

# Audio feedback: why it works

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# Audio feedback was developed...

- Initially by staff on Photojournalism and Documentary Photography
- Now also used by staff on Editorial and Advertising
  
- Predominantly used for marking practical assignments
- Context: students often label the marking of practical assignments 'subjective'; higher than usual rates of dissatisfaction with marking

# Positive impact

- Positive response by students
  - Much more likely to experience their feedback as detailed and supportive
  - More likely to engage with the feedback (they listen to the audio as well as looking at the grade)
  - Students can't read their feedback sarcastically as tone of voice is audible

# A lot of staff like it...

- Because they find it quicker to do and they can talk about the details in the submission without needing to type for hours
- Staff can perform warmth and enthusiasm
- Can tailor feedback to the student, which a lot of students really appreciate

# Practical considerations

- It's easy to upload to moodle
- We still use grids or rubrics to support the grading
- Most audio files last between 4 and 7 minutes
- **Still need to ensure consistency of language. If a “good” grade is awarded then language needs to follow**
- Have to be careful with superlatives and make encouragement separate to the language of achievement (“for next time...”, “you have potential to...” “aim to develop or strengthen”)

# Not everyone finds it quicker...

- I do it to fall in line with courses
- But I'm a typical 'think through writing' person
- Which means I have to make notes in order to do the feedback
- So I feel I'm doing feedback twice!
- Motivation: consistency for students and managing expectations
- Still get the positive outcome in terms of student satisfaction