



VIDMOAT LEARNING

AI Video Editing with Vidmoat

A practical beginner course from first upload to finished video



Beginner level / Web and phone / September 2026

30 lessons · 4 guided projects · 1 portfolio capstone

A complete text course with original practice resources, interactive screenshot demonstrations and ten AI-narrated video companions at course.vidmoat.com.

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Welcome to the course

You do not need to know editing terminology before you begin. You need a Vidmoat account, an internet connection, headphones if you have them, and a willingness to watch your work twice. A laptop gives you more room; a phone can complete the same core assignments. Keep your app or browser current, and check that each upload and save has finished before leaving.

This course is for creators making reviews, podcast clips, social videos, tutorials and small-business content. It begins with a ten-second sequence and builds towards a 30 to 60 second portfolio video. You will learn to give useful direction to an AI agent, recognise when its result needs help and make the final decisions yourself.

Work through the lessons in order the first time. Read the explanation, follow the steps in Vidmoat, try the exercise and answer the question before opening the feedback. The prompts are starting points: replace the source descriptions and instructions with details that match your project. Do not paste a prompt that refers to a file you have not uploaded.

Allow about 16 to 20 hours including reading, exercises, the four project studios and the capstone. This is a planning estimate, not recorded lecture duration. Filming additional material or exploring generation will take longer. You can study in short sessions: three lessons and one review each week gives you a ten-week route; two modules per week gives you a five-week route.

The core course uses your own material and the included original illustrations and audio. Paid generation, stock media, advanced tools and higher-resolution exports are optional. AI actions and exports can consume your account allowance. Read the cost or entitlement notice before starting a job. A branded or lower-resolution learning export is acceptable. No purchase beyond the access you choose is required by the assessment.

The web and phone interfaces may arrange controls differently. Follow the function and label, not a fixed screen coordinate. This edition was prepared against Vidmoat product sources in September 2026. If a described control is unavailable, use the stated manual alternative and check the current in-product help. Work privately during the course; publishing is a separate choice.

What you will be able to do

- Write a brief that names an audience, message, source material and constraints.
- Import footage and distinguish source files, timeline clips and references.
- Create a rough cut while preserving meaning, natural speech and useful evidence.
- Correct captions and build a readable text hierarchy for a small screen.
- Balance speech, music and designed sound, and verify audio or lyric estimates.
- Use framing, keyframes and colour to support the story rather than distract.
- Choose optional generated media and check character or product continuity.
- Export and review a finished video, diagnose failures and give useful feedback.

How to use the practice pack

Open the resources folder for five original illustrations and two audio files. Start with lamp-wide.png, lamp-detail.png and lamp-desk.png. Use style-layout.png as a layout reference and robot-reference.png for the optional consistency exercise. The two-tone sound-check.wav has known events so you can compare an audio report with a simple ground truth.

The four project studios later in this handbook include original recording scripts, source lists, timeline maps and review criteria. Their timings are target story allocations, not automatic cut instructions for recordings that will vary. Use your ears and the actual footage to set the final boundaries.

01 Start with a video you can finish

01.01 Choose one person and one useful outcome

Outcome Write a brief that gives your first video a clear purpose.

Suggested study and practice time 20 minutes

Imagine someone watching your video while waiting for a train. They have no idea who you are. What would make the next thirty seconds useful to them? That question is a better starting point than choosing a transition.

For our main project, you will review a desk lamp you already own. The viewer wants to know whether it would make their desk easier to use. Your job is to show one useful feature, one limitation and a verdict. You do not need a studio, a perfect voice or a new purchase. A mug, keyboard or notebook works just as well.

Vidmoat gives you an AI agent and an editable timeline. The agent can help assemble the first version; you decide whether it tells the truth and feels right. Generating new media is optional throughout the core course. Start with material you own, and use the included original lamp illustrations if you cannot film today. Those illustrations represent an imaginary product, so label the result as a concept demonstration rather than a real review.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Choose a single viewer: for example, someone working at a small desk.
2. Write the question your video answers in one sentence.
3. Choose a 30-second target and a vertical 9:16 frame for this first exercise.
4. List three things you can actually show. Remove claims you cannot demonstrate.
5. Save the brief in your workbook before opening the editor.

A prompt you can adapt

I am making a 30-second vertical review for someone with a small desk. Help me plan a useful feature, an honest limitation and a verdict. Use only facts I provide. Do not edit or generate media yet.

Your turn

Write a brief for your own object. Finish: “After watching, my viewer will be able to decide whether...” Then write one claim you will deliberately avoid because you have not tested it.

Check your work

A good brief names a viewer, a question, a length and evidence. Example: “Show a student whether this lamp lights a notebook without taking much desk space.”

A common trap

“Make a viral video for everyone” gives the agent neither an audience nor a decision to support.

Knowledge check

Which brief gives an editor the clearest direction?

- A. Make it professional and viral.
- B. Show a student how this lamp fits a small desk in 30 seconds.
- C. Use every available effect.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

01.02 Find your way around Vidmoat

Outcome Upload an asset, place it on the timeline and check that the project has saved.

Suggested study and practice time 20 minutes

There are four places to recognise first. The media library holds your source files. The preview shows the current picture. The timeline decides what plays and when. The Inspector or Properties area changes the selected item. The AI chat is another way to work on that same project.

An uploaded file and a timeline clip are different things. A file can sit in your library without appearing in the video. A timeline clip points to part of that file. Trimming the clip changes the edit; it does not rewrite the original recording. This is why one long recording can provide several short clips.

On a wider screen, several areas can be visible together. On a phone, you switch between them. Follow the names and the job each area does rather than memorising its exact position. The current app may call an area Media, Media Library, AI, or Agent. Before continuing, confirm that the source upload has completed and the project is saved. A thumbnail alone is not proof that a file reached cloud storage.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Sign in to Vidmoat and create a project named "Course 01 First edit".
2. Use Add footage or open Media Library and choose Upload. Select your recording, or resources/lamp-wide.png.
3. Wait for upload progress to finish. Resolve any Retry message before leaving.
4. Add the library item to the timeline. On web, drag it in or use the item action; on phone, tap the item and its add action.
5. Play and pause the preview. Select the clip and find its properties. Wait for the saved state.

A prompt you can adapt

Check the media in this project. Tell me which files are available and which clips are already on the timeline. Do not change anything yet.

Your turn

Add one source and make it visible for five seconds. Switch from the timeline to chat and back. Find the source again in the library.

Check your work

You can explain the difference between the source file and the clip, and see the expected picture during playback.

A common trap

Style reference is guidance for the agent, not the normal footage-upload button. An empty timeline stays empty if you only attach a reference.

Knowledge check

You uploaded an image but it never appears in playback. What should you check first?

- A. Whether it was added to the timeline.
- B. Whether the export is set to 4K.
- C. Whether it has a music track.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

01.03 Make your first ten second edit

Outcome Assemble a simple beginning, detail and ending without extra effects.

Suggested study and practice time 25 minutes

Your first finished edit should be small enough that you can watch it several times. Use three shots: the object in context, a useful detail, and an ending. The included lamp-wide, lamp-detail and lamp-desk illustrations make a complete practice set. They are intentionally simple so that you can focus on the timeline.

Set the project shape before spending time on text placement. A vertical frame is tall and narrow; a landscape frame is wide. Filling a frame can crop the sides of a source. Fitting the whole source may leave space around it. Neither is automatically wrong. Choose based on what the viewer must see.

For this exercise, use cuts rather than transitions. A cut immediately changes from one image to the next. Notice how the sequence already feels purposeful when the shots answer related questions. Later lessons add captions, music and motion. First, make sure a viewer can understand the object and the point without them.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. In Project Settings, choose 9:16. Use the resolution available on your account.
2. Place the three practice images in order on one visual track.
3. Set their durations to 3 seconds, 4 seconds and 3 seconds. Put each directly after the previous one.
4. Add an ending title: "A little light for your desk". Keep it clear of the lamp.
5. Play from zero to ten seconds. Check for blank gaps and accidental overlaps.

A prompt you can adapt

Use these three uploaded lamp illustrations to make a 10-second vertical concept sequence. Show wide for 3 seconds, detail for 4, desk for 3. Add the title "A little light for your desk" in the final shot. Use straight cuts and no new generated assets.

Your turn

Make the same sequence yourself or with the agent, then shorten the middle shot by one second and watch the effect. Restore the version you prefer.

Check your work

The sequence lasts approximately ten seconds, has no blank gap, and the title is readable on a phone-sized preview.

A common trap

Changing an image duration can leave space before the next clip. Inspect the join rather than assuming the timeline closed it.

Knowledge check

What is the best evidence that the first edit is ready?

- A. The agent said "done".
- B. You played the whole sequence and checked every join.
- C. There are many timeline tracks.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

02 Give the AI useful direction

02.01 Turn a vague request into an editing brief

Outcome Ask for an edit with a purpose, constraints and an observable result.

Suggested study and practice time 20 minutes

“Make it engaging” is a feeling. An editor still needs to know what would produce that feeling. For a review, it might mean starting with the verdict, showing the feature while you mention it, and removing the time spent sitting down. For a calm tutorial, the same request might mean longer holds and fewer distractions.

A useful brief contains the audience, the message, the available sources, the target length and the boundaries. Boundaries protect what matters: keep the full warning, do not invent a price, preserve the speaker’s meaning, or use only uploaded music. Add one or two style choices, not a shopping list of effects.

Give the agent a manageable first pass. Ask for structure before polishing every caption. When the first pass is ready, play it. If it missed the point, changing the font will not solve the underlying problem. Separate the story decision from the decorative decision and your feedback becomes much easier to act on.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Open the project that contains your intended sources.
2. Name the source files or selected clips so the scope is clear.
3. Write the target audience, message, length and frame shape.
4. List what must stay and what should be removed.
5. Request a rough cut first, then review it before adding finishing work.

A prompt you can adapt

Use my uploaded desk-lamp recording to make a 30-second 9:16 review. Start on the first useful sentence, remove sitting down and getting up, keep one benefit and one limitation, and end on my verdict. Preserve my wording and meaning. Make a rough cut with no music or new media first.

Your turn

Rewrite “Make this exciting” for a podcast clip and for a quiet cooking tutorial. Give each a different pacing instruction.

Check your work

Podcast example: remove repeated setup, retain the full argument and a natural breath. Cooking example: keep the safety instruction and hold each step long enough to follow.

A common trap

A long prompt with incompatible demands, such as slow and calm plus a cut every half second, makes the result difficult to judge.

Knowledge check

What should happen before you polish captions?

- A. Confirm that the edit tells the right story.
- B. Choose the most colourful preset.
- C. Generate a new background for every shot.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

02.02 Use a style reference without copying everything

Outcome Attach a reference and explain exactly which qualities should influence your edit.

Suggested study and practice time 20 minutes

A reference works best when you can name what you like. You might admire the large opening title, the space around the subject, or the way a review uses a brief close-up to support a claim. Those are decisions you can describe and adapt. “Do exactly this” often imports details that do not fit your footage.

Use Style reference for an image or video that guides the edit. Use Add footage for material that should appear in the finished video. These are separate actions. In this course edition, style references support images and videos, with up to four attached references. Video inspection covers the first two minutes. If the useful moment is later, supply a short excerpt you are entitled to use.

A style reference is also different from a character or product reference used during generation. The first guides an edit’s look; the second guides the appearance of newly generated media. Neither guarantees an exact copy. The agent may fail to inspect a reference, in which case you should retry or describe it yourself rather than assume it was understood.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Open Style reference in the dashboard or project chat.
2. Attach resources/style-layout.png, or your own permitted example.
3. Wait for upload and inspection. Read any failure message.
4. Describe two qualities to borrow and one quality to avoid.
5. Check the next edit against those specific qualities, not against an imagined perfect match.

A prompt you can adapt

Use this reference for its large left-aligned title and generous space around the product. Keep my own footage, wording and orange accent. Do not copy its logo, soundtrack or subject. If you cannot inspect the attachment, tell me before editing.

Your turn

Attach one example. Write “Borrow...” and “Keep...” statements. If attachment access is unavailable, write the same guidance in plain text and complete the exercise without it.

Check your work

You can point to the borrowed layout decision in your result while the content remains yours.

A common trap

Attaching a whole ten-minute video does not mean every moment was inspected. Narrow the example to the part that matters.

Knowledge check

Where should a video go if you want it to appear in the finished edit?

- A. Only in Style reference.
- B. Through Add footage or the media library.
- C. In a comment without an upload.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

02.03 Revise one thing and protect the rest

Outcome Give precise feedback and recover from an unwanted edit.

Suggested study and practice time 20 minutes

A first pass is something to respond to. Watch it as a viewer and name the moment that fails: “The title covers the lamp at six seconds” is actionable. “It is still bad” gives the agent no useful location or criterion.

Make revision requests small enough to inspect. If you like the cuts but dislike the sound, say so and limit the next change to sound. Distinguish source time from timeline time. Source time is a position in the original file; timeline time is a position in your edited sequence. A cut changes the relationship between them.

Use Undo promptly when a change damages the edit. Stop a running edit before making competing changes yourself. Keep a written brief and revision notes for important projects; do not rely on chat memory as the only record of the intended result. A useful revision log says what changed, why and whether the change survived review.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Play the saved result and identify one specific problem.
2. Write its timeline time and the affected clip or text.
3. Ask for one change while naming what should stay.
4. Review that moment plus the joins before and after it.
5. Accept the result, or stop further work and use Undo to recover.

A prompt you can adapt

At timeline 00:06, move the “Small desk” title away from the lamp and reduce its size slightly. Keep the wording, colour, music and all cuts unchanged. Show me the revised moment before doing anything else.

Your turn

Make a title deliberately too large, then correct only its placement and size. Record the before and after decision in one sentence.

Check your work

Only the requested title changes, and it remains visible long enough to read. If other parts changed, you notice and restore them.

A common trap

Sending several correction requests while the first is still running makes it harder to know which result you are reviewing.

Knowledge check

Which timestamp is clearest for fixing text in an edited sequence?

- A. “Somewhere near the middle.”
- B. “Timeline 00:06, the Small desk title.”
- C. “The original file has lots of text.”

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

03 Build a story with cuts

03.01 Choose a hook that the footage earns

Outcome Open with a useful promise and support it with evidence.

Suggested study and practice time 20 minutes

A hook is a reason to keep watching. It does not have to be a shout or a surprising claim. “Here is why this lamp stayed on my small desk” creates a question the rest of the video can answer. A close-up showing the useful feature can do the same job without extra words.

Watch the source before choosing the opening. Find the strongest complete statement, then check the sentences around it. Removing “for my small desk” from “this is the best lamp for my small desk” changes a personal judgement into a broader claim. An edit that attracts attention by changing the meaning is a poor edit.

For the review project, use a simple sequence: reason to care, demonstration, limitation, verdict. These are story functions, not rigid time slots. If the demonstration takes longer than the opening, give it the time it needs. A useful ending answers the question raised by the beginning.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Watch the raw take once without cutting.
2. Mark two possible opening statements and their source times.
3. Read or listen to the surrounding context for both.
4. Choose the opening that your later shots can support.
5. Arrange a rough sequence with a benefit, limitation and verdict.

A prompt you can adapt

Find two possible hooks in my recording. Quote the exact spoken words with source times, explain what each promises, and flag any context that must stay. Recommend one without making the edit yet.

Your turn

Use the review recording script in the resource kit. Choose a hook and write the shot that will prove it. Then propose a second opening that uses a close-up instead of a spoken claim.

Check your work

Your hook is truthful, understandable without background knowledge and answered by the end.

A common trap

A dramatic headline about battery life is unsupported when your footage only shows the lamp switching on.

Knowledge check

Which hook is safest when no battery test was performed?

- A. “Lasts longer than every other lamp.”
- B. “The light I use for late-night notes.”
- C. “Scientifically proven to improve focus.”

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

03.02 Trim setup and dead time without chopping speech

Outcome Remove unwanted starts, ends and pauses while preserving natural delivery.

Suggested study and practice time 25 minutes

The time before a person starts speaking usually belongs to the recording process rather than the story. You can remove sitting down, reaching for the camera and the final walk away. Leave enough space around the first and last words for them to sound complete.

Trimming moves a clip's edge. Splitting creates separate pieces at a chosen point. To remove a pause in the middle, split before and after the pause, delete the unwanted piece and check the resulting gap. Do not assume every delete closes space automatically. A blank frame or a silent hole can survive on the timeline.

Not every pause is dead time. A breath before a conclusion helps a viewer follow the thought. Start conservatively, then compare the tighter cut with the original. If the speaker suddenly sounds nervous or words collide, restore a little space. Speed is useful only while meaning and comfort survive.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Select the clip and play the first few seconds closely.
2. Drag the start edge just before the first intended word; check the first consonant.
3. Trim the end after the final word and a short natural release.
4. For an internal pause, place the playhead and use Split on each side. Remove only the unwanted section.
5. Close any unintended gap and play across every new cut at normal speed.

A prompt you can adapt

Remove the setup before my first useful sentence and the ending where I leave. Tighten obvious dead air inside the review, but preserve breaths, complete words and the limitation. Do not speed up my voice.

Your turn

Record a sentence with a three-second pause in the middle. Make one very tight cut and one with a brief breath. Listen without looking at the picture and choose the more natural version.

Check your work

The first and final words are intact, and the internal cut sounds like a human sentence rather than a stitched list.

A common trap

Using a silence threshold as an automatic delete rule can remove quiet words, deliberate pauses or soft music.

Knowledge check

After deleting a middle section, what should you inspect?

- A. Only the thumbnail.
- B. The gap, the word boundaries and playback across the join.
- C. The app icon.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

03.03 Use supporting shots to show the point

Outcome Place B-roll where it adds evidence and preserve the main audio.

Suggested study and practice time 25 minutes

B-roll is supporting footage shown while the main story continues. In a lamp review, a close-up of the switch belongs near the sentence about the switch. A random city skyline may look polished but adds little to that claim.

Put a supporting shot on a visual track above the speaking clip when you want the narration to continue underneath. Check its audio: a noisy camera recording can compete with the speaker. Mute that supporting clip if you only need its picture. Listen again after the change so you do not accidentally mute the main voice.

B-roll can hide a visible jump between two parts of a talking-head recording. It should still have a reason to be there. Start it around the idea being explained and end it when the viewer has had time to see the detail. Repeatedly cutting away before the viewer understands a shot makes the video feel busy rather than helpful.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Identify one sentence that would benefit from a visual example.
2. Add a matching close-up to a track above the main recording.
3. Align it with the relevant sentence, using timeline time.
4. Mute the close-up audio if it is unnecessary. Keep the narration audible.
5. Play the sentence before, during and after the insert. Adjust its duration.

A prompt you can adapt

Show my uploaded switch close-up while I explain the switch. Keep the main recording's voice continuous underneath and mute the close-up's camera audio. Use the real product shot, not generated replacement footage.

Your turn

Cover one visible talking-head jump with a relevant detail shot. Then remove the insert and compare what the viewer understands in each version.

Check your work

The insert supports a specific phrase, stays visible long enough to inspect, and does not interrupt the voice.

A common trap

Putting two full-volume recordings on top of one another can create an echo or a distracting second conversation.

Knowledge check

What makes a supporting shot useful?

- A. It illustrates the idea being discussed.
- B. It has the most camera movement.
- C. It was expensive to generate.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

04 Make words easy to watch

04.01 Check the transcript before styling captions

Outcome Correct words and timing against the actual recording.

Suggested study and practice time 25 minutes

Captions help people follow speech when sound is quiet, unavailable or difficult to understand. They also make transcription errors public. Before choosing a style, listen for names, numbers, negations and product terms. “It does not charge” and “it does charge” are very different reviews.

Ask the agent to caption the intended spoken clips, or use the available caption and transcript controls. Check which source is being transcribed. A project with music, camera audio and narration can contain several possible inputs. Finish the main speech cuts first so you do not spend time correcting captions that no longer match the sequence.

Transcript corrections and visible caption clips may be separate. After correcting a transcript, confirm that the text on the timeline changed too; regenerate the relevant captions if necessary. Pasted scripts can help, but estimated timing is not the same as timing obtained from the recording. Always watch the displayed words with the sound on.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Finish the main speech edit and identify the narration clips.
2. Ask for captions for those clips, or use the caption controls available in your editor.
3. Play the first sentence and check text, timing and punctuation.
4. Correct names, numbers and any missing “not”. Inspect the visible caption result.
5. Remove duplicate caption sets and replay a section after the last cut.

A prompt you can adapt

Caption the spoken review on this timeline. Use the actual audio, preserve the words and flag anything uncertain. Check the product name and all numbers. Do not caption the instrumental bed or add a second overlapping caption set.

Your turn

Record: “This is a small desk lamp. It does not charge my phone.” Generate captions and verify every word. Deliberately change one word, then correct the visible caption.

Check your work

The words preserve the speaker’s meaning and appear with the relevant phrase. There is only one intended caption set.

A common trap

Styling incorrect words makes the error more noticeable. Fix content before appearance.

Knowledge check

An automatic caption drops the word “not”. What should you do?

- A. Leave it because the style looks good.
- B. Correct it against the recording and check the visible caption.
- C. Remove all captions.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

04.02 Separate captions from emphasis titles

Outcome Use stylish text without making the viewer read two competing messages.

Suggested study and practice time 20 minutes

Captions carry the speech. Emphasis titles carry the important idea. You can use both, but they need different jobs. If every spoken word becomes a giant headline, there is no hierarchy left and the product disappears behind text.

For the review, keep captions near the lower part of the frame, with enough clearance for platform controls. Use a larger phrase such as “Small desk” beside the product when that idea arrives. The title can be shorter than the sentence because it is a summary. It must not change the claim.

Choose one type family, a small set of sizes and one accent colour. Vidmoat's orange works well as an accent, while dark or light neutral text can provide the main contrast. Check the actual frame: orange against a warm lamp shade may be hard to read. A restrained shadow or background can help, but a stack of glow, outline and gradient can obscure the letter shapes.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Choose one readable caption style and apply it consistently.
2. Find the strongest three ideas in the edit and write short emphasis phrases.
3. Add one larger title for an idea, positioned away from the speaker and product.
4. Use orange on a key word or small accent, while maintaining clear contrast.
5. Play the title at normal speed and confirm it stays long enough to read once comfortably.

A prompt you can adapt

Keep the speech captions readable and consistent. Add a larger “Small desk” emphasis title beside the lamp only when I discuss its footprint. Use orange as an accent, avoid covering the product, and do not animate every word.

Your turn

Make two title versions: a full spoken sentence and a three-word summary. Compare them on a phone-sized preview and choose the one that supports the picture.

Check your work

A viewer can tell which text is speech and which text is emphasis. Neither blocks the demonstration.

A common trap

Using the same size, position and animation for all text makes everything compete for first place.

Knowledge check

Which text should usually carry the complete spoken meaning?

- A. The captions.
- B. A decorative sticker.
- C. A one-word headline.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

04.03 Make a vertical layout survive a phone screen

Outcome Check text, cropping and pacing at the size people will watch.

Suggested study and practice time 20 minutes

A title that looks comfortable on a laptop can become tiny on a phone. A caption that sits inside the video frame can still be covered by a platform's controls. There is no single safe margin that works for every app, placement and device, so test the destination as well as your editor.

Keep important faces, hands and words away from the extreme edges. For an initial layout, give text roughly a tenth of the frame width as breathing room and keep the lowest part of the frame clear of essential words. These are starting points, not platform specifications. A private or draft upload is the stronger check.

Accessibility also involves timing. A fast reader may follow a flashing title that another viewer misses. Watch once without sound, then listen once without looking. The silent pass tests whether captions and pictures carry the message. The listening pass reveals rushed cuts and music that hides words.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Reduce the preview to phone-like size or view a downloaded draft on your phone.
2. Check every caption line break and the smallest essential word.
3. Move text away from faces, hands and likely interface overlays.
4. Watch once muted, then listen once without watching.
5. Use a private destination preview where available to inspect real overlays before publishing.

A prompt you can adapt

Review this vertical edit for phone readability. Check caption size, contrast, line breaks, edges and anything covering the product. Suggest specific timeline fixes. Do not claim a universal safe area for every social app.

Your turn

Ask someone to watch the draft once without pausing. Have them repeat the benefit and limitation. If they miss one, adjust the layout or duration and test again.

Check your work

Both the benefit and limitation remain understandable in one normal-speed viewing.

A common trap

Shrinking captions to fit a long line often solves the layout while breaking readability. Rewrite line breaks or split the caption instead.

Knowledge check

Why test a draft in its destination app?

- A. To guarantee more views.
- B. To see the real interface overlays and playback presentation.
- C. To make the source footage higher resolution.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

05 Shape the sound

05.01 Make the voice comfortable first

Outcome Balance and clean speech before adding music or effects.

Suggested study and practice time 25 minutes

A viewer may tolerate a slightly plain picture while learning something useful. A voice that is painful, muffled or buried is much harder to follow. Start with the original recording and headphones at a comfortable level. Listen for room noise, sudden level changes and distortion.

Lowering the volume of a distorted recording does not undo the distortion. Noise reduction can soften steady background noise, but too much may make a voice watery or metallic. Compression reduces the difference between louder and quieter moments; it is not a cure for every recording problem. Make one modest adjustment and compare it with the untreated version.

Select the intended clip before changing A/V or audio properties. If the voice and music were recorded together, ordinary clip volume changes both. Separating them perfectly is not something to assume. When a line is beyond repair, re-recording it in a quieter place may take less time and produce a better result than adding more processing.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Mute added music temporarily and listen to the main voice.
2. Select the speaking clip and open its A/V or audio properties.
3. Adjust obvious level differences so sentences are comfortable to hear.
4. If needed, apply a small amount of noise reduction and compare before and after.
5. Listen on headphones and a phone speaker. Re-record an unusable line if possible.

A prompt you can adapt

Inspect the voice in this clip and help make it easier to understand. Identify clipping or steady noise before changing settings. Use gentle processing, preserve a natural voice and tell me if the source cannot be repaired reliably.

Your turn

Record the same sentence near a fan and in a quiet corner. Try a gentle cleanup on the noisy take, then compare it with the quieter recording at similar listening levels.

Check your work

The voice is intelligible and natural. Your decision is based on listening, not on how many processing controls are enabled.

A common trap

Boosting everything until it sounds louder can introduce clipping or make noise more obvious.

Knowledge check

What should you try if noise reduction makes a voice metallic?

- A. Increase the processing further.
- B. Reduce it and compare with the original or re-record.
- C. Add a louder soundtrack.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

05.02 Choose music that supports the edit

Outcome Balance a music bed and use transitions in sound deliberately.

Suggested study and practice time 25 minutes

Music changes how a scene feels before a viewer understands the words. A bright, light rhythm can suit a friendly tech review. A dense vocal song can compete with the review because the listener is trying to follow two sets of words at once. Choose by the job the music must do, not just by whether you like the track.

Start with the voice at a comfortable level, then bring the music up from silence until it supports the pace. If the first sentence becomes harder to understand, the music is too prominent for that moment. Use fades to avoid abrupt starts and stops. Ducking lowers music while speech is present; check that it does not audibly pump between every word.

The included practice-bed.wav is an original thirty-second rhythm for this course. It is useful for practising levels and fades, not a promise that one track will suit every genre. You can also use music you own or are licensed to use. A recognisable commercial song is not automatically permitted because it is available online.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Import practice-bed.wav through the media library and place it on an audio track.
2. Trim it to the edit length and start it quietly under the voice.
3. Apply short fades at the opening and ending.
4. Use Duck under speech if available, or lower the bed manually during narration.
5. Listen to the quietest sentence and the ending. Adjust levels and fades before exporting.

A prompt you can adapt

Use my uploaded practice bed under the review. Keep the voice clearly in front, fade the bed in and out, and lower it during speech. Do not add a vocal song or new sound effects. Check the quietest spoken sentence.

Your turn

Make one mix with music too loud, then a second with the voice clearly leading. Compare at the same device volume. Write what became easier to hear.

Check your work

Every word is understandable, the music enters smoothly, and the ending sounds intentional.

A common trap

A louder mix can feel more exciting in a quick comparison. Match playback volume before deciding it is better.

Knowledge check

What is the purpose of ducking?

- A. Lower music during speech.
- B. Make the video vertical.
- C. Identify a song's copyright owner.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

05.03 Ask the agent to listen and verify what it reports

Outcome Use audio inspection for music, sounds and sung words without treating estimates as certainty.

Suggested study and practice time 25 minutes

Speech transcription and audio understanding answer different questions. A transcript asks what was said. Audio inspection can help describe sounds, locate energy changes or estimate a beat. Lyric listening asks about sung or rapped words. A failed speech transcript does not prove that a song has no vocals.

Give the agent a short range and a specific question. In this edition, source audio inspection normally begins with thirty seconds and supports explicitly selected excerpts up to two minutes. Results describe the inspected excerpt, not necessarily the final mix with every effect and track. Ask whether reported times are source, clip-local or timeline times before cutting on them.

Lyric phrases may include uncertainty and their timing may drift. Listen to the actual recording and keep unclear words unresolved until you can verify them. Sound descriptions cannot reliably establish the song title or artist. The agent can also fail or be unavailable; that should lead to a manual check, not a guessed soundtrack description.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Use sound-check.wav from the resource kit as a simple control.
2. Ask the agent to inspect the first ten seconds and describe the audible events.
3. Listen yourself: the file has two short tones beginning at two and six seconds.
4. For your own vocal music, request lyric listening and uncertainty explicitly.
5. Confirm words and edit points manually before turning the result into captions or cuts.

A prompt you can adapt

Listen to the actual audio from source 00:00 to 00:10. Report audible events and the inspected range, with uncertainty. Do not infer sounds from the picture. For sung material, use lyric listening and mark unclear words instead of filling them from memory.

Your turn

Inspect the two-tone control and compare the report with what you hear. Then record or use an original sung phrase and test lyric listening. If unavailable, annotate it yourself and continue.

Check your work

You distinguish measured timing, model description and your own listening. You do not treat estimated lyric phrases as word-perfect karaoke captions.

A common trap

“The model says it is rain” is not proof of sound identity. Check the recording, especially when extra events appear in silent sections.

Knowledge check

Does failed speech transcription prove a clip has no singing?

- A. Yes.
- B. No; use lyric listening and listen to the source.
- C. Only if the video is vertical.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

06 Polish the picture with purpose

06.01 Reframe the subject before adding effects

Outcome Choose fit, crop and position to protect the information in each shot.

Suggested study and practice time 20 minutes

Turning a landscape recording into a vertical video is a composition decision. A centre crop may keep the face but remove the hands demonstrating a product. Before choosing automatic reframing, decide what must remain visible in each moment.

Select the visual clip and adjust its scale and position in Motion or the corresponding properties area. Move the playhead through the shot. A crop that works on the first frame can fail when the subject leans sideways. If you cannot keep both the face and the demonstration, consider a supporting close-up, a wider fitted view or a different source shot.

Digital enlargement uses the pixels already available. A 4K export does not turn a badly focused small crop into genuine 4K detail. Judge the result at its intended viewing size. Prefer a slightly wider clean image to a close-up that makes the product impossible to inspect.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Choose the final aspect ratio in Project Settings.
2. Select the clip and identify the essential subject and action.
3. Adjust scale and position without hiding hands, labels or the product feature.
4. Check the start, middle, end and any large subject movement.
5. Use another shot or a fitted layout if cropping removes essential evidence.

A prompt you can adapt

Reframe this review for 9:16. Keep my face and the lamp demonstration visible. Inspect the moments where my hands move. If a crop loses the feature, suggest a wider layout or a cutaway instead of zooming further.

Your turn

Crop lamp-wide.png into a vertical frame, then compare it with a fitted version. Identify which choice better shows the lamp's footprint.

Check your work

The intended feature is visible throughout its explanation, with no accidental head or hand cuts.

A common trap

A frame that looks good while paused may fail during movement. Check the whole action.

Knowledge check

What does exporting a blurry crop at 4K guarantee?

- A. New optical detail.
- B. A larger output frame, not recovered source detail.
- C. Perfect focus.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

06.02 Add keyframes when the story needs movement

Outcome Create one controlled move and explain why it belongs there.

Suggested study and practice time 25 minutes

A keyframe records a property value at a particular time. Put a normal scale at the start of a moment and a slightly larger scale later, and the editor can move between them. The point is to guide attention, not to prove that you found the animation controls.

For a review, a small push towards the product can underline a useful detail. For a tutorial, a brief zoom can help someone read a control. For a quiet interview, holding the frame may be the stronger choice. Movement feels more natural when its beginning and ending are gentle rather than mechanically abrupt.

Try a small change first. Moving from 100 percent to roughly 108 percent over two seconds is an exercise starting point, not a universal recipe. Check the frame edges and source sharpness. If the editor uses a different scale unit, ask for an eight-percent relative enlargement. Preserve the subject's position so the move does not drift away from the detail.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Choose a two-second moment with a clear visual reason to move.
2. Select the clip and open Motion or its keyframe controls.
3. Set the starting scale and position at the beginning of the moment.
4. Add a later keyframe with a small enlargement and adjust the end position if needed.
5. Apply gentle easing where available, then play the move and compare with a still version.

A prompt you can adapt

Add one gentle two-second push-in while I show the lamp switch. Enlarge by about eight percent relative to the current framing, keep the switch visible and use smooth easing. Leave other shots still.

Your turn

Create one push-in and one version with no move. Ask which version makes the feature easier to notice, and remove the motion if it adds no value.

Check your work

The movement supports the exact demonstration and has no sudden jump or unwanted crop.

A common trap

Adding a zoom to every sentence makes all moments feel equally important and can cause visual fatigue.

Knowledge check

What does a keyframe store?

- A. A property value at a specific time.
- B. An automatic promise of smooth video.
- C. The rights to a soundtrack.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

06.03 Correct colour before choosing a look

Outcome Make adjacent shots feel consistent without damaging skin or product colour.

Suggested study and practice time 25 minutes

Colour correction makes shots believable and compatible. A creative look adds a mood. Start with correction: can you see detail in the bright lamp shade, are shadows readable, and does a neutral object look strangely green or blue? Work on one representative shot before copying adjustments widely.

Open Color on the selected clip and make small changes. Compare neighbouring shots rather than grading each one in isolation. A warm lamp and a window-lit desk may naturally look different; matching them does not mean forcing every pixel to the same colour. Preserve the intended lighting while avoiding distracting jumps.

Be careful with skin. A global hue change moves skin and product colours along with the background. Do not brighten every face to one fixed target. People have different skin tones, and the surrounding scene matters. Use your eyes, available scopes and before-and-after comparisons. If a strong preset makes the lamp colour or skin implausible, reduce its influence or remove it.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Select one representative shot and inspect bright and dark detail.
2. Correct obvious brightness or colour imbalance using small changes.
3. Compare the next shot at the cut and adjust distracting differences.
4. Try a restrained look only after the correction works.
5. Toggle the treatment and inspect skin, neutral objects and the actual product colour.

A prompt you can adapt

Make these two shots feel consistent while preserving the warm desk light. Keep skin natural and avoid rotating every hue. Protect detail in the bright shade. Make small corrections first, then show me the comparison before adding a stronger look.

Your turn

Apply a strong preset, note what happens to a neutral surface and the product, then reduce or replace it. Explain the version you choose.

Check your work

Shots feel related, key detail remains visible, and the grade does not misrepresent the product.

A common trap

Choosing the most dramatic preset in isolation can create inconsistent shots or unnatural skin.

Knowledge check

What should usually come first?

- A. A strong creative look.
- B. Basic correction and shot consistency.
- C. Maximum saturation on every clip.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

07 Generate media when it helps

07.01 Decide whether a new asset is needed

Outcome Choose between filming, existing media, stock and generation.

Suggested study and practice time 25 minutes

A missing shot does not always need an AI generation. If you need to show the real lamp switching on, filming the real switch gives more trustworthy evidence. If you need an abstract illustration of a late-night idea, a generated image may be appropriate.

Write the job of the missing asset before opening Generate. Describe the subject, action, framing, lighting and intended placement. Ask for one useful asset first. Large batches can consume credits before you know whether the direction works. Check the available provider, plan and price shown in your account; this course does not require paid generation to complete the main projects.

Generated media can invent lettering, change a product feature or create continuity problems. Inspect it before importing it into the final sequence. Do not present a generated demonstration as proof of a real product's performance. When generation is unavailable, use the included illustrations, a simple title card or another shot you can record yourself.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Identify the exact gap in your story and write the job of the missing shot.
2. Decide whether real footage is necessary to support the claim.
3. If generation fits, open AI Generate and choose image or video.
4. Review the displayed cost and settings; request a single short or still asset first.
5. Inspect the result, then add it to the timeline only if it serves the brief.

A prompt you can adapt

Create one illustration of a quiet desk at night, with open space on the left for my own title. Warm light, simple composition, no text or logos. This is a concept illustration, not a photograph of the product I am reviewing.

Your turn

List three missing shots for your project. Mark each “film”, “reuse” or “generate”, and explain the choice. Complete one with the lowest-cost suitable method.

Check your work

Every new asset has a defined purpose, and evidence about real products still comes from real material.

A common trap

Generating a better-looking product image can accidentally show features the product does not have.

Knowledge check

Which shot most needs real evidence?

- A. An abstract background for a title.
- B. A demonstration that a specific charger powers a phone.
- C. A fictional orange robot in a story.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

07.02 Keep a character or product recognisable

Outcome Use optional references and a continuity checklist across generated shots.

Suggested study and practice time 30 minutes

Consistency is a choice. A mood montage may need varied subjects; a three-shot story about one robot needs a recognisable robot. Decide before generating. A text-only request remains a valid way to create a fresh subject.

For a continuing character, prepare a clean reference image and a short description of the features that must stay. Our original reference is an orange desk robot with a round head, dark face panel, two pale eyes and a small antenna. Keep that description stable while changing only the action or camera view between shots.

Use Character / product reference in Generate when the selected provider supports it. In this edition, reference-led image and video generation uses Grok; current controls impose limits that differ by media type. Video references are limited to the supported resolution shown in the interface, currently up to 720p. Reference similarity is guidance, not an identity guarantee. Check colour, face, proportions, accessories and background continuity in each result. There is no saved character library to assume; keep your own reference file and brief.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Choose whether this story actually needs the same subject across shots.
2. Attach resources/robot-reference.png using Character / product reference in Generate.
3. Write the character's fixed features and the action for shot one.
4. Reuse the same reference and fixed features for the next shot; change only the action or framing.
5. Compare results side by side. Reject visible drift before building the sequence.

A prompt you can adapt

Use the attached orange robot as the same fictional character. Preserve the round head, dark face panel, two pale eyes and antenna. In this shot it notices a desk lamp. Keep the design simple and do not add lettering. Use the reference only because this story needs continuity.

Your turn

Plan three shots: the robot notices the lamp, reaches towards it, and sits in the warm light. Generate one if your account allows it, or use the original reference as a still and practise framing. Fill in the continuity checklist for each shot.

Check your work

You can name what stayed consistent and what drifted. You do not claim that all generated shots are identical.

A common trap

A style reference attached in chat does not automatically become a generation identity reference.

Knowledge check

When should character consistency be required?

- A. In every generated image.
- B. When the story needs a continuing recognisable subject.
- C. Only when no reference exists.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

07.03 Use generated voice and music thoughtfully

Outcome Plan original narration or music and evaluate the actual result.

Suggested study and practice time 25 minutes

Generated narration can help when you cannot record a voice, but the script still needs to sound like a person. Read it aloud before generating. Short sentences and concrete words usually survive better than a paragraph packed with slogans. Use the same available voice selection across a series when continuity matters.

For music, describe the role: a light instrumental bed under speech, a sparse reflective opening, or a short energetic ending. If a generation option supports vocals, say whether you want original lyrics or an instrumental. Do not assume a successful generation request produced the requested words; listen to the output.

Avoid imitating a real person without appropriate permission. Check the terms that apply to any generated or licensed asset before commercial distribution. Keep a copy of your prompt, selected settings and asset origin. If generation is unavailable or outside your budget, record your own narration and use the supplied practice bed. The editing skills are the same.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Write a narration of roughly 40 to 60 words for a short demonstration and read it aloud.
2. Use the available voiceover generation control, or record your own voice.
3. Listen for incorrect names, odd pauses and an unnatural pace.
4. For an optional music generation, request a clear mood, duration and instrumental or vocal intent.
5. Import the accepted assets, balance them against each other and verify any words by listening.

A prompt you can adapt

Create an original, light instrumental bed for a friendly desk-product demonstration. Leave room for narration, avoid vocals and a huge dramatic ending. I will review the actual audio before using it.

Your turn

Read the supplied lamp narration naturally and time it. If it runs long, remove one idea instead of rushing every word. Use recorded or generated narration and compare it with the silent version.

Check your work

The narration fits the available time without sounding hurried, and the soundtrack supports rather than competes with it.

A common trap

Asking for a famous singer's voice or assuming generated lyrics are accurate creates avoidable problems.

Knowledge check

What proves that generated audio contains the intended words?

- A. The original prompt.
- B. Listening to the output and checking it.
- C. The filename.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

08 Adapt the workflow to your niche

08.01 Turn a conversation into a complete short clip

Outcome Select a podcast moment that remains fair and understandable outside the full conversation.

Suggested study and practice time 30 minutes

A good podcast clip is a small complete thought. It gives enough context, makes a point and reaches a payoff. Starting on an exciting phrase can fail if the phrase depends on a question the viewer never heard.

Use the original podcast script in the resource kit or a conversation you have permission to edit. Listen for the claim and the qualification. Our example says that a simple filming routine helps consistency, while acknowledging that some projects need more preparation. Keep that qualification if removing it would change the advice.

In a two-person recording, frame the relevant speaker without cutting away so quickly that reactions become distracting. Captions should identify the words, while a short opening title can state the topic. Avoid generated reaction shots presented as real responses. A pause, a nod or a slight hold can carry useful meaning.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Find a 30 to 45 second segment containing one complete point.
2. Retain the question or add a truthful short context title when needed.
3. Trim repetition while preserving qualifications and natural turns.
4. Frame the active speaker and add corrected captions.
5. Watch as if you have never heard the original episode.

A prompt you can adapt

Make a standalone podcast clip about keeping a simple filming routine. Preserve the speaker's qualification about projects that need preparation. Keep enough context to understand the advice, caption the actual words and avoid invented reactions.

Your turn

Record both parts of the supplied conversation yourself or with a consenting partner. Make a 30 to 45 second edit and ask a new viewer what advice they understood.

Check your work

The viewer can summarise the point, and the speaker would recognise the meaning of their original answer.

A common trap

Removing every qualifier can make a thoughtful opinion look like an absolute claim.

Knowledge check

What should you protect when shortening an interview?

- A. Only the funniest word.
- B. The speaker's meaning and necessary context.
- C. Every pause regardless of length.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

08.02 Make a tutorial someone can follow

Outcome Show a task in the order a beginner needs and hold important actions long enough.

Suggested study and practice time 30 minutes

A tutorial succeeds when someone can do the task after watching. It may need a slower pace than a social montage. Start by showing the finished result, then explain the small number of steps needed to reach it.

For the small-business project, film how to wrap a notebook as a simple gift. This avoids private customer information and lets you demonstrate a practical process with ordinary objects. Show the paper, the fold and the final presentation. Keep the action in frame; your face is optional when the hands teach the task.

Use numbered step titles and narration that matches the current action. Do not cut from a half-completed fold directly to the finished object if that missing movement is what the learner needs. A small zoom can clarify a detail, but a sudden transition can hide it. Replay the tutorial with the question “Could I copy this without guessing?”

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Film the finished object and three clear steps from a stable position.
2. Arrange a quick result preview followed by the steps in order.
3. Remove waiting time, but keep the essential hand movements.
4. Add short numbered titles and captions for any spoken instructions.
5. End on the finished object and one honest next step, such as trying it with a different paper.

A prompt you can adapt

Make a 45-second beginner tutorial from my notebook-wrapping footage. Show the finished result first, then three numbered steps. Keep the hand movements needed to follow each fold. Use simple text and hold the final result for a moment.

Your turn

Give your edit to someone who has not seen the recording. Ask them to describe or repeat the steps. Note the first place they need clarification and revise it.

Check your work

The task can be followed in order, with no essential action hidden by a cut or title.

A common trap

Fast editing is not automatically helpful teaching. A missing step costs the viewer more time than a slightly longer shot.

Knowledge check

Which part should a tutorial retain?

- A. An essential movement that explains the step.
- B. Every second of setup.
- C. A transition over the hardest detail.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

08.03 Build a short visual story

Outcome Create a beginning, change and payoff using images, footage or optional generated shots.

Suggested study and practice time 30 minutes

A story needs a change. Three attractive images become more interesting when the first establishes a situation, the second changes it and the third shows the result. Our fictional robot begins at a dim desk, discovers a lamp and ends in a warmer working space.

You can tell this story with the included stills and reframing, with your own filmed object, or with optional generated shots. The core assignment does not depend on generation. Plan the sequence first so you know what each shot contributes.

Sound can make the change clearer. Start quietly, introduce a small sound when the lamp turns on, and let the ending breathe. If you add a switch sound that was not in the recording, treat it as designed sound rather than claiming it was captured live. Keep on-screen words sparse; a visual story can often work with only an opening or ending line.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Write the situation, change and result in one sentence each.
2. Choose three to five shots from your own material or the original course illustrations.
3. Build a 20 to 30 second sequence with a clear turning point.
4. Use one deliberate sound or music change at that turning point.
5. Check character or object continuity and show the ending long enough to register.

A prompt you can adapt

Build a 30-second fictional desk story: a quiet desk, discovery of the lamp, then a warm place to work. Use my supplied assets, one restrained musical change and minimal text. Keep the same robot only if it appears in more than one shot.

Your turn

Create two endings: a quick cut to black and a two-second hold on the result. Ask which ending makes the change clearer.

Check your work

A viewer can say what changed between the first and final shots, even with no narration.

A common trap

A montage of unrelated attractive shots may have atmosphere but no understandable change.

Knowledge check

What gives this short story its structure?

- A. A situation, a change and a result.
- B. Exactly one transition per shot.
- C. Maximum generated media.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

09 Export and recover confidently

09.01 Choose an export that fits the job

Outcome Distinguish frame shape, resolution and quality, then verify a finished file.

Suggested study and practice time 25 minutes

Aspect ratio describes the shape of the frame. Resolution describes its pixel dimensions. Quality settings affect how the result is encoded. These are related but different decisions. A high-quality setting does not automatically change a vertical project into a landscape one or recover lost source detail.

Use Project Settings for the intended frame shape and check the actual dimensions displayed in Export. For a vertical HD delivery, 1080 by 1920 is a useful target when your account and sources support it. A landscape HD delivery is 1920 by 1080. Free or limited accounts may export at a lower resolution and include Vidmoat branding. Use the available output for learning rather than treating an upgrade as a course requirement.

Start with a draft to check the edit cheaply and quickly. For delivery, MP4 is a practical option when offered. Use a frame rate that suits the source and destination; changing 30 fps footage to 60 fps does not create genuine captured motion. Watch the downloaded file all the way through. The timeline preview is not the final delivery check.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Confirm the intended shape in Project Settings.
2. Open Export and read the actual output dimensions and any plan restriction.
3. Choose MP4 and suitable frame rate and quality settings where available.
4. Render one draft, review it, then produce the required final version.
5. Download and play the final file, checking the start, joins, captions, sound and ending.

A prompt you can adapt

Prepare an MP4 for vertical phone viewing. Check the current canvas and permitted output dimensions, preserve the intended frame rate, and tell me about any branding or resolution limit before rendering. Do not start duplicate render jobs.

Your turn

Export your ten-second sequence first. Inspect the file dimensions and play it outside Vidmoat. Record the settings and one thing you checked.

Check your work

The actual file opens, has the expected shape and permitted dimensions, and plays correctly to the end.

A common trap

A successful render status does not prove the captions are readable or the final word is intact.

Knowledge check

Which number describes a vertical Full HD frame?

- A. 1920 by 1080.
- B. 1080 by 1920.
- C. 1080 by 1080.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

09.02 Diagnose the problem before repeating the request

Outcome Separate upload, preview, agent and render failures and take a focused next step.

Suggested study and practice time 20 minutes

“It is not working” can describe several different stages. An upload failure means the source may not be available. A preview failure may happen even when the source exists. An agent failure can leave a valid project unchanged. A render failure concerns producing the output file. Repeating the same prompt across all four does not diagnose any of them.

Start with the smallest check. Does the file appear in the library and finish uploading? Does a single clip play? Did the agent actually change the timeline? Does the export have a job reference or a specific error? Record the stage and the message before retrying.

On a phone, keep the app active while finishing an upload and check network stability. For an incompatible source, a compatible copy such as H.264 video with AAC audio in an MP4 container can be a useful troubleshooting option; keep the original. A retry should address a likely cause. Several simultaneous exports can add queue pressure without fixing the problem.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Name the failed stage: upload, preview, agent action or export.
2. Check the source upload and saved state before closing anything.
3. Test a short single-clip sequence to isolate the issue.
4. Use the visible Retry or recovery action once after addressing the cause.
5. If it persists, use Get help with the project, failed stage, time and error or job reference.

A prompt you can adapt

Diagnose this project before editing again. Check whether the source upload completed, whether the selected clip is available, whether the last agent run applied changes, and whether an export job already exists. Report the failing stage and the next useful step.

Your turn

Use the troubleshooting worksheet to describe a hypothetical case where the preview is black but the file is in the library. List two checks before deleting anything.

Check your work

You investigate clip placement, source availability and decode or preview errors, while preserving the original file and project.

A common trap

Deleting a project to fix one failed preview can destroy useful work without addressing the source problem.

Knowledge check

What should you do before starting another export?

- A. Check whether one is already queued or running and read its status.
- B. Click Export repeatedly.
- C. Delete the source.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

09.03 Review the final file like an editor

Outcome Perform a structured quality check and prepare the correct delivery.

Suggested study and practice time 25 minutes

The final review is where separate choices become one experience. Watch the file at normal speed without stopping. Write down the moments that distract you, then return to them. Constantly pausing during the first pass can hide pacing problems.

Use three passes. First, story: does the opening make sense and does the ending answer it? Second, picture and text: are important details visible, words correct and layouts readable? Third, sound: is the voice clear, are levels comfortable and does the ending finish cleanly? A final phone viewing catches problems that a large screen can disguise.

Save the file with a name that identifies the project, shape and revision. Keep the source project and a note of the settings. A share link and a downloaded file are different deliveries. Sharing publicly is a separate decision; check permissions and the destination before posting. For the course, a private file is enough.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Watch the downloaded file once without pausing and record distractions.
2. Check the hook, evidence, qualification and verdict.
3. Inspect captions, cropped details, blank frames and the final frame.
4. Listen to quiet words, music fades and transitions at comfortable volume.
5. Name the accepted file, save the settings and keep a copy with your project notes.

A prompt you can adapt

Review the saved edit for story clarity, text readability, framing and possible audio issues. Name any limitations of your review. I will also play the downloaded file myself before delivery.

Your turn

Review the tech project with the capstone rubric. Find at least one improvement, make it, and compare the final file with the previous version.

Check your work

The delivered file is the reviewed revision, not an earlier export with the same vague name.

A common trap

An AI review of sampled frames cannot prove continuous playback or the sound of the final mix.

Knowledge check

Which file should you deliver?

- A. The newest filename without watching it.
- B. The exact exported revision you reviewed and accepted.
- C. Any preview screenshot.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

10 Finish a portfolio project and keep improving

10.01 Build your capstone from a fresh brief

Outcome Complete a short video using the course workflow with less step-by-step help.

Suggested study and practice time 75 minutes

Your capstone is a chance to make decisions yourself. Choose a review, a podcast clip, a tutorial or a short visual story. A thirty to sixty second result is enough if it has a clear purpose and careful execution. Length is not evidence of skill.

Begin with a fresh brief and your own material or the original course assets. Plan the story before asking the agent to act. Save the first rough cut as a reference in your notes, then improve structure, captions, sound and picture in separate passes. You may use generation if it helps, but it earns no extra marks simply for being present.

The submission contains the final video, your brief and a short decision log. Explain two changes you made after reviewing the first pass and one AI result you checked manually. If you use the lamp illustrations, describe the piece as a concept demonstration. If your plan adds branding or limits resolution, state that; the rubric assesses your editing within the tools available.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Choose a project lane and complete the one-page brief.
2. Prepare sources, permissions and a short shot or scene list.
3. Build a rough cut, then revise structure before finishing details.
4. Export, review on a phone and score the result with the rubric.
5. Submit the video, brief, settings and decision log to your reviewer or your own portfolio folder.

A prompt you can adapt

Help me execute this capstone brief in stages. Start by checking the sources and proposing a rough structure. Keep the audience and non-negotiables visible. Pause after the rough cut so I can review before captions, sound and polish.

Your turn

Complete one 30 to 60 second capstone. Budget 60 to 90 minutes for editing and review, plus filming time if you need it.

Check your work

The submission has a clear viewer, a supported message, a complete ending and evidence of at least two purposeful revisions.

A common trap

Copying every instruction from a showcase without adapting it to your own source does not demonstrate judgement.

Knowledge check

What earns credit in the capstone?

- A. Purposeful decisions that improve the viewer's experience.
- B. Using every generation tool.
- C. The largest possible file.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

10.02 Give feedback someone can use

Outcome Evaluate a video against criteria and turn observations into revisions.

Suggested study and practice time 25 minutes

Useful feedback describes an effect on the viewer and points to a place in the edit. “At twelve seconds I could not read the second line before it disappeared” gives the editor something to fix. “I dislike that font” may be a preference, but it needs a connection to the brief to become useful guidance.

Review the video before reading the creator’s explanation. Write what you think it is trying to communicate. Then compare your interpretation with the brief. A mismatch may reveal an unclear opening, missing evidence or an ending that introduces a new idea too late.

Use the rubric consistently and separate required fixes from optional tastes. A missing negative word in a caption is an accuracy problem. Choosing a slightly warmer orange may be a preference. Give the creator room to solve the problem instead of prescribing every click. If you are studying alone, leave the edit for a while and return as a new viewer.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Watch once and write the message you understood.
2. Read the brief and score each rubric category using visible evidence.
3. Name one strength that should be preserved.
4. Give two timestamped fixes and explain their effect on understanding.
5. Have the creator revise and resubmit the affected sections.

A prompt you can adapt

Assess this edit against my brief. Give one strength and two specific improvements with timeline times. Separate factual or readability problems from personal taste. State what you could inspect and what needs human playback.

Your turn

Exchange projects with a peer, or review your own after a break. Use the format “At [time], I noticed [issue], which made [effect]. Try [direction].”

Check your work

The editor can act on the feedback, and your score is supported by something observable in the video.

A common trap

A numerical score without evidence does not explain how to improve.

Knowledge check

Which feedback is most useful?

- A. “Bad captions.”
- B. “At 00:12 the second line disappears before I can read it; hold or split it.”
- C. “Use my favourite style.”

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

10.03 Create a routine you can repeat

Outcome Build a reusable brief, review checklist and learning plan.

Suggested study and practice time 20 minutes

Finishing one video gives you a process you can repeat. Keep the parts that worked: a brief template, a small caption system, an export checklist and a folder of source files you are entitled to reuse. Keep prompts as starting points, not as commands that must fit every genre.

After publishing, look for evidence that matches the purpose of the video. A tutorial might be judged by whether people complete the task; a review by whether viewers understand the trade-off; a business clip by qualified enquiries. Views alone cannot tell you all of that. Use the analytics available on the destination and direct feedback, while remembering that a tiny sample can mislead.

Change one important thing at a time when comparing versions. A stronger opening, shorter explanation or clearer title is a useful experiment. Replacing the audience, soundtrack, length and format together makes it difficult to know why the result changed. Your next goal is three finished videos with deliberate improvements, not one endlessly polished draft.

Follow along in Vidmoat

1. Save your brief, prompt and final review checklist in one reusable folder.
2. Write a simple style note covering captions, titles, colour and sound.
3. Choose one meaningful outcome for the next video.
4. Plan three small videos with one improvement to test in each.
5. Keep a short log of source, decision, result and next change.

A prompt you can adapt

Turn the decisions that worked in this project into a reusable editing brief and review checklist. Keep them adaptable to other sources. Separate my style preferences from the facts that must be checked for each new video.

Your turn

Plan your next three videos. For each, name a viewer, a question, a source you already have and one skill to improve.

Check your work

You leave with a repeatable workflow: brief, prepare, rough cut, review, polish, export and learn.

A common trap

A template should reduce repetitive setup, not force every story into the same pace or layout.

Knowledge check

How do you make a comparison easier to interpret?

- A. Change every variable at once.
- B. Change one important element while keeping the purpose comparable.
- C. Judge only by your own favourite frame.

Answer explanations are in the answer key. Try before checking.

Project studios

These are guided editing plans. Record the supplied scripts or adapt them to your own truthful material. The illustrations are concept assets, not recordings of a real product test.

The honest desk product review

Target 30 seconds / Allow about 45 minutes after preparing sources

Help someone decide whether an everyday object fits their needs. Use the lamp script with your actual object, or label the supplied illustration version as a concept demonstration.

Sources to prepare

- One 45 to 60 second speaking take, recorded from the original script below.
- Three close-ups: the object on the desk, the useful detail, and the limitation.
- Optional practice-bed.wav. Use your own licensed alternative if it fits better.

Original recording script or story

This little lamp has stayed on my desk for one simple reason: it puts light where I need it. I can move the shade towards my notebook, and the base leaves room for my keyboard. The trade-off is that it lights a small area. If you want to brighten a whole room, this is not the job for it. For notes at a small desk, I like this kind of focused light.

Before the edit

A raw recording includes sitting down, a repeated opening, a demonstration and walking away. The viewer waits for the point; the lamp detail may be too small to see.

After the edit

Open on the useful reason, show the matching detail, retain the limitation and finish with a clear personal verdict. Captions carry the words; three emphasis phrases organise the ideas.

Target timeline map

Time	Purpose	Picture	Decision
00:00–00:03	Hook	Object or speaker	Start on a complete useful phrase; no setup.
00:03–00:10	Benefit	Lamp detail over narration	Show the shade or switch as it is discussed.
00:10–00:18	Evidence	Desk-wide shot	Show the footprint, with a brief Small desk title.
00:18–00:25	Limitation	Wider lighting view	Keep the qualification about a small lit area.
00:25–00:30	Verdict	Speaker or clean object shot	End on the personal use case and let the sound finish.

These are target allocations. Set exact edit boundaries from your own recording.

The honest desk product review

Build the project

1. Record the script naturally and only keep claims that match your real object. Change the script if your lamp does not move or its base is large. Leave setup at the start so you can practise removing it.
2. Import the main take and close-ups. Ask the agent for a source inventory, then request a rough cut around the benefit, limitation and verdict.
3. Watch the rough cut without music. Check that no word was clipped and that the qualification survived. If it runs long, remove repetition rather than accelerating the whole voice.
4. Place close-ups over the relevant words and mute unnecessary camera audio on those inserts. Add corrected captions after the main cuts settle.
5. Use one large emphasis title at a time: Focused light, Small desk, Small area. Keep the last phrase visibly honest rather than hiding it in tiny text.
6. Add a quiet music bed if it improves the result. Try one gentle push-in on the detail, then compare with no move. Export and run the three-pass review.

Starting prompt

Make a 30-second review from my real footage. Remove the recording setup and walk-away ending. Keep the focused-light benefit, show the desk footprint and preserve the small-area limitation. Use the supplied close-ups with continuous narration. Start with the rough cut only.

Review standard

Pass when the viewer can name both the benefit and limitation, the product stays visible, and the voice is clear. Do not deduct marks for plan branding or a permitted lower-resolution export.

Try another version

Make a second opening using only the close-up for the first two seconds. Keep the rest comparable and ask a viewer which opening sets a clearer expectation.

A podcast clip with its meaning intact

Target 30 to 45 seconds / Allow about 40 minutes after preparing sources

Extract a useful idea without making a speaker sound more certain than they were.

Sources to prepare

- Two short speaking parts recorded by you or consenting participants.
- A stable wide frame or separate speaker shots.
- Optional simple title card; music is not required.

Original recording script or story

HOST: What helped you stop putting off filming? GUEST: I stopped planning a different setup every time. I keep one small space ready and write the three points I want to explain. That makes it easier to start. It does not mean every video should be improvised. A product demonstration or a sensitive interview still needs preparation. But for a quick update, a repeatable routine helps me actually finish. HOST: So the routine removes the setup, not the thinking? GUEST: Exactly. I still choose what is worth saying.

Before the edit

A promising quote sits inside a longer exchange. A very aggressive cut removes the qualification and makes the advice sound like all preparation is unnecessary.

After the edit

The clip retains enough question or title context, the practical routine, the qualification and the memorable final distinction.

Target timeline map

Time	Purpose	Picture	Decision
00:00–00:04	Context	Question or topic title	Explain what problem is being answered.
00:04–00:15	Useful idea	Guest	Keep the ready space and three points.
00:15–00:29	Qualification	Guest or honest reaction	Retain the need for preparation on some projects.
00:29–00:40	Payoff	Question then answer	Routine removes setup, not thinking.

These are target allocations. Set exact edit boundaries from your own recording.

A podcast clip with its meaning intact

Build the project

1. Read the conversation aloud. Record it naturally, including the qualification. If recording both voices yourself, use a simple visual change to make the roles clear.
2. Import the footage and listen to the entire exchange. Write the point in one sentence before choosing the clip boundaries.
3. Cut repeated setup but preserve the connection between the advice and its limits. If you omit the host question, use a truthful title such as A simpler filming routine.
4. Reframe each speaker so the active person is clear. Avoid rapid swaps on every short interjection. Keep reactions only when they are real and useful.
5. Generate and correct captions. Read the advice again from the captions alone. Verify that the limitation remains just as clear as the main claim.
6. Export and ask someone who has not read the script what the speaker recommends. Compare their answer with the original meaning.

Starting prompt

Create a standalone podcast clip from this exchange. Keep the practical routine and the qualification that some projects need preparation. Preserve the final distinction between setup and thinking. Correct the captions against the audio and do not add fabricated reactions.

Review standard

Pass when a new viewer understands the advice and its limits. Reject a version that makes the guest say preparation is unnecessary.

Try another version

Produce a version with the question included and a version with a concise context title. Explain which one works better within the same time budget.

A small business tutorial worth saving

Target 45 seconds / Allow about 45 minutes after preparing sources

Teach a simple practical task clearly enough that a viewer can repeat it.

Sources to prepare

- A notebook, suitable paper and a small piece of tape or a reusable ribbon.
- Four recordings: finished result, placing the notebook, wrapping and folding, final securing.
- Your own spoken instructions or the original narration below.

Original recording script or story

Here is a simple way to wrap a notebook. First, place it face down in the middle of your paper and check that both sides overlap. Fold the long sides over the notebook and secure the join. Then fold one short end into neat flaps and repeat at the other end. Finish with a ribbon or a small piece of tape. Check that the notebook can sit flat, and your gift is ready.

Before the edit

The camera runs while paper is moved around and the presenter searches for tape. One important fold is partly hidden by a hand and needs a clearer angle.

After the edit

A brief result preview leads into three numbered steps. Waiting time is cut, the important folds remain visible and the ending shows the finished object.

Target timeline map

Time	Purpose	Picture	Decision
00:00–00:04	Result preview	Finished notebook	Show why the tutorial is useful.
00:04–00:14	Step 1	Top-down placing shot	Show the overlap check.
00:14–00:28	Step 2	Hands folding	Keep the essential movements; use a detail shot if needed.
00:28–00:38	Step 3	Securing and tidying	Show the final action clearly.
00:38–00:45	Result and invitation	Finished object	Hold the result; suggest trying a different paper.

These are target allocations. Set exact edit boundaries from your own recording.

A small business tutorial worth saving

Build the project

1. Record from a stable angle with your hands and the whole object visible. Avoid showing private order details or customer information.
2. Film the finished result separately, then the steps. If a hand blocks a fold, record a close-up rather than asking the edit to recover an unseen action.
3. Build the sequence using the result preview and three steps. Remove searching and waiting. Do not remove a movement that someone needs to copy.
4. Add short numbered titles: Position, Fold, Finish. Place them in open space and keep them consistent across the steps.
5. Match narration to the action. If the action takes longer, shorten the wording or give the shot more time rather than racing through it.
6. Ask someone to follow the finished edit. Revise the first unclear step and re-export the reviewed version.

Starting prompt

Make a 45-second tutorial from these notebook-wrapping shots. Show the result first, then Position, Fold and Finish. Cut waiting time while preserving the essential hand movements. Use readable numbered titles and keep the instructions aligned with the picture.

Review standard

Pass when a beginner can describe the sequence and identify each essential movement. The result should be achievable with the materials shown.

Try another version

Create a 15-second teaser that shows the result and one useful detail. Keep the complete 45-second tutorial as the teaching version.

A fictional desk story

Target 30 seconds / Allow about 40 minutes after preparing sources

Tell a simple visual change with stills or optional generated shots and one recurring subject.

Sources to prepare

- Original lamp-wide.png, lamp-detail.png, lamp-desk.png and robot-reference.png.
- Optional practice-bed.wav and your own permitted sound effect.
- Optional generated shots using the robot reference; still images are sufficient.

Original recording script or story

No narration is required. The story is: a quiet desk feels unfinished, a small robot notices the lamp, and the desk becomes a welcoming place to work. Optional ending text: A little light changes the evening.

Before the edit

The assets are separate pictures with no order, sound relationship or reason to move between them.

After the edit

The opening establishes the space, the middle points attention towards the lamp, and the final hold makes the warmer result clear.

Target timeline map

Time	Purpose	Picture	Decision
00:00–00:06	Situation	Wide desk	Let the viewer understand the space.
00:06–00:12	Attention	Robot or reframed reference	Direct attention towards the lamp.
00:12–00:18	Change	Lamp detail	Use the light change as the turning point.
00:18–00:26	Result	Warm desk	Let the music open slightly without overpowering.
00:26–00:30	Ending	Held result and optional text	Give the final idea time to settle.

These are target allocations. Set exact edit boundaries from your own recording.

A fictional desk story

Build the project

1. Choose the still-image route or optional generation route before starting. The still route can use framing and a few simple cuts to tell the same change.
2. Create the three-sentence story plan. Label any generated or illustrated version as fictional rather than presenting it as a filmed review.
3. For generated shots, reuse the same robot reference and fixed features. Compare the results for face, colour, proportions and antenna continuity.
4. Arrange the story with one clear turning point. Add a restrained move towards the lamp only if it helps direct attention.
5. Use the music bed quietly and shape the sound around the turning point. A designed switch sound is optional; do not pretend it came from the source.
6. Watch without text, then add only what is needed. Hold the final frame long enough for the viewer to understand the change.

Starting prompt

Make a 30-second fictional story using these original desk illustrations. Establish the quiet space, direct attention to the lamp and finish on a warmer desk. Use simple cuts, one purposeful move and minimal text. Do not generate new assets unless I ask.

Review standard

Pass when a viewer can describe the change and the same subject stays recognisable wherever it appears. Beautiful but unrelated shots do not meet the story goal.

Try another version

Make a calm and a more playful version by changing only the sound treatment and shot holds. Explain how those choices alter the feeling.

Capstone assessment

Submit your final 30 to 60 second video, a brief, export settings and a decision log. Use the criteria below for self-review or peer review. A reviewer can apply the scoring guide in the instructor materials.

Criterion	Weight	What to look for
Story and audience	20	The viewer and question are clear; the sequence reaches a useful ending.
Meaning and evidence	20	Claims, quotations and demonstrations remain accurate.
Pacing and continuity	15	Cuts preserve natural speech and essential action.
Text and accessibility	15	Captions and titles are correct and readable on a phone.
Sound	15	Voice and supporting sound are comfortable and intentional.
Picture and delivery	15	Framing, colour and the final file support the brief.

Score each criterion from 0 to 4, then multiply by its weight divided by 4. Four means strong; three means mostly strong; two means developing; one means major work is needed; zero means missing or unusable. Suggested completion: 70 out of 100, every category above zero and no unresolved misleading claim, privacy issue or essential speech/caption error. Plan branding and permitted resolution limits do not reduce the score.

Story and audience

Strong Clear purpose, supporting structure and a complete payoff.

Developing Purpose exists but one section is confusing or redundant.

Needs revision The viewer cannot identify the message or the ending does not answer it.

Meaning and evidence

Strong Claims are supported; qualifications and important words survive.

Developing Minor ambiguity needs correction without changing the whole story.

Needs revision A misleading cut, false claim or incorrect critical caption changes the meaning.

Pacing and continuity

Strong Clean joins, purposeful holds and no unintended gaps.

Developing Some rushed or slow moments, but the sequence remains followable.

Needs revision Missing action, clipped words or gaps prevent understanding.

Text and accessibility

Strong Clear hierarchy, comfortable reading time and useful contrast.

Developing A few crowded or brief captions need revision.

Needs revision Essential text is missing, unreadable or covers the demonstration.

Sound

Strong Clear speech, controlled music and smooth starts and endings.

Developing Occasional imbalance, but words are understandable.

Needs revision Important speech is buried, distorted or cut off.

Picture and delivery

Strong Important detail stays visible and the reviewed file plays correctly.

Developing Minor framing or delivery issues need a final fix.

Needs revision The wrong revision, failed playback or lost essential detail prevents use.

A worked scoring example

Here is an illustrative scoring example, not a result from a real student. A creator submits a 35-second notebook-wrapping tutorial. The opening shows the result, the steps are in the right order and the final file plays correctly. The second step is a little rushed, two captions are crowded and the music briefly rises above a quiet word. No claim or instruction is misleading.

The reviewer gives story 3 out of 4, meaning 4, pacing 3, text 2, sound 3 and delivery 4. The weighted scores are 15, 20, 11.25, 7.5, 11.25 and 15, for a total of 80. The work meets the suggested score threshold, but the reviewer still identifies useful revisions. A passing score means the learner demonstrated the core skill; it does not mean every detail is perfect.

Useful feedback would say: “At 00:16, the fold happens before I can see where the corner goes. Hold the close-up a little longer. At 00:22, split the two-line caption into shorter phrases. Keep the result preview because it makes the task clear.” The creator can then fix those moments without rebuilding the whole edit.

Now change the scenario: imagine the caption drops a crucial negative word and reverses a safety instruction. That is an essential accuracy problem, so the work needs correction even if the total score elsewhere is high. Do not average away an error that changes what the viewer is being told.

For your own review, write the evidence before the score. Record the exact exported revision you watched, then list one strength to preserve and two timestamped improvements. After revision, check the affected moments and the whole final file again. If you disagree with a peer's preference, return to the brief and the viewer's needs. The purpose of assessment is to improve the work, not to make every creator choose the same style.

Answer key

01.01 Choose one person and one useful outcome

B. Show a student how this lamp fits a small desk in 30 seconds.

The second brief defines the viewer, the evidence and the time available. It still leaves room for creative choices.

01.02 Find your way around Vidmoat

A. Whether it was added to the timeline.

Library storage does not automatically mean an asset appears in the sequence. Check the timeline before changing export settings.

01.03 Make your first ten second edit

B. You played the whole sequence and checked every join.

Completion is something you verify in the saved edit and playback, not only in a chat response.

02.01 Turn a vague request into an editing brief

A. Confirm that the edit tells the right story.

Structure determines what viewers understand. Styling is more useful once the selected material works.

02.02 Use a style reference without copying everything

B. Through Add footage or the media library.

Style references guide decisions. Timeline source material must be available as footage.

02.03 Revise one thing and protect the rest

B. "Timeline 00:06, the Small desk title."

The timeline location and a named element identify the target even after earlier material has been cut.

03.01 Choose a hook that the footage earns

B. "The light I use for late-night notes."

A description of the demonstrated use avoids inventing comparative or scientific evidence.

03.02 Trim setup and dead time without chopping speech

B. The gap, the word boundaries and playback across the join.

The deletion can be technically successful while leaving an empty space or an unnatural speech boundary.

03.03 Use supporting shots to show the point

A. It illustrates the idea being discussed.

Its job is to help the viewer understand or believe the point, regardless of how it was made.

04.01 Check the transcript before styling captions

B. Correct it against the recording and check the visible caption.

A small transcription error can reverse the claim. Verify the final displayed text, not just the transcript.

04.02 Separate captions from emphasis titles

A. The captions.

Emphasis can summarise an idea, but captions should preserve the spoken content.

04.03 Make a vertical layout survive a phone screen

B. To see the real interface overlays and playback presentation.

The destination can crop or cover parts of the frame differently from the editing preview.

05.01 Make the voice comfortable first

B. Reduce it and compare with the original or re-record.

Processing has trade-offs. A quieter recording can be a better solution than aggressive cleanup.

05.02 Choose music that supports the edit

A. Lower music during speech.

Ducking creates room for the voice. It does not establish music rights or repair a poor source.

05.03 Ask the agent to listen and verify what it reports

B. No; use lyric listening and listen to the source.

Music and singing can fail a speech-focused path. Absence of a transcript is not evidence of silence.

06.01 Reframe the subject before adding effects

B. A larger output frame, not recovered source detail.

Output dimensions and captured detail are different. Upscaling cannot guarantee recovery of information that was never recorded.

06.02 Add keyframes when the story needs movement

A. A property value at a specific time.

Animation comes from how property values change between times. You still need to judge the movement.

06.03 Correct colour before choosing a look

B. Basic correction and shot consistency.

A consistent base makes later creative choices easier to control.

07.01 Decide whether a new asset is needed

B. A demonstration that a specific charger powers a phone.

A performance claim should be supported by an actual demonstration, not a generated substitute.

07.02 Keep a character or product recognisable

B. When the story needs a continuing recognisable subject.

Consistency serves the story. It is optional for work that benefits from different subjects.

07.03 Use generated voice and music thoughtfully

B. Listening to the output and checking it.

A prompt describes intent. The produced audio is what viewers will actually hear.

08.01 Turn a conversation into a complete short clip

B. The speaker's meaning and necessary context.

You may shorten delivery, but the resulting claim must remain faithful to the conversation.

08.02 Make a tutorial someone can follow

A. An essential movement that explains the step.

Remove waiting, not the evidence someone needs to reproduce the action.

08.03 Build a short visual story

A. A situation, a change and a result.

A clear change gives the sequence direction. Visual polish then supports that structure.

09.01 Choose an export that fits the job

B. 1080 by 1920.

The taller dimension comes second: width by height. Check the dimensions, not just a preset label.

09.02 Diagnose the problem before repeating the request

A. Check whether one is already queued or running and read its status.

A duplicate job spends resources and may add delay. Check the existing job first.

09.03 Review the final file like an editor

B. The exact exported revision you reviewed and accepted.

Version control at delivery prevents a good edit from being replaced by an older or unchecked file.

10.01 Build your capstone from a fresh brief

A. Purposeful decisions that improve the viewer's experience.

The assessment rewards communication, accuracy and craft, not spending or feature count.

10.02 Give feedback someone can use

B. "At 00:12 the second line disappears before I can read it; hold or split it."

It identifies the location, the viewer problem and a practical direction without dictating every detail.

10.03 Create a routine you can repeat

B. Change one important element while keeping the purpose comparable.

A focused change gives you a clearer reason for any difference, although small audience samples still need caution.

Editing glossary

Term	Meaning
Aspect ratio	The shape of a frame, written as width to height, such as 9:16.
Asset	A source item such as a video, image, audio recording or generated file.
B-roll	Supporting pictures shown alongside the main story or narration.
Caption	On-screen text representing speech or relevant audio information.
Clip	A timeline item that uses all or part of a source asset.
Colour correction	Adjusting a shot to improve balance, detail and consistency.
Crop	Removing outer parts of an image from the visible frame.
Cut	An immediate change from one shot to the next; also the act of dividing or removing material.
Ducking	Lowering a music or background track while speech is present.
Easing	Changing how a movement accelerates or slows between keyframes.
Export	Producing a playable output file from the edited project.
Frame rate	The number of frames displayed per second, commonly written as fps.
Hook	The opening reason for a viewer to keep watching.
Keyframe	A property value stored at a particular point in time.
Library	The place where available source media is listed.
Rough cut	An early sequence focused on structure before finishing details.
Source time	A location in the original recording before timeline edits.
Timeline time	A location in the edited sequence.
Track	A timeline layer holding video, images, text or audio.
Transcript	A text representation of spoken words, sometimes with timing.
Trim	Changing the beginning or ending of a clip.
Voiceover	Narration heard over pictures, whether recorded or generated.

Visual field guide

These original layout studies show editing decisions. They are teaching illustrations, not screenshots or proof of a completed Vidmoat render.

Give text different jobs

TEXT THAT HELPS THE PICTURE

Give each layer a clear job

BEFORE



One emphasis title
One caption line
Product stays visible

AFTER



Original layout study. These are teaching illustrations, not captured Vidmoat output.

The first layout covers the useful detail with competing headlines. In the second, the emphasis title names the idea while the caption carries speech. The product stays visible. Use this comparison for Lesson 04.02, then check your own layout at phone size.

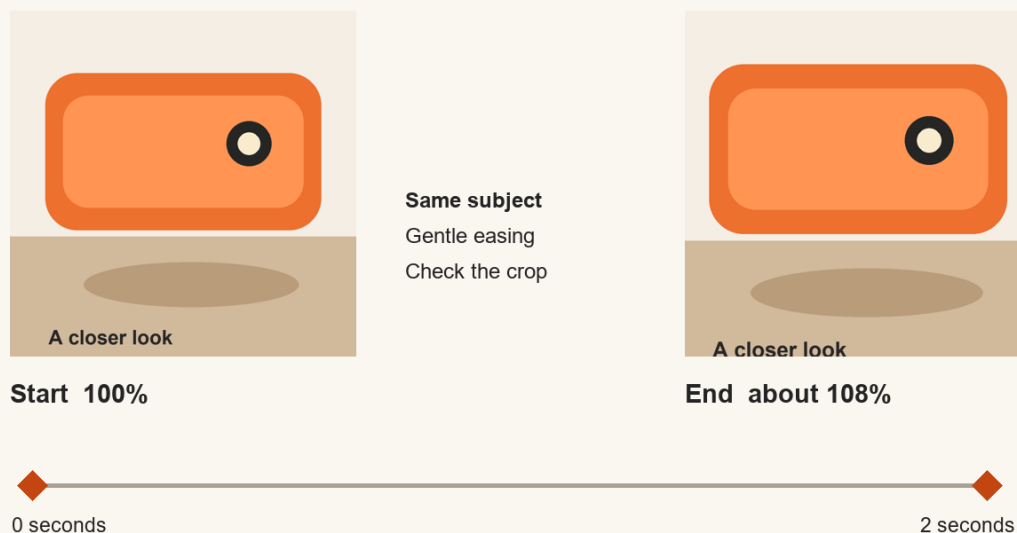
Try it with your footage

Pause on the frame with the most important action. Identify any words covering that action. Keep the necessary speech caption, shorten the emphasis phrase and move it into open space. Compare both versions during playback, not only as stills.

Move towards the point

MOTION WITH A REASON

A small push towards the detail



Concept diagram. Values are a practice starting point; use the scale units in your editor.

A keyframe stores a value at a time. Here, the starting scale is 100 percent and the ending view is about eight percent closer after two seconds. This is a conceptual crop comparison, not a mandatory preset. Use Lesson 06.02 to create the move in your current editor.

Three things to inspect

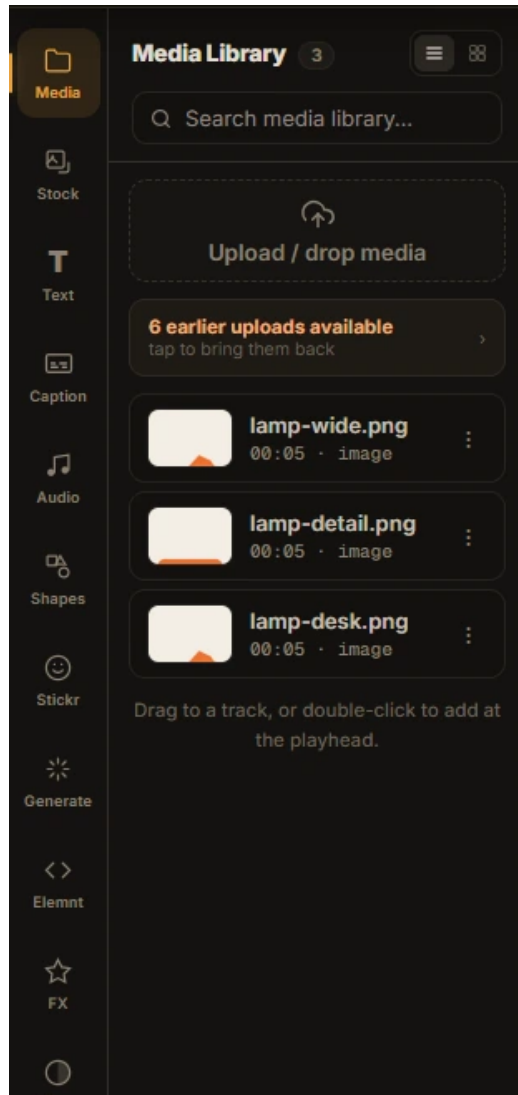
- The detail remains visible from the start to the end of the move.
- The movement begins and ends gently rather than jumping.
- The enlarged source remains clear enough at the intended output size.

If the still version communicates the detail better, keep it still. Choosing not to animate is also an editing decision.

Editor walkthrough: From a file to your first timeline clip

Real Vidmoat web editor captures, September 2026. Phone views show the responsive browser editor. Interactive steps and larger images are available in the course resources.

1 / 3 Start in the Media library



Choose Upload / drop media and select the three lamp images from the practice pack. A source in the library is available to use; it is not yet part of the finished video.

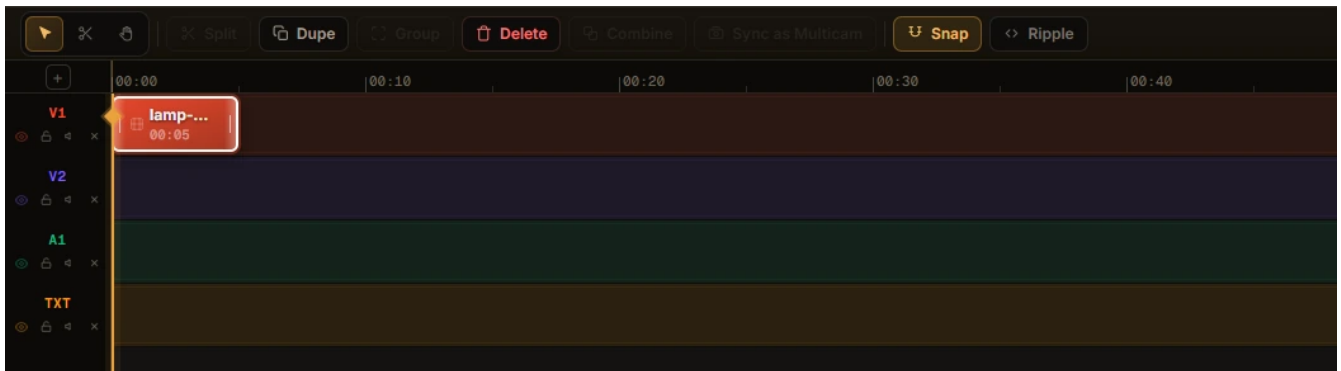
Look for this

Find the upload area, then the three source cards.

Related lessons: 01.02, 01.03, 03.01, 03.02, 03.03

From a file to your first timeline clip

2 / 3 Place a source on the timeline



Double-click lamp-wide.png in the library. In this captured example, it becomes a five-second clip on V1. Select the clip before changing its properties.

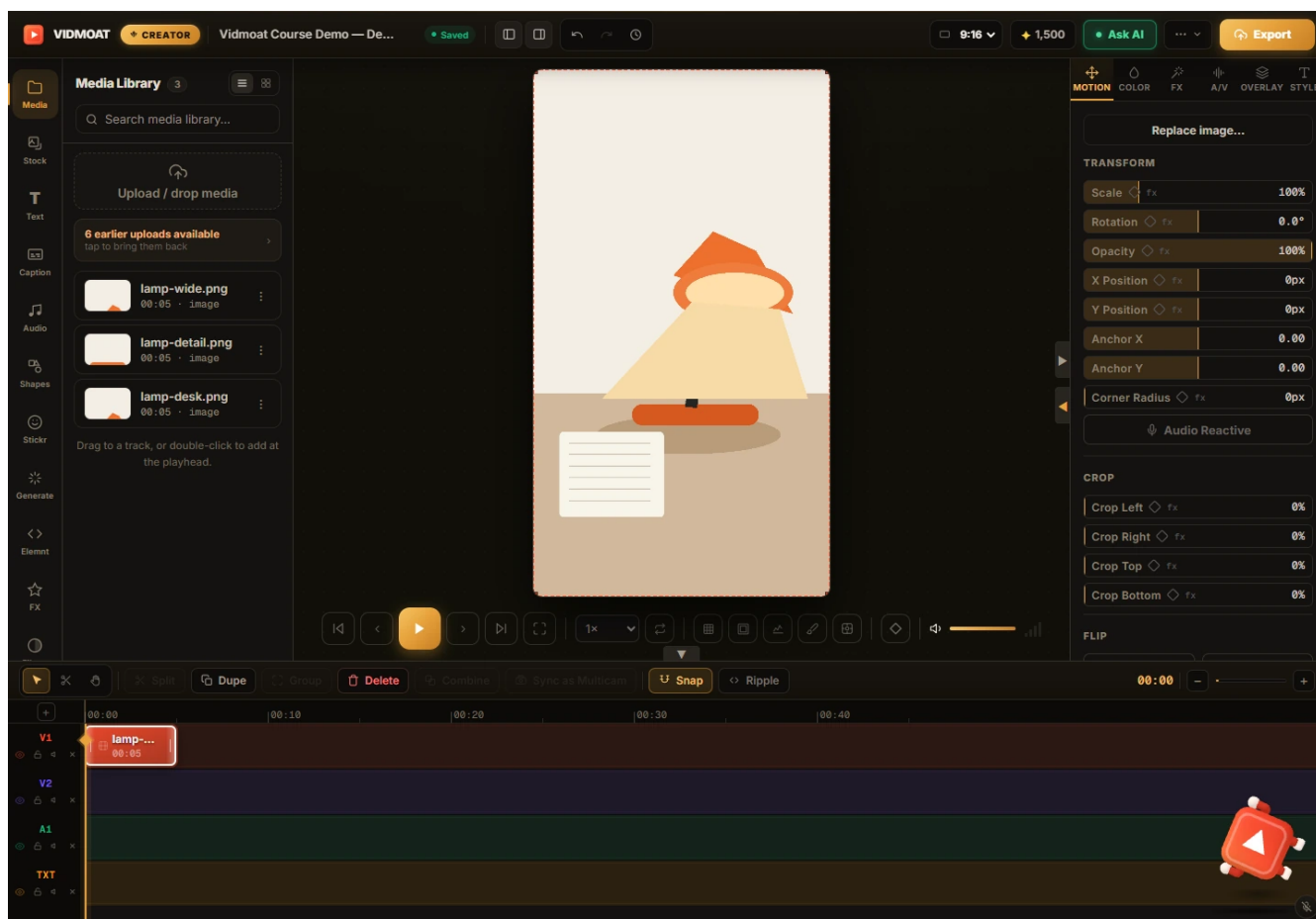
Look for this

Look for the outlined clip on V1. The ruler above it is time.

Related lessons: 01.02, 01.03, 03.01, 03.02, 03.03

From a file to your first timeline clip

3 / 3 Read the whole workspace



The library is on the left, the picture in the middle, and the selected clip's Motion controls on the right. The timeline below decides what appears and when.

Look for this

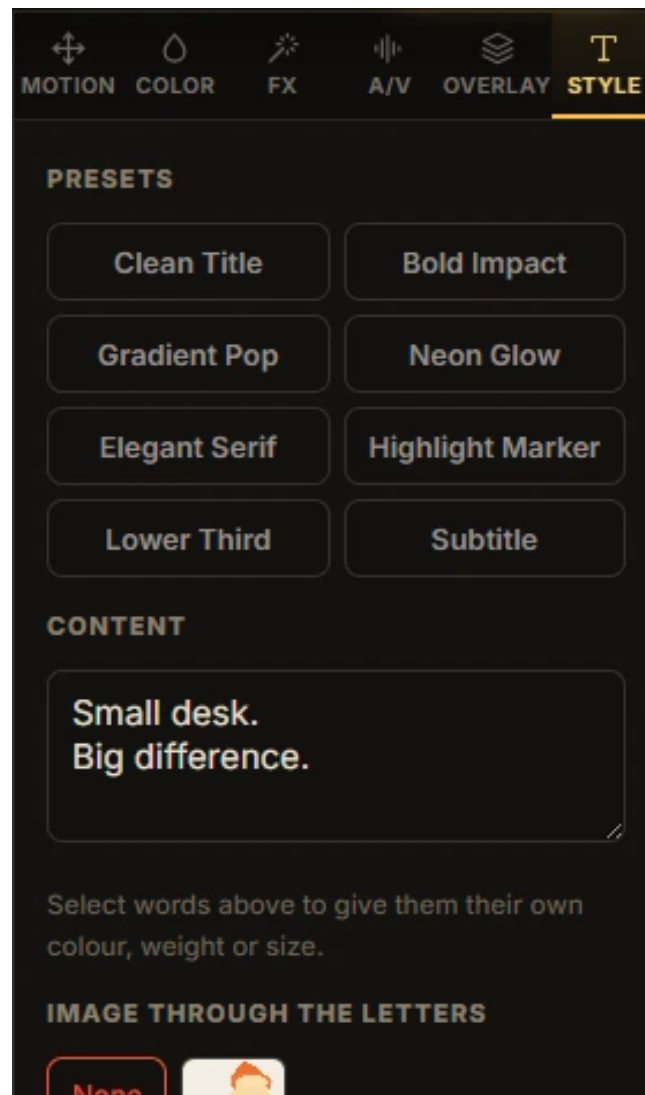
Select your own clip and check that the inspector follows your selection.

Related lessons: 01.02, 01.03, 03.01, 03.02, 03.03

Editor walkthrough: Give a title room to breathe

Real Vidmoat web editor captures, September 2026. Phone views show the responsive browser editor. Interactive steps and larger images are available in the course resources.

1 / 3 Write the message



Add a Clean Title from Text, select its timeline clip, and open Style. Replace the content with Small desk. Big difference. This is an emphasis title, not a transcript.

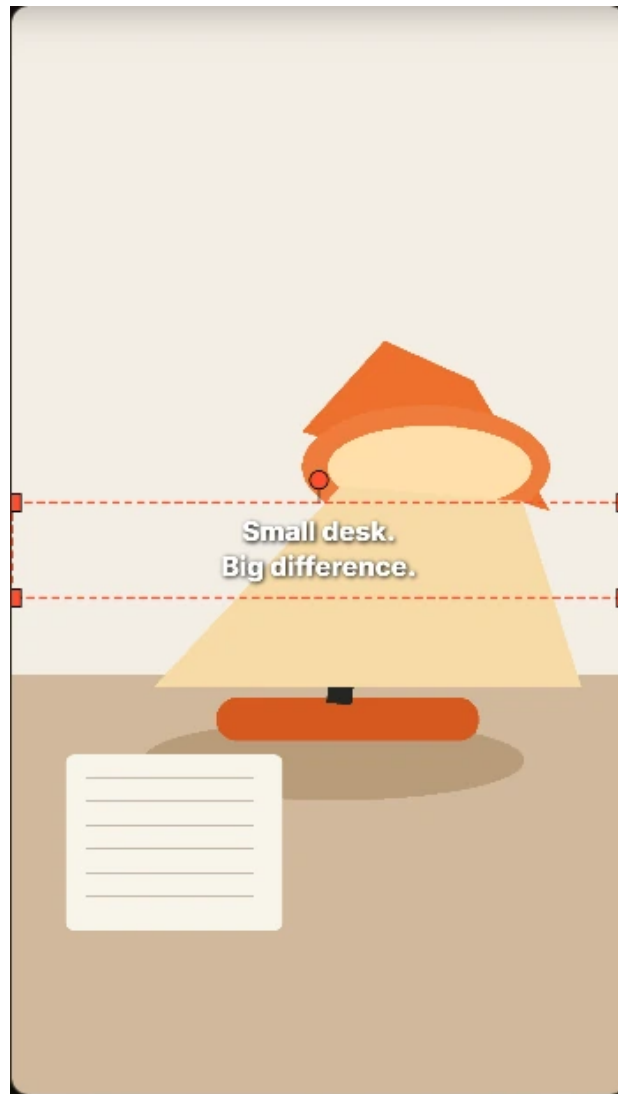
Look for this

Content changes the words; font, size and fill change their treatment.

Related lessons: 04.01, 04.02, 04.03, 08.02

Give a title room to breathe

2 / 3 Notice the collision



This first attempt places the title over the lamp. The words compete with the detail we want people to see. Pause before adding more decoration.

Look for this

Ask what should get attention first: the product or the words?

Related lessons: 04.01, 04.02, 04.03, 08.02

Give a title room to breathe

3 / 3 Move into open space



Drag the selected title upward in the preview. The real captured edit clears the lamp. Next, improve size and contrast for your own footage and watch the whole shot.

Look for this

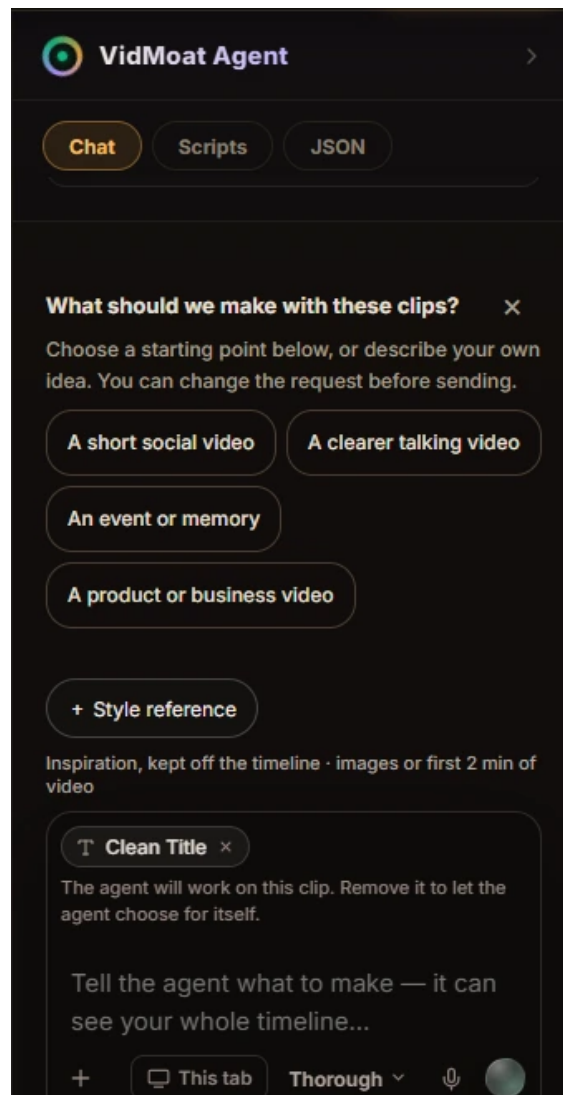
Compare the two frames. Moving a title can solve more than adding an effect.

Related lessons: 04.01, 04.02, 04.03, 08.02

Editor walkthrough: Give the agent a useful reference

Real Vidmoat web editor captures, September 2026. Phone views show the responsive browser editor. Interactive steps and larger images are available in the course resources.

1 / 3 Check the target of your request



Open Ask AI. A selected-clip chip scopes the request to that clip. Remove the chip when your brief applies to the whole edit. These screenshots show the composer before sending.

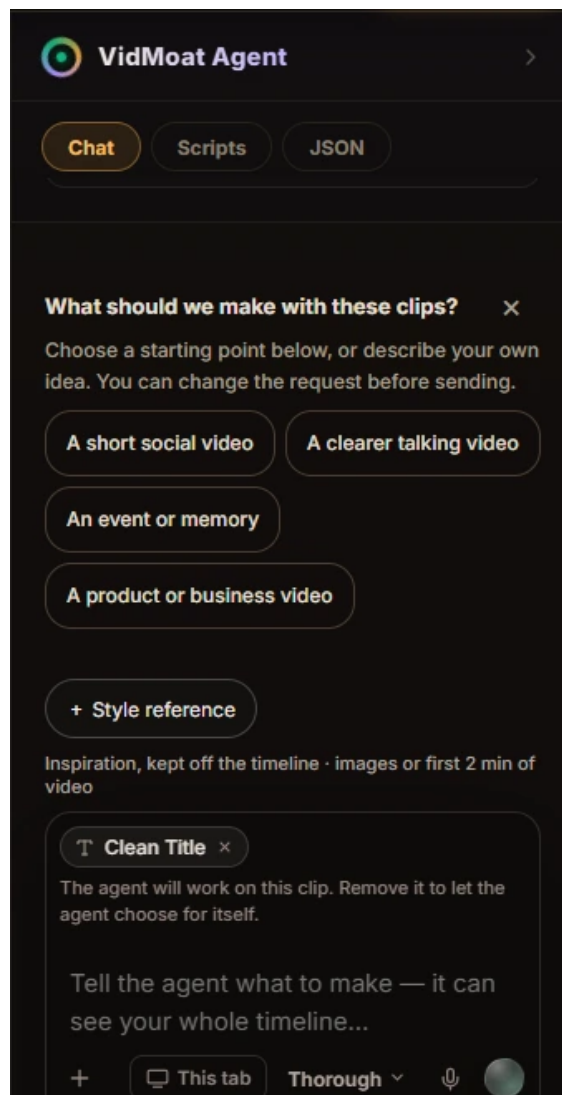
Look for this

The Clean Title chip in this capture means the title is selected.

Related lessons: 02.01, 02.02, 02.03, 07.01, 07.02, 07.03

Give the agent a useful reference

2 / 3 Separate inspiration from footage



Choose + Style reference for inspiration. Use the regular upload path for material that belongs in the video. Explain what you want to borrow: text placement, pace, palette or mood.

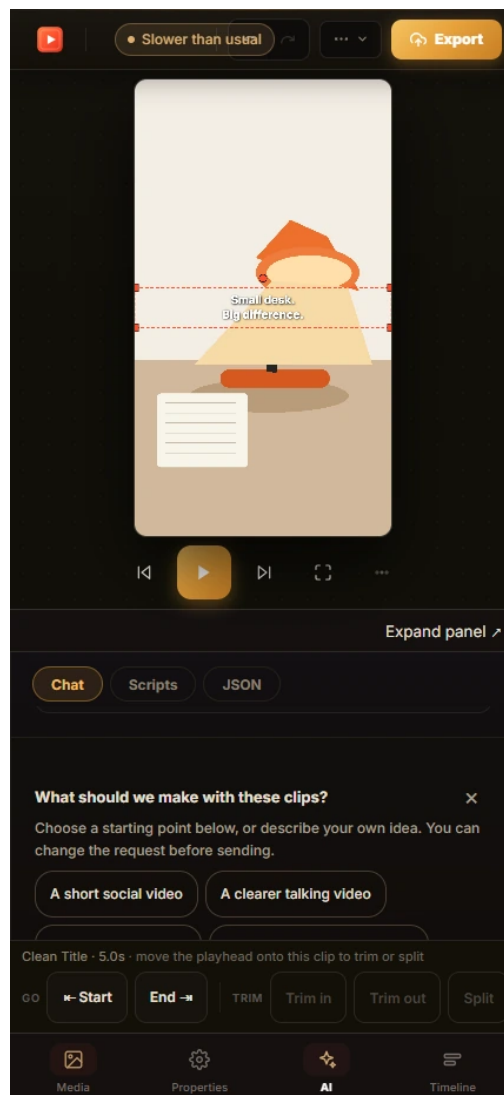
Look for this

The captured UI accepts reference images or the first two minutes of a reference video. Check the current limit in your app.

Related lessons: 02.01, 02.02, 02.03, 07.01, 07.02, 07.03

Give the agent a useful reference

3 / 3 Find the same task on a phone



In the phone browser, use AI in the bottom navigation to reach the chat. Open the relevant panel instead of trying to fit the entire desktop workspace on screen.

Look for this

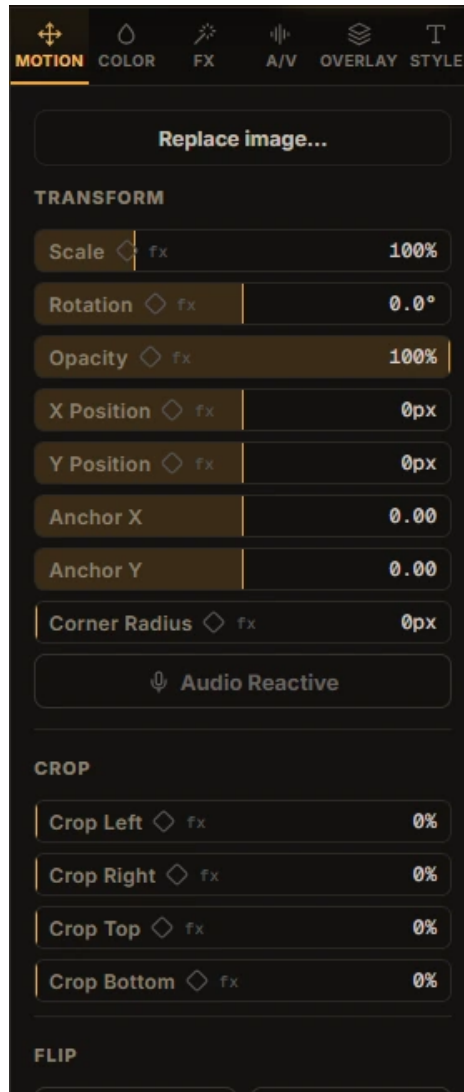
This is the responsive web editor. Native app arrangements may differ.

Related lessons: 02.01, 02.02, 02.03, 07.01, 07.02, 07.03

Editor walkthrough: Make a deliberate picture adjustment

Real Vidmoat web editor captures, September 2026. Phone views show the responsive browser editor. Interactive steps and larger images are available in the course resources.

1 / 2 Select first, transform second



Select the image clip, then open Motion. Scale changes the size; X and Y change position. A diamond beside a property is a keyframe control.

Look for this

Start with a still composition that works. Then follow the lesson to animate it.

Related lessons: 06.01, 06.02, 06.03

Make a deliberate picture adjustment

2 / 2 Adjust with a reason



Open Color for the selected clip. Inspect the real controls in this panel, change one thing at a time, and compare against the original. The lamp artwork is a teaching source, not a skin-tone grading test.

Look for this

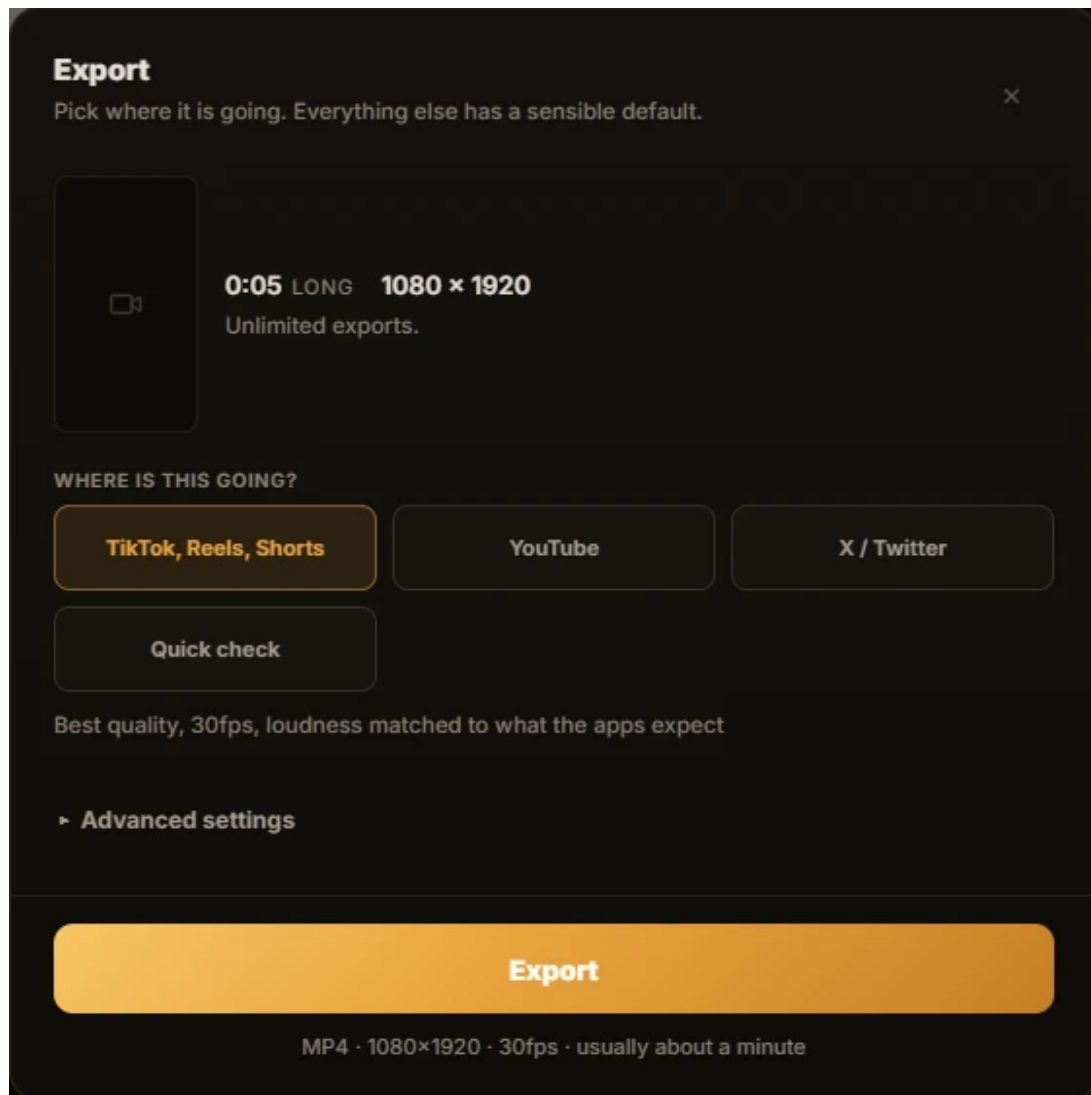
Use your own representative footage for the colour exercise; do not copy arbitrary values from a screenshot.

Related lessons: 06.01, 06.02, 06.03

Editor walkthrough: Choose an export you can check

Real Vidmoat web editor captures, September 2026. Phone views show the responsive browser editor. Interactive steps and larger images are available in the course resources.

1 / 3 Choose the destination



Open Export. This vertical practice project is 1080 × 1920. Choose where it is going, or use Quick check for an early review. No export job was started for these screenshots.

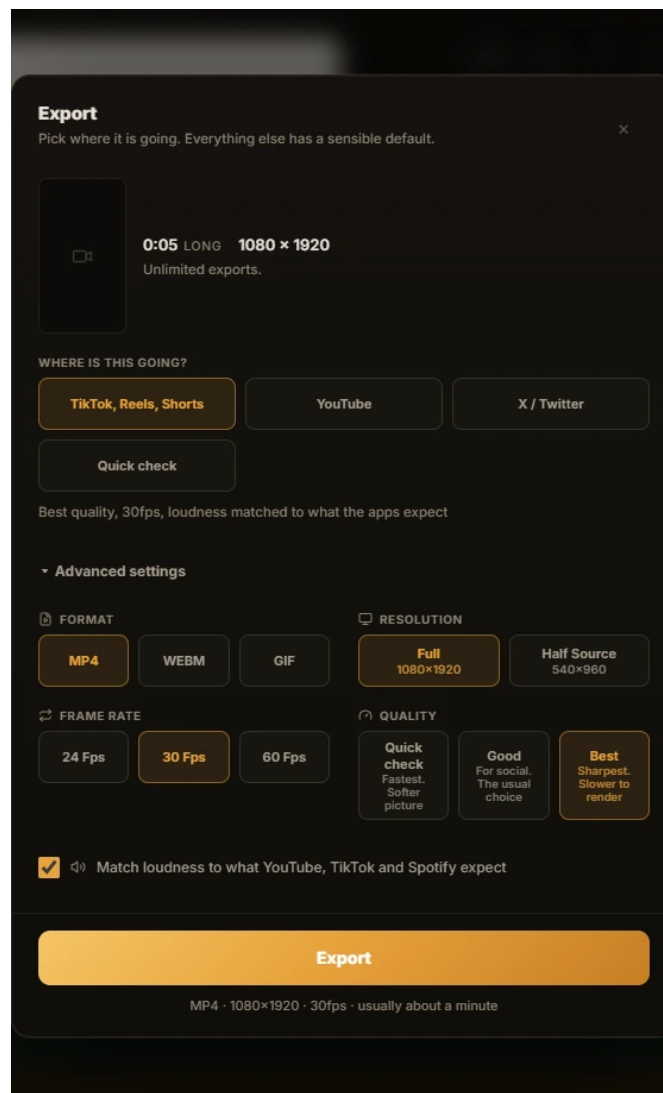
Look for this

The destination preset is a starting point. Read the summary before you render.

Related lessons: 09.01, 09.02, 09.03, 10.01, 10.02, 10.03

Choose an export you can check

2 / 3 Read the actual settings



Expand Advanced settings. Inspect format, resolution, frame rate and quality. A larger output cannot restore detail that was never in the source. Options depend on the current project and plan.

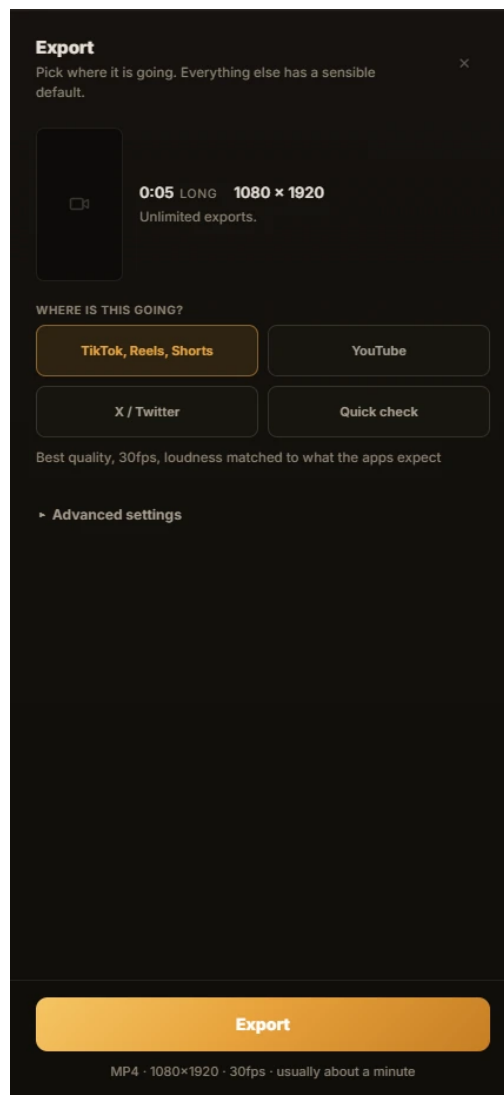
Look for this

Here the source is vertical, so Full is 1080 × 1920. This is not evidence of a 4K export.

Related lessons: 09.01, 09.02, 09.03, 10.01, 10.02, 10.03

Choose an export you can check

3 / 3 Review on a small screen



The phone browser presents the same export task in a narrower view. Scroll within the settings if necessary, and read the final resolution before starting.

Look for this

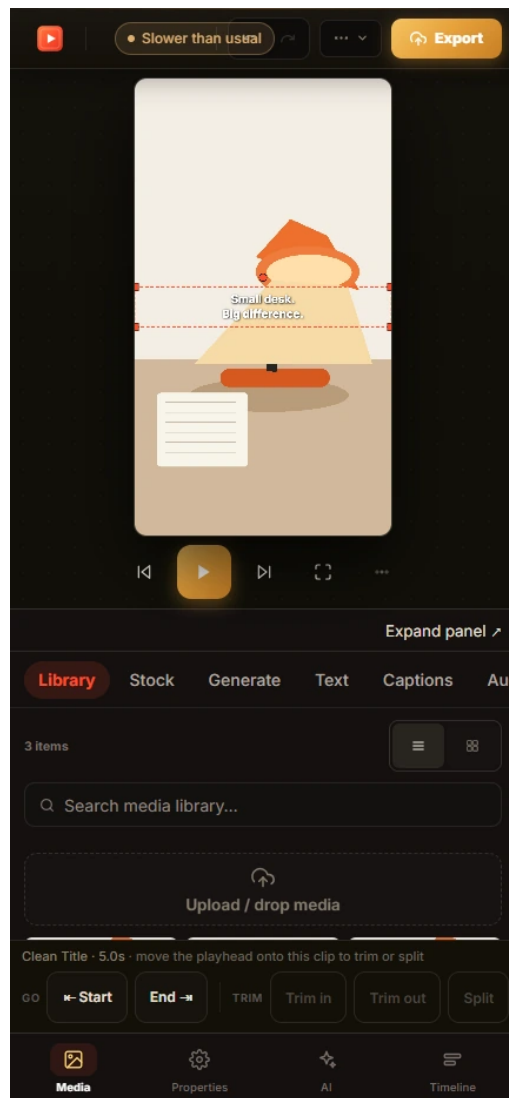
After a real export, open the resulting file and check picture, sound, captions and ending.

Related lessons: 09.01, 09.02, 09.03, 10.01, 10.02, 10.03

Editor walkthrough: Work one panel at a time on your phone

Real Vidmoat web editor captures, September 2026. Phone views show the responsive browser editor. Interactive steps and larger images are available in the course resources.

1 / 3 Bring in the source



Use Media in the bottom navigation to open the library. Upload the practice image, then add it to the timeline.

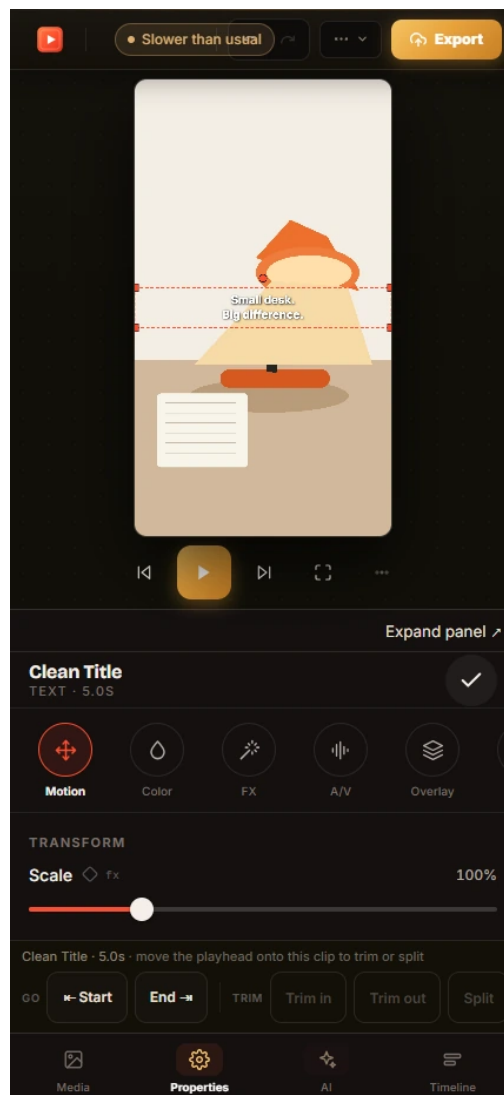
Look for this

Switch panels when the preview or controls need more space.

Related lessons: 01.01, 08.01, 08.03

Work one panel at a time on your phone

2 / 3 Inspect the selected clip



Select the clip, then use Properties to reach the inspector. The controls shown depend on what you selected.

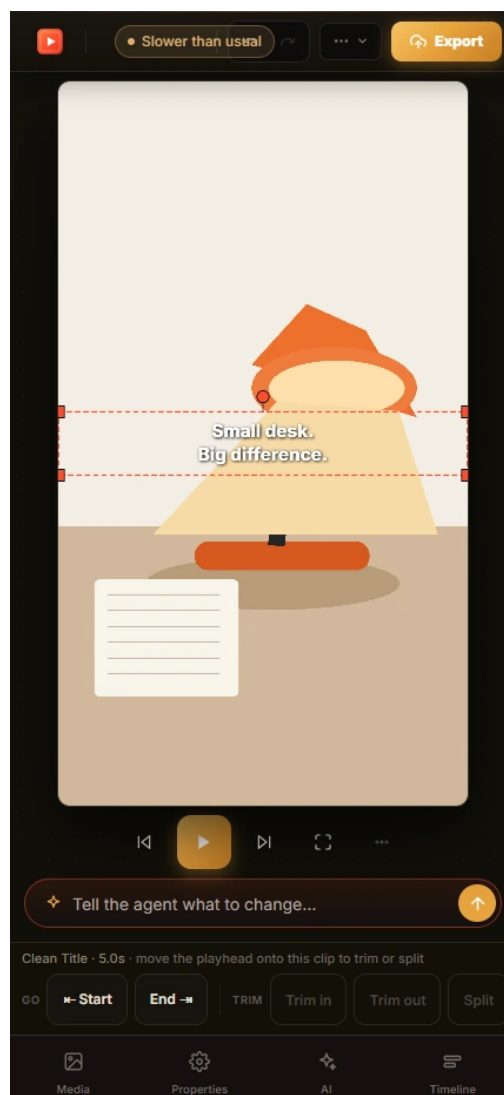
Look for this

If the wrong properties appear, check the selected clip before changing anything.

Related lessons: 01.01, 08.01, 08.03

Work one panel at a time on your phone

3 / 3 Return to the picture



Close the panel to check the preview. Use the clip actions below the preview for trim and split tasks.

Look for this

Make small edits, then review with the controls out of the way.

Related lessons: 01.01, 08.01, 08.03

Resources and further reading

Research checked 17 September 2026. The course structure was informed by the sources below; the lesson content, scripts and exercises are original. No platform endorsement is implied.

Udemy course structure

Informed the short, outcome-led lessons and practice after each topic. Original Vidmoat content and exercises.

<https://teach.udemy.com/course-creation/outline-your-course/>

Udemy creation process

Informed the sequence from learner outcomes to instruction, practice and publishing preparation.

<https://teach.udemy.com/course-creation/recommended-course-creation-process/>

Coursera course example

Reviewed as an example of modules combining instruction, readings, assignments and peer review. No lesson text or media copied.

<https://www.coursera.org/learn/the-foundation-of-video-editing>

Udemy course quality checklist

Marketplace publication requires video and other quality criteria. This package is a complete text course and production kit; it does not contain recorded lectures.

<https://support.udemy.com/hc/en-us/articles/229604988-Udemy-course-quality-checklist>

Vidmoat help

Useful for in-product help. Some older articles differ from newer releases; current controls and plan notices take precedence.

<https://www.vidmoat.com/help>

Vidmoat pricing

Check current account entitlements, AI credits, branding and output limits before paid exercises.

<https://www.vidmoat.com/pricing>

VIDMOAT COURSE PRACTICE ASSETS

These illustrations and the two PCM audio files were created specifically for this course. No stock photographs, commercial songs or customer media are included. Learners may use and adapt these supplied practice assets in course exercises and portfolio examples, including commercial portfolio demonstrations. Do not imply that the illustrated lamp is a real tested product or that a depicted fictional robot is a real person. The course publisher may distribute these assets with the free or paid course.

lamp-wide.png, lamp-detail.png, lamp-desk.png: original stylised lamp illustrations, 1080 by 1920.

style-layout.png: original example of text hierarchy, 1080 by 1920. It is a layout example, not a Vidmoat screenshot.

robot-reference.png: original fictional character reference, 1080 by 1080.

practice-bed.wav: original deterministic 90 BPM rhythm, 30 seconds, mono 22050 Hz PCM. For editing practice, not a mastered commercial soundtrack.

sound-check.wav: 10 seconds, mono 22050 Hz PCM. Two 660 Hz tones begin at 2.0 and 6.0 seconds and last 0.5 seconds each.

Short fades avoid clicks. All other intervals are digital silence.

Narration and conversation scripts are original course exercises. Record them yourself or with consenting participants. Change factual claims to match the real object you demonstrate.

caption-comparison.png and keyframe-study.png are original teaching diagrams made from the supplied illustrations. The same practice and portfolio permissions apply. They are not captured application interfaces or completed Vidmoat renders.

Visual edition: editor screenshots show the real Vidmoat web interface in an owned course demonstration project, using the original practice illustrations. Crops and capture provenance are recorded in screenshots/capture-provenance.json. No customer footage or authentication files are included. Vidmoat logo and product-interface rights remain with Vidmoat; font licences accompany the bundled fonts.