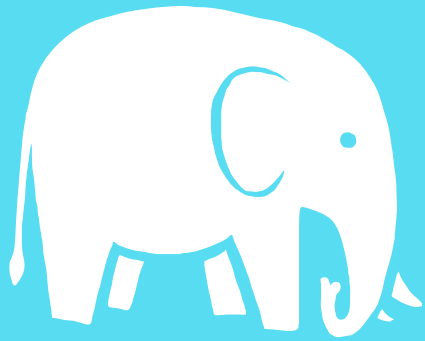AVOID THE SNOOZEFEST!

Effective Narration for Instructional Designers

5 ELEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE DIY NARRATION

1.) ENVIRONMENT

There's no elephant in this room. Your room *is* the elephant! It's the most important part of a high-quality recording.

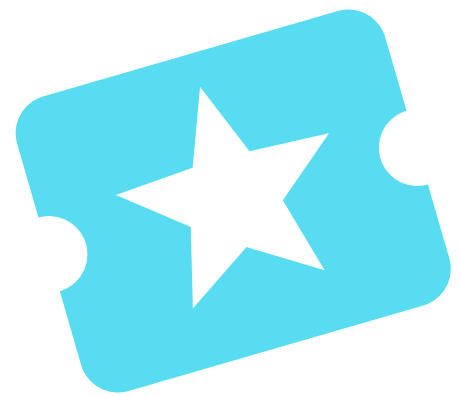Avoid echo and background noise at all costs.

Turn off the air conditioner and find a closet full of clothes for the best DIY solution.

2.) PERFORMANCE

Sound like you're reading a script if you want to quickly kill your engagement!

Imagine you're speaking to a friend.

Smile! We can hear it. :)

3.) EQUIPMENT

No need to drop big $$$ on a fancy microphone, but that laptop mic is NOT going to cut it!

A moderately priced USB mic will do the trick, as long as your elephant... I mean environment... is decent.

4.) THE SCRIPT

Your listeners aren't reading, so your script shouldn't sound like a book. Write it as you'd say it!

Have someone read your script to you. Consider simplifying the phrases they stumble on.

If you wouldn't say it in person, you probably shouldn't say it!

5.) EDITING

You'll spend more time listening to yourself than reading. Prepare your ears!

Go to the pet store! Get yourself a dog training clicker and click it when you make a mistake. The audio spike will help you quickly find and remove mistakes later.

Every second counts! Learn your keyboard shortcuts and create macros for frequently used actions.

QUESTIONS?

Feel free to reach out with any questions you might have about getting the best performance and sound for your project. I'm happy to help!

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