LEARN TO CHANGE

DIGITAL STORYTELLING (DST) STEP 3: SCRIPTING AND STORYBOARDING

DST3-4: CHECKLIST FOR SCRIPT WRITING

Phase 1) Script all visual and audio elements

- A detailed script describes **everything** that is going to happen in your digital story, each scene. Focus on what the audience is going to see, what will be said, as well as all visual and sound effects. **You can create your entire script as a table:**

Visual	Audio
Describe what the audience will see scene by scene.	Describe what the audience will hear scene by scene.

Phase 2) Check the script against the 7 elements of storytelling

- Once you are ready, check your script against the 7 elements of storytelling by Joe Lambert (sources: StoryCenter and the digital storytelling site of University of Houston):
  - **A Point of View:** The perspective of the storyteller on the story.
  - **Dramatic Question:** A key challenge that hold's the viewer's attention and will be resolved at the end.
  - **Emotional Content:** Memorable moments that touch the audience.
  - **The Gift of Your Voice**: A voice gives a human touch to the story and helps the audience to identify with the context and the message.
  - **The Power of the Soundtrack:** Music and sounds that support the story.
  - **Economy:** Short and to the point, having enough content but not too much.
  - **Pacing:** The rhythm of the story and meaningful changes thereof.

- To get a clear idea of the 7 elements, watch this YouTube video by Paul Iwancio.

Phase 3) And then check the script against these writing tips:

- Write it in the way you will say it.
- Address the audience, talk to them.
- Remember that your goal is to immerse the audience, evoke emotions, and convince them.
- Use language that is fitting for your target group.
- Specify the tone of voice and pace (fast, slow, excited, sad etc.)
- Read your script out loud to check that the voiceover/dialogue sounds natural.
- Ask feedback from a peer, friend, teacher, or family member on the clarity of the story and its key message; visuals, music, voice; emotions; and language.
- Discuss the feedback with your project team and adjust your script accordingly.