

PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs Tutorial Assessment: Audio Key

10 shoulders batteries headphones input battery tester sternum 50

Using the box above choose the correct term and fill in the blank:

In film, audio is important because it makes up 50 % of the medium. Before you do anything, make sure you have a pair of headphones. Also, always make sure to check your battery and bring extras in case yours run out. Buying a battery tester is a good investment. Make sure you set the camera to the input that the microphone is hooked up to. The sternum is a good place to position your lav mic on your subject because it is close to the sound coming from the subject, and you can frame the shot so you don't see it.

Microphones:

There are four kinds of microphones discussed in the tutorial. Below you are asked to match each microphone to what it looks like, its description, and in what situation each microphone is best equipped to handle.

Write the correct name of the microphone on its corresponding arrow:

wireless microphone	shotgun microphone	handheld microphone	internal microphone
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shotgun / boom microphone

internal microphone



handheld microphone



wireless lav microphone

Match the microphone with its description:

wireless microphone	shotgun microphone	handheld microphone	internal microphone
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The **handheld** microphone is great for reporting a “man on the street” piece. One downside to this microphone is that it can cause people to feel nervous when being interviewed because it is right in their face when being interviewed.

The **internal** microphone is omnidirectional and picks up all the noise in the room. It is located on the camera, and is really only useful to pick up ambient and natural sound.

The **wireless** microphone is good for mobility, but can be difficult to use. You should practice with this mic before your first interview. When using this kind of microphone touch the guest as little as possible and direct them where to place the looped microphone on their body.

The **shotgun** microphone is attached to the side of the camera and is great to use as a backup microphone.

Which microphone is most useful in the following situations? Write your answer next to the statement:

A planned interview where you have time to set up- ***wired or wireless lav***

Collecting “man on the street” interviews – ***handheld***

This versatile microphone that is great for backup-***shotgun***

If you have no other microphone to use and are in a controlled room-***internal***

Write a definition for each term and explain how it is important to audio:

Room tone- ***the sound of the room when no one is talking***

hums- ***the enemy, irritating noises in the background like a refrigerator, AC or computers***

proximity effect-***the closer you can get to the sound source the better it will be***

Bonus:

What three things can go wrong when using a wireless microphone?

- 1.) ***The talent may touch the microphone.***
- 2.) ***There may be wireless interference.***
- 3.) ***Your battery could run out.***