

## Teacher's notes

What am I going to do during the preproduction phase?	postproduction phase?

What am I going to evaluate?	What do I expect from my students?

**Podcast a How To!**

**Teacher's Booklet**  
Secondary, Cycle 2

**Description**– In this project, we introduce students to podcasting by creating a *How To*.

Before creating their *How to*, we explain to students the purpose of podcasting and help them deconstruct a podcast to better understand its structure. A podcast is a series of digital media files (either audio or video) that are released episodically and often downloaded through web syndication.

**Final Product**– A *How to* podcast available on BaladoWeb website.

**Trigger** – What is a podcast? Have students listen to a **podcast** (choose between the propositions).

### Examples of Preproduction Activities

Choose some of the following activities.

#### 1. Podcast Layout

Explore the **layout** of a podcast (Text features:text, audience and purpose) and ask students to **deconstruct** a podcast. Choose a podcast to deconstruct. See **example** in the **Resources**.

#### 2. The *How To Structure*

Activate prior knowledge of a *How To* and ask them to give examples. In order to better understand the structure ask about: the purpose, the targeted audience (depending on the product), the structure of the sentences, the modals and conditional forms, etc.

#### 3. Modals and Conditionals Revision

Revise **grammar** with exercises on modals and conditionals.

#### 4. Hands On - Discover Audacity (2-3 students per computer)

Invite students to discover the **Audacity** software by recording their voice. Ask them to experiment Audacity by adding some effects to their recording (pitch, volume, echo, amplify. etc.). Ask them to add a music track. (Alternative: use a MP3 player (iPod) or a cellphone to record the voice)

#### 5. Discuss about Copyrights

Have a discussion with students about the different types of licences that exist on the web. There is a document available on the **Resources** section on the BaladoWeb website on that topic.

#### 6. Characteristics of a Podcast

Before producing the podcast, present the **grid** with the characteristics of a podcast. Tell students that they have to fill in the different sections of the grid. Invite students to find teammates and brainstorm on the topic. Have them research the theme and get information. Students must adapt the information to their podcast and fill in the **podcast layout grid**.

### Producing a How To Podcast

Have students record their podcast using Audacity. Ask them to find music that better suits their topic. Invite students to listen to their podcast and make changes if needed using the grid with the characteristics of a podcast.

When the adjustments have been made, ask students to add their podcast on the BaladoWeb website.

### Examples of Postproduction of a Podcast

1. Invite students to present their podcast to another team and verify that all elements are present. Ask students to make adjustments.
2. Ask students to listen to the different podcast produced by other teammates and other schools. Invite them to analyse a podcast with a **grid** (characteristics of a podcast) or to comment on the different productions.

### Material Needed

- A projector and speakers
- Microphones and headphones or headsets
- Computer with Internet access
- An audio software like Audacity with an MP3 encoder

### Resources

- <http://www.baladoweb.qc.ca>

- Additional Documents:

1. **Definitions** : What is the difference between a podcast, an audio file and webradio?
2. Deconstruct a Podcast and How To structure
3. Podcast Layout as a Planning Tool
4. Grammar Revision
5. Audacity Procedure
6. Characteristics of a Podcast
7. Observation Grids
8. Transcript: How To Survive High School Podcast