

# Analyze it! Audiovisual Recording

Below is an excerpt of an audio recording from the collection of the Library of Congress and a transcript of the excerpt. “**Audio**” means that this recording is sound only. An **excerpt** is a selection from a longer piece. A **transcript** is a written version of exactly what can be heard in the recording. Listen to the recording once. Then, read the transcript and consider the observations and questions about it.



What kind of recording is this? A speech? A play? A musical performance?

This section sounds like a commercial for coffee. Why would a commercial be part of this type of recording?

Who is Speaker 2? Who is the audience she is addressing?

Once you know who Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt is, can you figure out what emergency she is probably talking about?

Who is Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt? Why would she have a weekly broadcast?

What time of year is it? What does armed conflict mean? Does this give us another clue about when the recording was made? What year do you think it was?

What is Mrs. Roosevelt trying to tell her listeners? What message is she delivering?

**Speaker 1:** This is Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt’s regular Sunday evening broadcast, sponsored by the Pan American Coffee Bureau, representing seven good neighbor coffee growing nations. On this the Sunday of Christmas week and the third Sunday of armed conflict, Mrs. Roosevelt has a message so important we shall take time to say only these few words from our sponsors. They are words quoted from a recent Navy department memorandum and they read as follows:

“It is a known fact that coffee plays an important part in the morale among the personnel of the Navy. In total war, high morale is needed not only by our armed forces but by every civilian as well. Coffee gives the extra energy, the steadier nerves which are so much a part of the kind of morale we all must have. Coffee, more than ever before, is the Americas’ necessary drink.”

And now we present Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

**Speaker 2:** Good evening ladies and gentleman. There is one thing about the American people when any emergency arises: it seems to spur them on to greater activity. And the more difficult the task may be, the more ready they are to meet the situation. I imagine that is a trait common to all virile people. I have noticed many times that there are people who lose interest in anything the minute it becomes easy to accomplish but who will work untiringly as long as the problem before them is challenging. Perhaps this is a trait of the American people as a whole.