SkillsUSA | Career Essentials: *Assessments*

Audio-Radio Production Blueprint

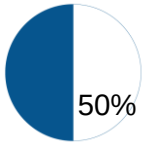
This Blueprint contains the subject matter content for the Career Essentials - Assessment.

Note: To fully prepare for the Audio Radio Production SkillsUSA Championships contest, refer to the current year's SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standard, now included with your SkillsUSA Professional Membership. If you need help in accessing this benefit, contact the SkillsUSA Customer Care Team at 844-875-4557 or customercare@skillsusa.org.

Standards and Competencies

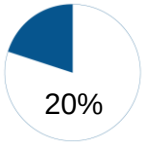
Competencies are weighted throughout the assessment. The percent shown is the weight of the competency. There are 50 questions per assessment.

Plan and produce an audio/radio production, including the proper commercial script form demonstrating digital audio recording, editing and mixing



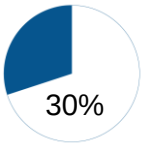
- Demonstrate processes in digital audio recording
- Record natural sound on location characterizing the unique sound of that location
- Perform interview on location with an understanding of the purpose and goals of the audio/radio production
- Demonstrate proper techniques in writing the script inclusive of the target audience
- Demonstrate proper techniques in performing voice over on location
- Demonstrate processes in digital audio editing and mixing
- Perform digital audio editing and mixing using a standard application to change and enhance the audio for the target audience
- With the full considerations of the script, Choose and integrate the appropriate audio/radio elements to enhance the presentation for the target audience
- Define and give appropriate examples of the following audio/radio trade vocabulary: Send, Return, Line level, Mic level, Analog, Scrubbing, Digital, Mixer, Target audience, Demographics, Live tag, Format, Run time, PSA, ASCAP, BMI, SESAC, SoundExchange, Commercial, FCC, Voice over

Demonstrate knowledge and use of cables and connectors



- Show use of the following audio connectors (male and female for each): XLR, 1⁄4" balanced, 1⁄4" unbalanced, and RCA/Phono Plug, Mini's
- Describe pin configuration of balanced cables
- Describe pin configuration of unbalanced cables

Demonstrate Audio/Radio production skills



- Differentiate major Microphone Designs
- Describe Directional Characteristics
- Identify and describe handheld and personal microphones
- Position Microphones
- Describe types and uses of various microphones
- Describe phase cancellation
- Describe methods of creating the stereo effect
- Describe Digital audio
- Describe Analog audio
- Identify and describe Communications systems

Committee Identified Academic Skills

The SkillsUSA national technical committee has identified that the following academic skills are embedded in the audio production training program and assessment:

Math Skills

- Demonstrate the ability to do basic calculations involving time
- Demonstrate the ability to read and use a variety of clocks and stopwatches

Science Skills

- Use knowledge of sound and technological applications of sound waves

Language Arts Skills

- Demonstrate use of verbal communication skills, such as word choice, pitch, feeling, tone and voice
- Analyze mass media messages
- Demonstrate comprehension of a variety of informational texts
- Demonstrate persuasive writing
- Demonstrate informational writing
- Edit writing for correct grammar, capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure and paragraphing

Connections to National Standards

State-level academic curriculum specialists identified the following connections to national academic standards.

Math Standards

- Numbers and operations
- Problem solving
- Communication
- Connections
- Representation

Source: NCTM Principles and Standards for School Mathematics. To view high school standards, visit: http://www.nctm.org/standards/content.aspx?id=16909. Select “Standards” from menu.

Science Standards

- Understands the sources and properties of energy
- Understands the nature of scientific inquiry

Source: McREL compendium of national science standards. To view and search the compendium, visit: www.mcrel.org/standards-benchmarks/.

Language Arts Standards

- Students adjust their use of spoken, written and visual language (e.g., conventions, style, vocabulary) to communicate effectively with a variety of audiences and for different purposes
- Students conduct research on issues and interests by generating ideas and questions, and by posing problems. They gather, evaluate and synthesize data from a variety of sources (e.g., print and non-print texts, artifacts, people) to communicate their discoveries in ways that suit their purpose and audience
- Students use a variety of technological and information resources (e.g., libraries, databases, computer networks, video) to gather and synthesize information and to create and communicate knowledge
- Students use spoken, written and visual language to accomplish their own purposes (e.g., for learning, enjoyment, persuasion, and the exchange of information).

Source: IRA/NCTE Standards for the English Language Arts. To view the standards, visit: www.readwritethink.org/standards/index.html.