



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

### **ELEMENT 1. PROCESSES**

## **USERS VOICE ON AUDIO DESCRIPTION AND AUDIO SUBTITLES - ANNA**

### **Other Video Transcript**

- Voice 1                      EASIT, Easy Access for Social Inclusion Training.
- Voice 2                      This is Unit 3b. E2U, Audio Description and Audio Subtitles, Element 1. What is E2U AD & E2U AST. Users voice on Audio Description and Audio Subtitles.
- This video contains an interview with the user Anna Hammarlund. We talk about Audio Description, Subtitles and Audio Subtitles, and how to make them easier to understand. The interviewer is Ester Hedberg, The Swedish National Association for Dyslexia.

#### **Anna Hammarlund presents herself**

Anna has support from her mother Jenny Hammarlund and her father Hans Hammarlund.



Anna Hammarlund      My name is Anna Hammarlund. Right now I live with my mother and father.

I am completely visually impaired. I was born blind.

My parents are sitting behind me.

### **Jenny and Hans introduce themselves**

Jenny Hammarlund      I'm Jenny Hammarlund, Anna's mom.

Hans Hammarlund      And I'm Hasse, Anna's dad.

### **Question 1:**

#### **Do you use audio description and audio subtitles?**

Ester Hedberg      Anna, do you ever use audio description or audio subtitles?

Anna Hammarlund      No, not subtitles. But I do listen to audio descriptions a bit.

I hear what they say on TV if I raise the volume.

I have trouble hearing, I have impaired hearing.

If the volume is low, I can't hear.

Ester Hedberg      So audio subtitles are not something you have used? Only audio descriptions?

Anna Hammarlund      No, I have not used them.



## Question 2:

### In which situations do you use audio description?

Ester Hedberg In what situations do you use audio descriptions?

Anna Hammarlund Swedish movies with no commercials are best.

Ester Hedberg Swedish movies without commercials?

Anna Hammarlund I don't like commercials. They are always so confusing.

Audio descriptions tell you what's there and how it looks. About clothing and what they are doing in the movie. That's the way audio descriptions should be.

## Question 3:

### Did you ever use audio description in a theatre? And if you did, how was it?

Ester Hedberg Have you ever used audio descriptions at the theater?

Anna Hammarlund Yes, once I listened. I had a thing over my ear. Someone sits in back and speaks and listens to everything.

Ester Hedberg How was that?

Anna Hammarlund It wasn't bad.

The ear piece can be a pain. Sometimes I can't hear and have to turn it up. You should really sit in the middle by the big speakers. They have to



speak more clearly if there is music at the same time.

I listen with an ear piece in one ear so I hear everything they say.

#### **Question 4:**

#### **When you use audio description, does it happen that you can't understand?**

Ester Hedberg                      When you listen to audio descriptions on TV, for movies and the theater, do you ever have problems understanding?

Anna Hammarlund                  Sometimes.

Ester Hedberg                      What is it that makes it hard to understand?

Anna Hammarlund                  In the "Halv åtta hos mig" program they speak so unclearly. They talk too fast.

Ester Hedberg                      Even in the audio description?

Anna Hammarlund                  Yes, they are too fast all the time.

Hans Hammarlund                  The problem is not the audio description itself. The problem is that it is hard to find programs. It is almost impossible to find movies with audio descriptions in TV guides and other places.

Audio description is hard because you can't find the programs in the right order for example



### Question 5:

#### **So, there are programs that are audio described but they are hard to find?**

Ester Hedberg

So there are programs with audio descriptions but they are just hard to find?

Hans Hammarlund

Right. And I'm used to searching. But it's really difficult. It is absolutely impossible for Anna to find them herself.

We only have access to a fraction of what is out there because they are so hard to find.

Anna Hammarlund

Yeah.

Hans Hammarlund

It's really a waste of resources. And a pity for those who can't find which movies have audio descriptions.

Jenny Hammarlund

Every morning we look at what shows are on that day. But it doesn't say anything. It tells you when it is subtitled. But when there are audio descriptions it's not in the list of programs. They tell you right when the program is starting. Then they say, "This program has audio descriptions".

How are you supposed to find it so quickly? Right when the program is starting? If you're going to watch with your family? You need to know in advance if a program has audio descriptions. There's so much lacking.

Programs you know about you can put on. But if you don't know it has audio descriptions we



watch it the usual way. Instead, we provide the audio descriptions. I describe things to Anna myself.

### **Question 6:**

#### **When you manage to find programs with audio description on tv, how are they? Is it easy to understand?**

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|------------------|---|
| Ester Hedberg    | When you find programs with audio descriptions, what do you think of them Anna? Do you think they are easy to understand? |
| Anna Hammarlund  | Some things are, but then they have to speak clearly.   |
| Jenny Hammarlund | But Anna, you love the "Mandelmanns gård" program.  |
| Anna Hammarlund  | I love "Mandelmanns gård". They talk for themselves.  |
| Anna & Jenny     | They have good audio descriptions.  |

### **Question 7:**

#### **What makes an good audio description?**

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Ester Hedberg    | What makes those audio descriptions good?   |
| Anna Hammarlund  | They talk about the animals.  |
| Jenny Hammarlund | Audio descriptions have to say what needs to be added. Not all the time. Mandelmann talks a lot themself. |



Lots of things happen in the program. The animals walk around, kind of exciting. Those audio descriptions are good not only for Anna's target group. They talk about what you should focus on.

Hans Hammarlund

Audio descriptions are special in that they tell you what is happening on screen. But a speaker in a nature program does pretty much the same thing. But in another way, and it's almost better.

When you watch a nature show and hear natural sounds like a lion's roar, and someone is telling you what's happening, it's all very engaging. Even though you can't see the images. It's interesting. It's not audio descriptions, yet it is somehow.

Yesterday, we were watching an edition of...

Anna Hammarlund

"Så mycket bättre"?

Hans Hammarlund

No. What's it called?

Anna Hammarlund

Oh, right! It was...

Hans Hammarlund

What did we watch last night?

Anna Hammarlund

The one about animals.

Hans Hammarlund

"Veterinärerna" or something. A program about veterinarians. It was the same thing there. They talked about how a horse was sick and needed an operation. And the little cat felt bad and had an injured tail. There was a narrator. And it was just as good as audio descriptions we think.



A good program we saw on TV was the “Bröllop & Begravning” series

Anna Hammarlund Oh, right!

Hans Hammarlund They did something we haven't seen before. They paused the film and described things. They explained that new people had come in.

That's because it goes too fast otherwise. You don't have time to hear what's being said, and the program sound and the description. So here they stopped the program occasionally and explained the context. It was a good new way.

### **Question 8:**

**Anna, what do you think people who creates audio description need to know to make them easy to understand for you?**

Ester Hedberg The people who make audio descriptions in programs, what should they think about to make it as easy as possible for you to follow along in the audio description? Forget the program, just think of the audio description.

Anna Hammarlund I think they should speak more slowly, and that they are clear at all times.

Jenny Hammarlund It's good that there are programs with audio descriptions.

Anna Hammarlund Yeah, it is really good.

Jenny Hammarlund But I'm sure it can be improved.





Anna Hammarlund      Would need to be entirely improved.

### **Question 9:**

#### **How could the audios described programs be better?**

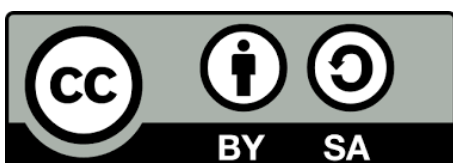
Ester Hedberg      How could programs with audio descriptions be improved?

Anna Hammarlund      Speak clearly and slowly. Stop the show occasionally. And describe what's happening. Then continue the show. And talk like that.

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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