

PAST-TIMES



Module 3 – Introduction to Video Production

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Unit 1 : Video Production Theory

Team Roles in Video Production



Writer

- For a drama, the writer writes the script.
- In the case of Past-Times, the writer will write a short script to introduce the oral historian and will also write the questions for interviewees. These questions should aim to result in answers that will tell the story of the oral history project.

Director

- ▣ The director directs what is going on in front of the camera so that all of the audio visual content needed to tell the story is captured.
- ▣ In Past-Times, the director will be responsible for overseeing how the interview is shot.

Production Manager

- ▣ The production manager looks after the practical and logistical concerns such as securing locations, ensuring that legal paperwork is done and that staff and equipment are provided
- ▣ In the case of Past-Times, the production manager will ensure that a location for the interview is secured, that consent forms are signed, that all equipment is on site for the interview, etc.

Talent

- ▣ Those who appear, visually or vocally, in the video are ‘talent’. For example, they can be actors, narrators, presenters or interviewers.
- ▣ In the case of Past-Times, the talent will be the oral historian.

Lighting Person

- ▣ Looks after lighting the scene that is being filmed, in this case the oral history interview.
- ▣ The lighting person use artificial lights or reflectors to manipulate available light such as ceiling lights, natural daylight, etc.

Sound Person

- ▣ Looks after recording the audio.
- ▣ In the case of Past-Times, the sound person has a key role to ensure that the quality of the oral history accounts recorded are clear and that there is no interference or background noise picked up by the microphones.
- ▣ As this is an oral history recording, the audio is key.

Camera Operator

- ▣ Uses the camera to film the scene.
- ▣ In the case of Past-Times, the camera operator will be responsible for ensuring the quality of the video taken, whether using a camera, smartphone or other smart device.

Key Grip

- ▣ Assists the camera operator in setting up camera equipment such as tripods
- ▣ In the case of Past-Times, the key grip will also assist with setting up cameras and smartphones on tripods, or using selfie sticks with stabilisers.

Assistant Director (AD)

- ▣ With the director and production manager, the AD schedules the timing and order of the filming and then works with the director to ensure that the time schedule is adhered to.
- ▣ In carrying out this task the assistant director needs to ensure that all are doing their job efficiently – including the director.
- ▣ While the Past-Times videos will focus on recording oral history interviews, where cut scenes and stock footage is required to supplement the footage of the interviews, the AD plays a key role in scheduling the filming of this additional footage.

Continuity Person

- As scenes of a film are usually shot out of sequence, the continuity person needs to ensure that nothing is out of place. For example, if a glass is almost empty in one scene it should not be almost full in the next.
- While the Past-Times videos won't focus on shooting scenes out of sequence, as is the case with a drama, where interviews are stopped to give the interviewee a break, for example, the continuity person has a key role to play in ensuring that the interview scene is set up exactly the same as the previous scene so that the viewer is not aware of any breaks.

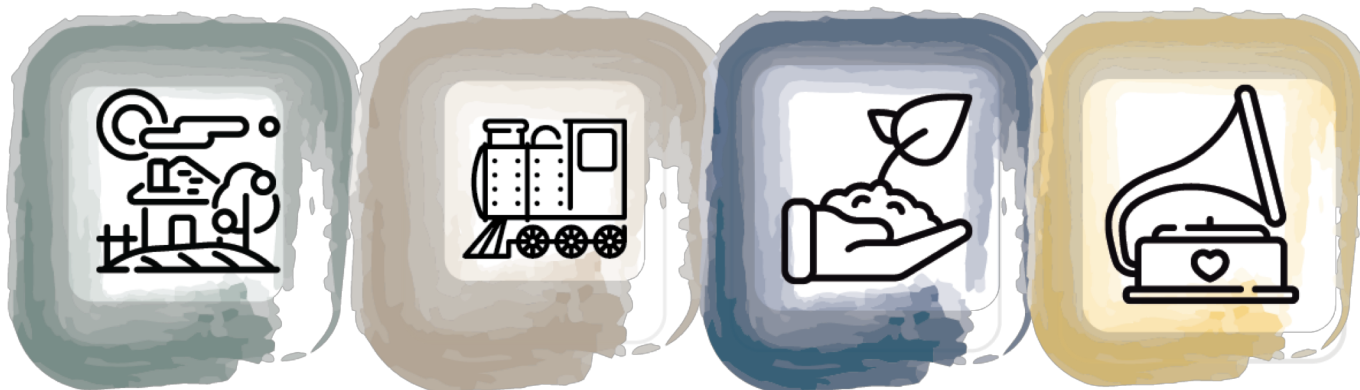
Editor

- ▣ The editor uses computer software to edit the video footage.
- ▣ This involves the footage, the audio and any graphics, titles or additional sound that is required.
- ▣ As is the case with the Past-Times videos, the editor will have the overall say in which cut scenes are used throughout the video to support the footage of the oral history interview, for example.

Researcher

- ❑ The researcher carries out any necessary research to plan the story of the film or documentary
- ❑ In the Past-Times video, the researcher will play a pivotal role in checking facts shared by the oral historian, in sourcing and authenticating primary and secondary sources and in planning a narrative to support the oral history interview that may be supplemented with stock footage of the time or appropriate cut scenes.
- ❑ In this project, perhaps more so than in other video projects, the researcher has a very important role.

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