Video Recording essential points

- Before you go out recording, check that your equipment is working and that your batteries are full.
- Use a tripod when possible.
- Use a good external microphone at all times when recording speech.
- See “audio recording essential points” in order to get good quality audio.
- Use a “progressive” recording mode to avoid striping artifacts in the image during playback, if your camera has this option (25p, 30p, 24p).
- Turn off the “digital zoom” function of your camera, only use the optical zoom of the lens.
- Do not film directly into the sun.
- Try to get the person or object of interest well exposed (= appropriate brightness, not too dark, not too bright). This may mean that you need to adjust the exposure settings of the camera in case the automatic exposure setting does not work well for the current situation.
- Adjust the white balance of the camera if there is an unnatural looking hue on the image (e.g. everything too yellow or too blue).
- When filming people, put the camera approximately at their eye level.
- Use the zoom to make the desired framing of the image before starting your recording. If you want to capture gesture, leave at least an arms length around the body of the person, if you want to capture detailed facial expressions, zoom in more closely on the face. Do not use the zoom unnecessarily after having started the recording.
- Beware that the autofocus function may not always work as intended, e.g. in the dark or when there are moving objects in the foreground or background of your image. You can then use the manual focus.
- If you need to move the camera during the recording, make calm movements. If you can’t use a tripod, hold the camera steadily in two hands and make sure you stand in a balanced position.
- When done filming, make backups of your recordings as soon as you have the opportunity.
- Turn off the external microphone after the recording session such that the battery doesn’t run flat.

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