

# Focus on Radio and Podcasts

60 - 90 minute lesson Age 11 - 18



Teacher	Subject:	Age range:	Lesson timing:	Any other notes	
	Focus on Radio and Podcasts	11-18	Ideally, 60 minutes is recommended. Can be extended to accommodate your school lesson timings.	Lesson can be extended by completing Extension Activity 1 or 2 in class.	
Previous knowledge through questioning.			CURRICULUM LINKS		
<b>LO:</b> Students will find out about some of the different career options available in audio and understand some of the ways of getting into the sector.			Literacy:		
AIMS:			KS3		
understand that radio broadcasting and podcasting are growing job markets with many different career options.			Spoken English speaking confidently and effectively including using Standard English confidently in classroom discussions; giving short speeches and presentations; participating in structured discussions, improvising, rehearsing and performing a script (optional activity)		
<ul> <li>recognise that they may already have some of the skills they need for these careers, and that the school curriculum, and extra-curricular activities, can help them to develop others.</li> </ul>			Writing: writing for a wide range of purposes and audiences including notes and scripts for presentations; imaginative writing; summarising and organising material.		
understand the importance of gaining work experience.			KS4		
realise that a career they may not have considered could be fun and exciting.			Spoken English speaking confidently and effectively including using Standard English; working effectively in groups of different sizes; listening to and building on the contributions of others; improvising, rehearsing and performing scripts (optional activity).		
work effectively with a small group to plan and deliver a short presentation.					
MATERIALS:			Writing: writing for a wide range of purposes and audiences including notes and scripts for presentations; imaginative writing; summarising and organising material.		
	Podcasts PowerPoint presentat	ion			
Whiteboard or flipchart			Numeracy:		
Pens and paper			Statistics: interpreting data.		
·	and Podcasts Activity Sheet pe				
	the Podcasts worksheet per g	roup	Gatsby benchmarks:		
Optional:			Benchmark 2 - Learning from career and labour market information.		
1x printout of Extension Activity 1 or 2 scaffolding sheets per student if completing for homework; one per student, pair or small group if completing in the classroom.			Benchmark 4 - Linking curriculum learning to careers		
Audio/visual examples of podcast trailers, if completing Extension Activity 1. For example, from YouTube or TikTok.					
Adults: One teacher should be available for this lesson.			Extension Activites: These are optional and can be completed in class or for homework. Suggested age ranges:		
			Extension Activity 1: 11-14, Extension Acitivity 2: 14-18		



Discussion/tasks/timing	Key/hinge questions	Measures of achievement
TIMING. SLIDES 3 -5: 10 MINUTES		
SLIDE 3: Heard it on the radio. Icebreaker task. Discuss the slide questions as a class. Note: recent research has found that teenagers and young adults listen less to the radio than previous generations, but that it is still a part of their lives.	How does radio play a part in all our lives?	Students are engaged with the icebreaker task and actively participate in the discussion.
Give students two minutes to make their lists with a partner then share some of the ideas. Suggestions might include:	Where can you listen to it?  What can you listen to?	
music, sport, the news, weather, chat shows, comedy, drama, documentaries, current events.		
Make the point that radio is a powerful communication tool; it can reach almost everyone wherever they are and whatever they're doing.		
SLIDE 4: What is a podcast? Ask students if they know what a podcast is. Take suggestions from the class then animate the slide to bring up definitions.	What is a podcast?	Students contribute ideas to the discussion and listen to those of others.
Emphasise the points that podcasts can be on any topic, that they are pre-recorded and can be downloaded and	Have you ever listened to one?	
listened to at any time.	What advantages do podcasts have over a radio show?	
SLIDE 5: Surrounded by sound. Ask for volunteers to read each fact. Ensure that students understand the difference between national, local and community radio stations. Emphasise point that there are increasing job opportunities in both radio and podcasts in the UK.	What is the difference between national, local and community radio stations?	Students draw relevant conclusions from the statistics.
	What conclusions can you draw from the statistics?	
TIMING. SLIDES 6 -10: 15 MINUTES		
SLIDE 6: Audio Always. Play the short video. Ask students to make notes while they are watching of:		Students are engaged with the video and make appropriate notes.
different ways to get into working in radio		
at least one job title that interests them		
SLIDE 7: Ways into radio. Give students a few minutes to talk about the questions before reporting back. Emphasise the point that there are many ways of getting into working in radio; you don't need to live in London, and you	What different ways are there of getting into working in radio?	Students recall information from the video and draw conclusions from it.
don't necessarily need a university degree or college qualification. Two interviewees stress the importance of getting as much work experience as you can.	What do you think would be fun and exciting about it?	
CLIDE O. It cannot be a supplied to the supplied and a supplied to the supplin	What are basic or soft skills?	Students demonstrate an understanding of soft skills through giving examples.
SLIDE 8: It comes naturally. Ask for a volunteer to read Lillie-Mae's quote. (Context- she was taking about ways of getting into working in radio.) Ask students what they think she means by basic skills, and if they can give some examples. Then animate the slide to bring up the points and read aloud.	Can you give some examples?	
SLIDE 9: Do you already have the skills? Ensure that students understand what is meant by an 'entry level' job. (It could also be described as a beginner's or starter's job.) Ask them to work with a partner to read the slide while you are giving out the Activity Sheets, then to complete Activities 1 and 2.	What is an 'entry level' job?	Students demonstrate an insight into their own skill set through their responses to the activity sheet questions.

Ideally all groups should present their idea to the rest of the class



	Key/hinge questions	Measures of achievement
<b>SLIDE 10: Feedback Activities 1&amp;2.</b> Ask for feedback on the skills students think come naturally to them. Encourage them to think of all the different ways lessons, homework and extra-curricular activities help with developing these.	What skills come naturally to you?	They recognise that school helps them to develop the skills they need in the workplace.
TIMING. SLIDES 11 -13: 10 MINUTES	How does school help you to develop them and others?	
SLIDES 11-12: Top of the pods. Fast paced activity. Ask for a show of hands for each choice, then animate the correct answers. Note that true crime and health and wellbeing tied for second place with female listeners.	What podcast topics do you think are most popular with men and women and with different age groups?	Students are engaged with the activity.
Ask students to work with a partner to complete Activities 3 and 4.		
SLIDE 13: Feedback Activities 3&4. Ask students to feedback on the order they put the tasks in. Suggested order:	Do any of the results of the survey surprise you?	Students demonstrate an understanding of the role of a podcast producer and the skills needed through their ordering of the tasks, and their responses to the question.
1. Come up with an idea		and their responses to the question.
2. Research the topic		
3. Create a budget and plan how to raise any funding you need	What order did you put the pod- caster producer's tasks in?	
4. Contact guests to interview and brief them on what you plan to cover	What skills do you think a pod-	
5. Write the script	cast producer needs?	
6. Book a recording studio		
7. Record the podcast	What ideas did you have for an entertainment podcast?	
8. Edit the podcast		
9. Upload the podcast		
10. Promote the podcast on social media		
Some students may have put some tasks in a different order e.g. Task 3. This is valid and they can be asked to explain their reasoning.		Students suggest appropriate ideas.
Ask students to share one of their ideas for an entertainment podcast.		
TIMING. SLIDES 14-15: 20 MINUTES		
SLIDE 14 – 15: Pick of the podcasts. Students to work in groups of 4-6 on the task.	Can you work as a team to develop and present an idea for	Students work effectively as part of a group. Their ideas demonstrate an understanding of suitable topics for podcasts, and how these could be developed. They present their ideas clearly and confidently.
Give out one worksheet per group; you can appoint a scribe, or students can take it in turns to complete it.	a podcast?	
If some students are stuck for ideas, remind them of the genres in the survey, and suggest others as appropriate to their age and ability. For example: animals and pets, wildlife, hobbies, fashion and clothing, Xbox games, climate change.		



OPTIONAL EXTENSION ACTIVITIES	Key/hinge questions	Measures of achievement
SLIDE 16 Extension Activity 1: Podcast trailer plan. Give out the scaffolding sheets. If students are completing the activity in the classroom they could work in pairs or small groups.  Introduce the activity/ homework task by playing one or two podcast trailers.  Optional: if students are completing the activity in groups in the classroom, they could script and present their	What information do you need to include in a podcast trailer?  How can you persuade people to listen to the podcast?	Students create plans which show evidence of understanding how to promote a podcast.
SLIDE 17 Extension Activity 2: Podcast plan. Give out the scaffolding sheets. If students are completing the activity in the classroom they could work in pairs or small groups. If they are completing it at home and have never listened to a podcast, suggest that they listen to one first, for example on BBC Sounds.  Optional: students could script and record the introduction to their podcast as an MP3 audio file using a phone, iPad or laptop.	What do you need to include in a plan for a podcast script? What additional research would you need to do if you were to develop this idea fully?	Students create plans which show evidence of understanding of how to create podcast content.
TIMING. SLIDES 17-18: 5 MINUTES  SLIDE 18: Plenary. Discuss the questions as a class. Ask students to put their hands up if they think a career in radio or podcasting could be for them.  Encourage students to think about subjects such as Drama, English, History and Computer Science that help them to develop hard and soft skills such as confidence, writing for an audience, research skills and IT skills.	Can you name one job in radio that you didn't know about before today?  What school subjects help you develop the skills you would need for a career in radio or podcasting?	Students recall facts and information from the lesson and reflect upon what they have learned.
<b>SLIDE 19: Getting started.</b> This slide is optional and intended for students aged 14+. Emphasise that for some careers – such as working in radio – gaining practical work experience can be more important than a university degree or similar qualification.	What is one of the best ways to get started in a career in radio or podcasting?	Students recognise the importance of gaining work experience.