audition and set my loudness to –14 LUFS which is the sound level at which most audio based media publish their work such as Amazon and Spotify.

To finish up the assignment I exported my audio in several different formats after applying –14LUFS to it. I exported the audio as a AIF which is the raw

uncompressed audio, mp3, ogg and aac.

Mp3 is a lossy compression format which resulted in some quality loss but the size of the file was smaller.

OGG is also a lossy format.

Aac also a lossy format, designed to be the successor of the MP3 format, aac achieved better sound quality than mp3 encoders at the same bit rate.

With everything above completed I was finished with my Smart Travel assignment and decided to upload it to my online portfolio.