



UNIT 3B. EASY-TO-UNDERSTAND (E2U) AND AUDIO DESCRIPTION (AD)

ELEMENT 3. TECHNICAL ASPECTS

A MOBILE APPLICATION FOR AD AND AUDIO SUBTITLES (AST)

Other Video Transcript

Voice 1 EASIT, Easy Access for Social Inclusion Training.

Voice 2 Unit 3B. E2U, audio description (AD) and audio subtitles (AST). Element 3, Technical aspects. A mobile application for AD and AST.

In this video you will meet with Per Hållander. He has been behind the work on creating a mobile application for playing audio description and audio subtitles for movies.

In a project managed by the Swedish National Association for Dyslexia, Per Hållander and Ester Hedberg worked together. The result was the application MovieTalk, which can be used both at cinemas and at home.

In the video Per Hållander talks with Ester Hedberg about the functions of the application and how to combine the two services AD and AST. He

will also show an example from the video Sintel on how it works.

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Example of Audio Description and Audio Subtitles:

Tundell och Salmson AB

AD voice: Maria Salmson

AST voice: Ingemar Nygren

Ester Hedberg

Hej Per!

Per Hållander

Hej Ester!

Ester Hedberg

Can you talk about how MovieTalk works?

Per Hållander

I can certainly try. The first thing you need to do is install the app. Then you start the app. Then, you can download an audio package for a movie. You choose from a list what movie you want to download for. On the right, you see what channels the audio package contains. Whether it's for audio descriptions, audio subtitles, or both.

Ester Hedberg

The eye symbol means audio descriptions and T means audio subtitles?

Per Hållander

Yes.

Ester Hedberg

Doesn't it get confusing if you watch with audio descriptions and audio subtitles at the same time?

Per Hållander

You can choose what channels you want to listen to. Maybe you only need audio descriptions or



maybe you only need audio subtitles. They are coordinated of course, so they don't speak at the same time.

Ester Hedberg

How does it work exactly? How do they ensure they don't talk at the same time?

Per Hållander

They record different audio channels. So there are separate audio files for audio descriptions and audio subtitles. Then you switch in the app between the channels you want to listen to. There are buttons for this on the app's play screen.

Ester Hedberg

Okay. And are they recorded using human voices?

Per Hållander

For the most part. But speech synthesis can also be used to record an audio file. So far, it's been mostly human voices.

Ester Hedberg

Where do you download the audio files from? I see them in the app, but where are they stored?

Per Hållander

They are stored at Bio Guiden. This is the movie industry's online service for cinemas and such. So they are... They are centrally stored for the movie industry.

Ester Hedberg

You also said before that this works at the movies, on TV, DVD, video-on-demand and pay services.

Per Hållander

Exactly. It depends on the frame rate of the movie you are watching. At the movies, it's 24 frames per second. On TV and DVD, it's 25 frames per second. So they are separated to ensure they are correctly synced.



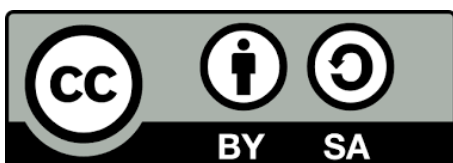
- Ester Hedberg And the synchronization is taken care of by the app?
- Per Hållander It is automatically taken care of by the app. It recognizes the movie audio and plays back in sync with it.
- Ester Hedberg Maybe we should have a look at how it might be with audio subtitles and audio descriptions. We will show a movie called "Sintel". The movie is in English. But the subtitles are in Swedish. The audio subtitles and descriptions are also in Swedish.
- Ester Hedberg That was audio subtitles. Now let's see the combination of audio subtitles and audio descriptions.
- Per Hållander As you can hear, there are different voices reading the audio subtitles and audio descriptions. So you can hear the difference between the voices and the services.
- Ester Hedberg When you combine audio descriptions and audio subtitles in a movie, what should the description narrator or the audio description producer and audio subtitle producer keep in mind?
- Per Hållander The most important thing is that the speech doesn't overlap, that is, the description narrator and the subtitle narrator. It is all recorded in a studio so they have quite a bit of control over how the voices interplay.



- Ester Hedberg How do you deal with movies with intensive dialog and lots of talking? Do you squeeze the audio descriptions between the audio subtitles and regular subtitles?
- Per Hållander You have to put the audio descriptions where there is space. There is a rule to not speak over dialog. You need to be able to hear what they say. Audio descriptions are only meant as an aid.
- Ester Hedberg If I'm at the movies using the app, what would those...those sitting next to me say? The people sitting beside me.
- Per Hållander Nothing, hopefully. They shouldn't be able to notice. You start the app, and choose which audio track you want to use. Then you can put your phone away. It will listen to the movie audio and play back to you in the headphones you're using to hear.
- Ester Hedberg Can you listen without headphones? So that I can listen with a friend?
- Per Hållander Then you will have to share the headphones. The phone's speaker should be blocked by the app. So you can't listen to it.
- Ester Hedberg Thanks Per.
- Voice 2 This video was prepared by Ester Hedberg from the Swedish National Association for Dyslexia and produced by Ester Hedberg and Rio Hellgren from the Swedish National Association for Dyslexia.

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