

DIGITAL STORYTELLING (DST) STEP 3: SCRIPTING AND STORYBOARDING

DST3-3: ADD PACE TO YOUR SCRIPT

Phase 1) Work on the pace of your storytelling

- “Many consider pacing to be the true secret of successful storytelling. The rhythm and tempo of a story is what sustains an audience's interest. Experiment. Lambert and Mullen write, ‘Good stories breathe. They move along generally at an even pace, but once in a while they stop. They take a deep breath and proceed.’” ([Digital Storytelling Site - Create Script \(google.com\)](#))
- Browse through the scripting tips by [TheScriptLab](#) and [Association TV](#). Here are some tips on pacing adapted from their ideas:
 - A digital story can consist of a scene or several scenes.
 - Think of your story as a succession of scenes (the introduction scene; the scenes that led to change; the moment when the characters realized there was a change; the scenes after the change).
 - All scenes have to contribute to the main message of the digital story.
 - Each scene must advance the narrative through both dialogue and visual storytelling.
 - Each scene must have a beginning, a middle, and an end.
 - Link scenes to each other through different pacing to cause desired effects in view of your target audience.
- Rewrite your script with **special focus on your scene structure and pacing**.

Phase 2) Read your script to the critical friend

- Read out your rewritten script to a critical friend.
- Ask your critical friend to:
 - point out omissions, awkward moments, mistakes, etc.
 - suggest improvements of structure and pacing
 - share their emotions to improve the storytelling voice.
- Based on the comments of your critical friend, finetune your script with special attention to pacing and the succession of your scenes.

