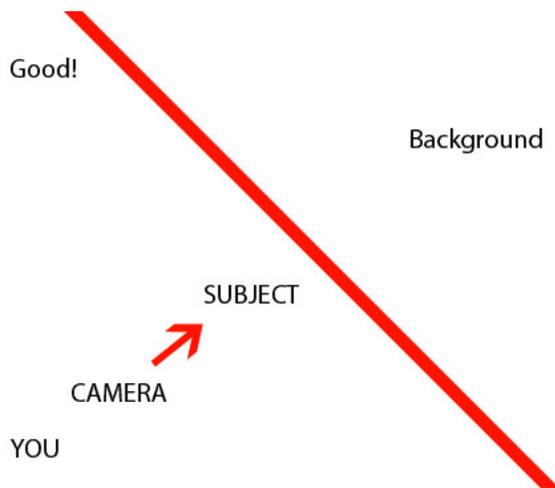


# 1 Basic video techniques for interviews

- Think about what video adds to the what you are documenting
- Remember, you often need extra permission to video record someone!
- Balance between quality and memory: video takes a lot of it memory – especially on a portable device
- Blocking (where people are located in the shot)
  - Always make sure the light is behind you (just like with still photos)
  - Create space: try to sit in the middle of the room – do not put your interviewee against a wall!



- The ‘rule of thirds’: always position the head somewhere in either the left or right third of the frame
- An external microphone should be used for video interviews (for aesthetic reasons) Quick guide to microphones:
  - Basic rule: you get what you pay for Three types:
    - \* Dynamic: cheap and durable, but they have an omnidirectional pattern, which means they might pick a lot of unwanted background sound
    - \* Condenser: focussed direction (best do exclude background noise), but also more expensive and they need a power supply
    - \* There are other types, but these two are the most common and relevant
  - Three types of microphones:
    - \* Device internal: recorder, laptop, smartphone etc.: practical
    - \* Hand held (like what singers use): least ideal (minimum)
    - \* Lavalier (lapel): the most ideal for video interviews
    - \* Headset: the most ideal for language recordings that **don’t** use video

## 2 Apps: what to look for in an audio recording app

- Golden rule: digital is digital is digital: all apps are digital, so they all record the same quality
- Any differences between apps will always be extra ‘features’ – most of which will probably be unnecessary for our purposes
- Free is good – often no need to pay for them
- **The minimum:** digital audio in any audio format (i.e. .mp3, .m4a, etc.)
- **The ideal:** .wav, 44.1k, 16 bit format
- Important consideration: where are the files when they are recorded? (i.e. where is the directory, and how do I move/copy/delete them?)

### 2.1 Evernote

- A general note taking app – **very** flexible and useful because it can record almost any kind of media (except video)
- Free and available for any platform (Apple, Windows, Android) and on both smartphones and laptops
- Generally easy to share, and nice presentation mode
- **PRACTICE**
  1. Download and install the app (you need to make an account, but this is super fast and easy)
  2. With your language consultant, take two or three photographs (called ‘notes’)
  3. Add audio to the file
  4. Add a transcription to the file

### 2.2 AudioNote LITE

- Similar to Evernote, but it can record your keystrokes **while** you record audio
- The typed text becomes ‘active’: click on the text and it will cue to the audio associated with that text
- *Possibly only on Apple* – there are probably other apps on other platforms that do a similar thing
- **PRACTICE**
  1. Download and install the app (no account setup needed)
  2. With your language consultant, either rerecord the storyboard, or use your direct elicitation from yesterday