

## 8. How to remove unwanted segments from an MP3 track using the Trim command.

At the end of this lesson you will be able to execute the procedure for removing unwanted segments from an MP3 track by using the *Trim* command to select the portion of the track you want to keep.

### Recall

The MP3 file has been imported and is open in Audacity. It is now time to start working on this track.

#### Step One:

With the MP3 open and displayed on the screen as a jagged blue waveform, we are now going to **trim** the beginning of the track.

If you find due to the length of your track you are unable to view clearly the area you want to trim then use the **Zoom Tool**. To zoom in on a specific area select the **Zoom Tool** circled in red in figure 8.1

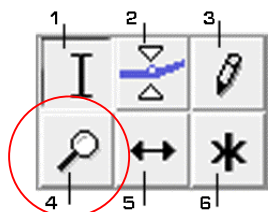


Figure 8.1 Main Toolbar – Zoom Tool circled in red

#### Step Two:

To trim, select the part of the track you want to keep with the **Selection Tool** by dragging the mouse pointer over it. (Trim tool is item number 1 in figure 8.1)

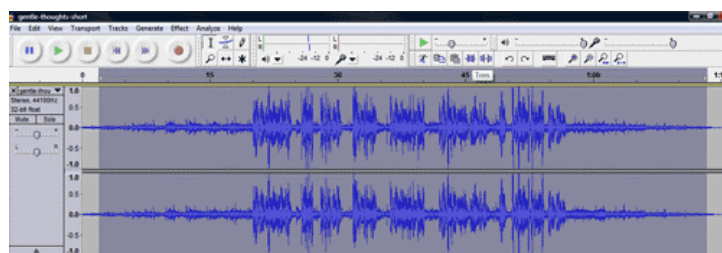


Figure 8.2 Selection Tool

Note: The area selected becomes a darker grey colour and will remain but the lighter grey will be trimmed away.

Step Three:

Select the **Trim** tool as shown in figure 8.3. Alternatively select **Edit > Trim** or **Ctrl + T**. This discards everything apart from the selected section, which can then be saved.

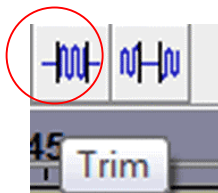


Figure 8.3 Trim Tool

Step Four:

Use the **Time Shift Tool** to move the audio to the beginning. Select the dark grey area with the Time Shift Tool, with the left mouse button pressed drag it to position 0.

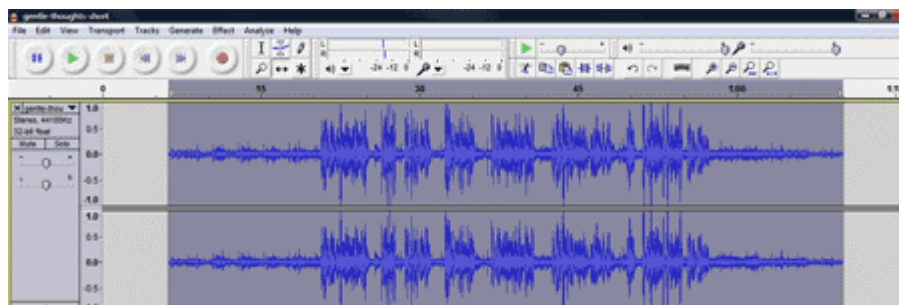


Figure 8.4 Audio area left after trimming

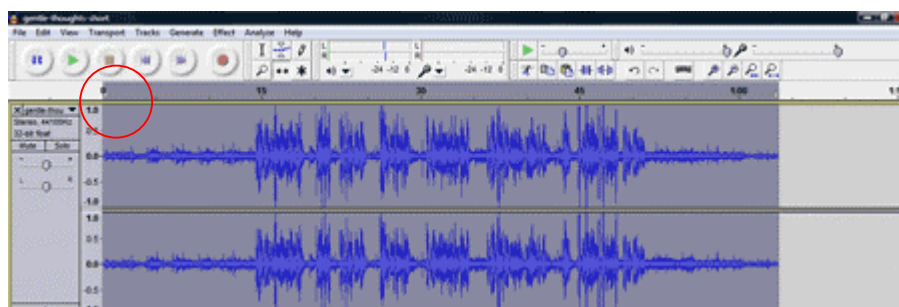


Figure 8.5 Audio moved to position 0

Test your track by pressing the play button.

Step Five:

Save your file –

- Select **File > Save Project**, the warning dialog box opens.
- The file will be saved as .aup file that only Audacity can open.
- Select **OK** and give the file a name and place it in the folder called “**customised\_audio**”.
- When the track is edited to your satisfaction you can export it as an MP3 file by selecting the **File > Export** option.

In the next lesson we will learn how to cut this sound track.