

## Prioritizing and quality classification for the accessibility of educational videos

### **When must a video be made accessible according to the law?**

[The Act on the Provision of Digital Services \(306/2019\)](#) obliges universities to ensure that our digital services and their contents are accessible. This also applies to teaching materials, for example, educational videos.

According to the law, an educational video must be made accessible if

- it is publicly available (it does not require any user identification to access) or
- it is in recurring use (for more than an academic year)

The law does not require an educational video to be made accessible if

- it is in temporary use (max. 12 months) and shared with a restricted group (it requires a user identification to access, for example, a Moodle area that requires the user to log in)

### **Educational video subtitles can be divided into the following quality classifications:**

#### **Educational videos that must be made accessible according to the law:**

##### **Class 1: High quality**

- Quality: the subtitles are up to professional standards (their layout, timing, etc. should follow the Finnish [quality guidelines for programme subtitles](#); however, the language itself should follow the English best practices for subtitles, for example, the [BBC Subtitle Guidelines](#))
- Need: specific cases, for example, educational videos with a very high potential of use (for example, MOOC courses, recurring use of the video)

##### **Class 2: Acceptable quality**

- Quality: acceptable; the subtitles make it possible to understand and use the video sufficiently well, however, minor typos and inaccuracies are allowed (for example, individual typing and grammar errors, individual problems with breaking and timing lines or with the subtitle layout; see the quality guidelines for programme subtitling that can be applied for subtitling educational videos.)
- Need: standard educational videos that fall under the law's accessibility requirements

- In practice, basic knowledge of subtitling is enough; the subtitles can also be produced by post-editing automatically created subtitles

### **Educational videos that are not required to be made accessible by the law:**

#### **Class 3: Automatically created subtitles that do not fulfill the legal accessibility requirements**

- Quality: the subtitles do not fulfill the legal accessibility requirements, they include plenty of mistakes and are often difficult to understand
- Need: Educational videos that are not required by the law to be made accessible but where some accessibility accommodations are wanted or tried on experimental basis
- In practice, for example, having automatically created subtitles in live situations as an additional accommodation for a student that needs them