

AUDIO DESCRIPTION

A TASTER INTRODUCTION

VSA TEXAS 2015

WHAT IS AUDIO DESCRIPTION?

The verbal translation of visual information for people who are blind or have low vision.

Blindness is about access to information. Audio description creates greater access and helps to equalize the experience: for cultural, social and educational experiences, the imagination is the limit.



A COMPARISON OF DESCRIPTION

MEANING



IMAGE/FEELING



**DESCRIPTION OF LIVE
PERFORMANCE OR MEDIA**
EXAMPLE

THREE CORE SKILLS FOR AN AUDIO DESCRIBER

- 1) **Observe** – through a different lens
 - 2) **Analyze** – within content and big picture
 - 3) **Communicate** – appropriate language and symbols, concise, essential information
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GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF DESCRIPTION FOR MEDIA

1. Describe What You See.
 2. Choose the most significant or essential information to describe.
 3. Do not explain what you think is going on.
 4. Do not interpret the information (don't describe moods, motives or reasoning of characters, nor inject your personal opinions).
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PRINCIPLES OF DESCRIPTION FOR MEDIA CONTINUED

5. Do not censor the material.
 6. Do not summarize. Whenever possible, describe the sequence of actions instead of saying “They fight.”
 7. Use the present tense.
 8. When naming a person, place or object, use the same name throughout.
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VISUAL INFORMATION

An example. Museum of Fine Arts, Houston



VOCABULARY TO USE WHEN DESCRIBING ART

Sensory Properties (Elements)

Line

Shape

Color

Space

Form

Texture

Size

Formal Properties (Principles)

Repetition

Movement

Rhythm

Contrast

Balance

Emphasis

Unity

Variety



TACTILE OR SENSORY EXPERIENCES



DEFINITION OF TACTILE REPRESENTATION

A diagram or drawing readable by touch, intended to communicate one or more aspects of an image or artwork that cannot be touched.



SHARE AND EXCHANGE

DISCUSS CHALLENGES TO IMPLEMENTATION

INFORMATION ON AUDIO DESCRIPTION

VSA Texas: www.vsatx.org or 1-866-489-8412

Audio Description Coalition:

www.audiodescriptioncoalition.org

Audio Description Project: www.acb.org/adp