

Editing Audio with AudioMass, Part 2: Your Voice and the Mix

40 minutes

Following My Interests Online

Outcome 3.8

WHAT THIS LESSON DOES

Students record their own voice on a second channel under last lesson's clip, balance the two by turning the music down, and export a checked MP3. This lesson counts towards outcome 3.8: students use these editing skills to build their digital montage in the montage lessons that follow.

CURRICULUM OUTCOMES

Outcome	What the specification asks for
3.8	create a digital montage on a specific topic of interest from images sourced online while applying learning regarding copyright, fair use, plagiarism, and intellectual property ownership

WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO

- Record a voiceover and lay it over an existing track
- Balance a voice against music by turning the music down
- Explain why a mix is fixed by what you turn down rather than up
- Export an MP3 and verify the exported file

BEFORE THE BELL

- AudioMass runs entirely in the browser at audiomass.co. There is nothing to install and no account to make, so it works on school devices and Chromebooks. Nothing is saved when the tab closes, which is why the export step matters and is not optional.
- Check the site opens on your school network before the lesson. Headphones are ideal but not essential; the class can work at low volume.
- Each pupil needs the thirty-second MP3 they exported in Part 1. Anyone who no longer has it can download the practice audio file on the Start step and trim it again, which takes about four minutes.
- The three hands-on steps each carry their own numbered instructions and screenshots on screen, so the class can follow them at their own pace and you do not need to prepare anything to show. It helps to have audiomass.co open on the board yourself so that you can point to a control when somebody cannot find it.
- If a recording goes wrong, click it, press Delete, press the go-to-start button and record again. Reloading the page clears AudioMass, so students should fix a take rather than start over.

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HOW THE LESSON RUNS

3 min	introduction	Start
5 min	content	Why balance matters more than volume
13 min	activity	Hands-on: Record your voice
12 min	activity	Hands-on: Balance the levels
5 min	activity	Hands-on: Export and check it
2 min	summary	What you covered

STEP BY STEP

3 min Start Devices with a browser and headphones; a microphone for Part 2.

Expect several students to have lost the file. Rebuilding it from the practice file takes about four minutes, longer than this step, so start them on it straight away with last lesson's steps open, and let them join the next step a little late.

5 min Why balance matters more than volume

This is the idea students carry into video work: mixing is about what you turn DOWN.

13 min Hands-on: Record your voice

Browser microphone permission is the blocker. Anyone who dismissed the prompt has to reload the page, which clears AudioMass, so they load their clip again. Warn them before they click record.

12 min Hands-on: Balance the levels

Circulate with one earphone. Laptop speakers hide the balance, so listen through headphones: the usual fault is music left at 100%.

5 min Hands-on: Export and check it

The habit worth naming: professionals always check the export, because it is the only version anyone else will hear.