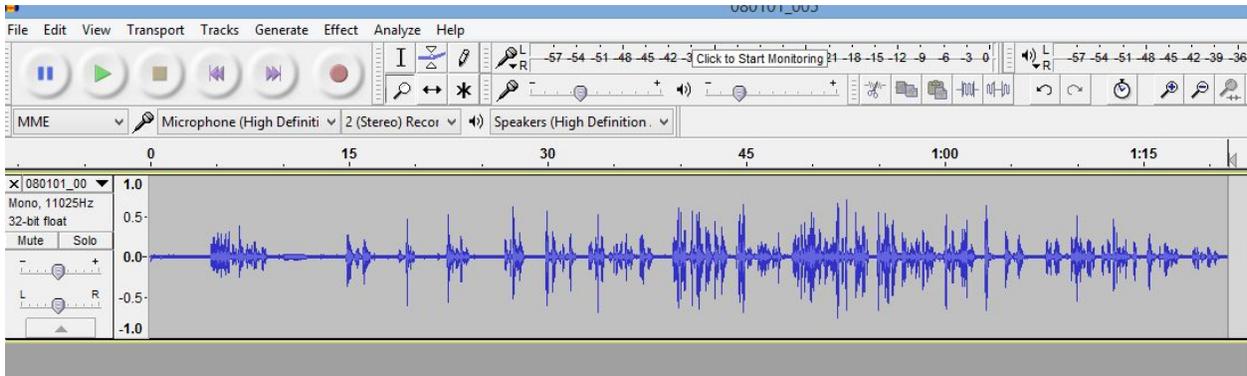


## Mixing an Audio track with a Background Music Track

You'll use this tutorial to mix sound tracks with background music.

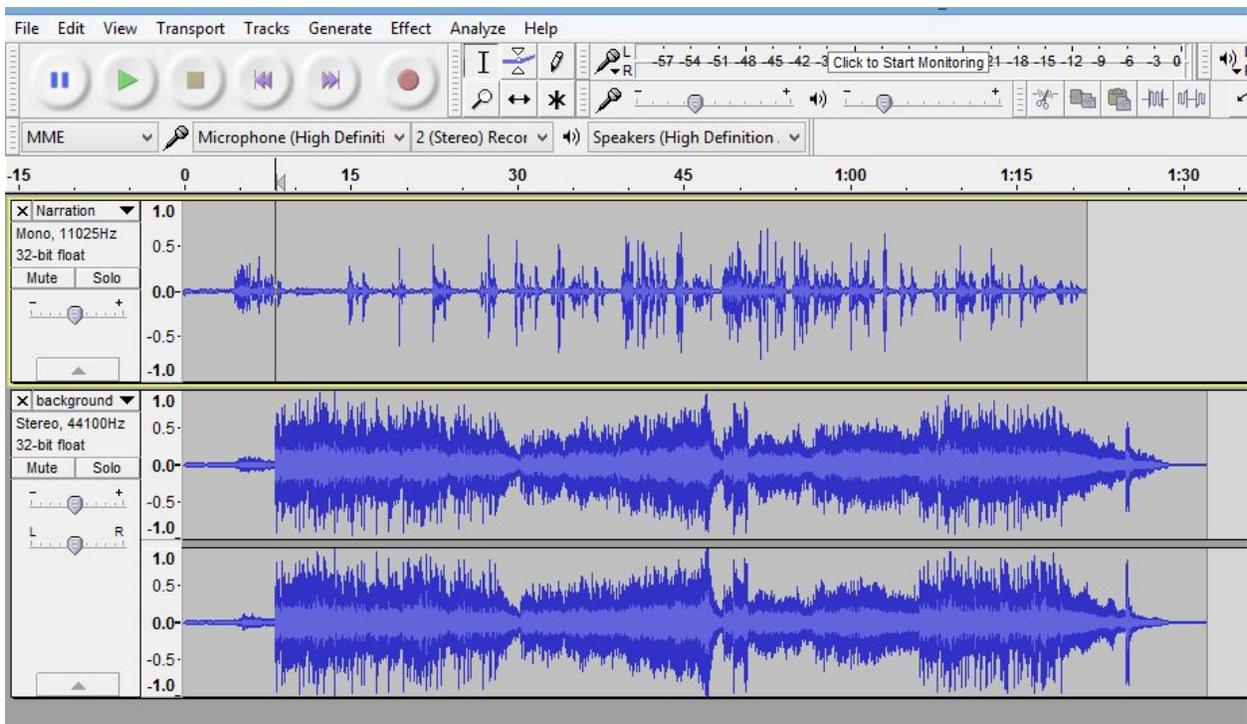
### Import a Narration(Main Audio Track):

Choose **File > Import > Audio** and open the audio track that you will mix with background music.



### Import the background music file:

Choose **File > Import > Audio** and open the background music file you've chosen for the project. Audacity imports the music file into your project and puts it in its own stereo track.



Rename the tracks to "Narration" and "Background" for conventions by clicking on the arrow button on each of the names and then clicking on the name option to rename.

### Mute and Solo:

These buttons are located at the Track Control Panel at the left of each track.

Clicking the "Solo" button will cause only that track to be heard when you press Play. Clicking the "Mute" button will turn that track off - it will not be included in the mix when you press the Play button.

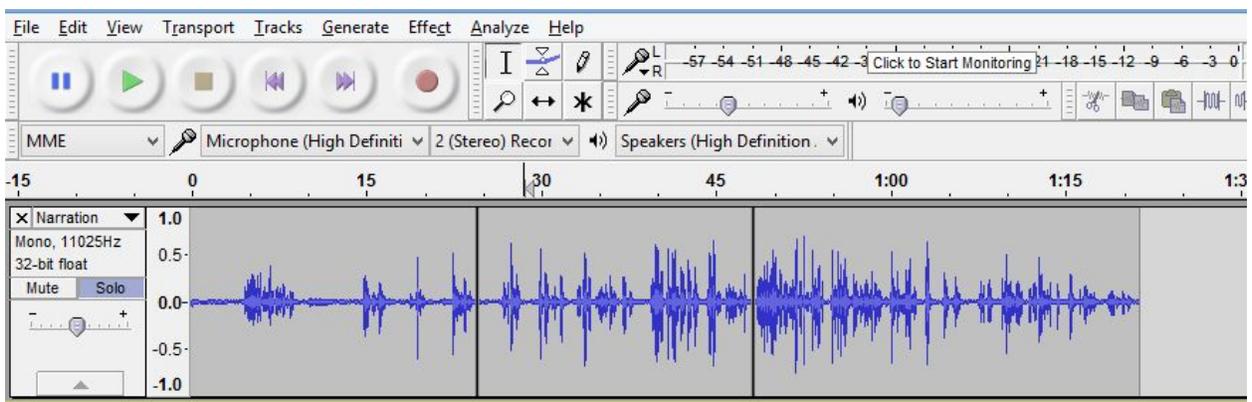


### Cutting the Narration Track/Actual Audio Track:

Start by clicking the "Solo" button on the narration track. Assuming that we want to cut the narration into three separate segments, find the spots on the track to cut the narration track, between which we would like to include our background music.

Use the selection tool to find the points on the track. Choose **Edit > Clip Boundaries > Split** - a split line appears. There are now two clips on the narration track. Similarly, put a split point between the second and third portions of the narration.

Click on the solo button again before you move to the next step to hear both the narration and music tracks.



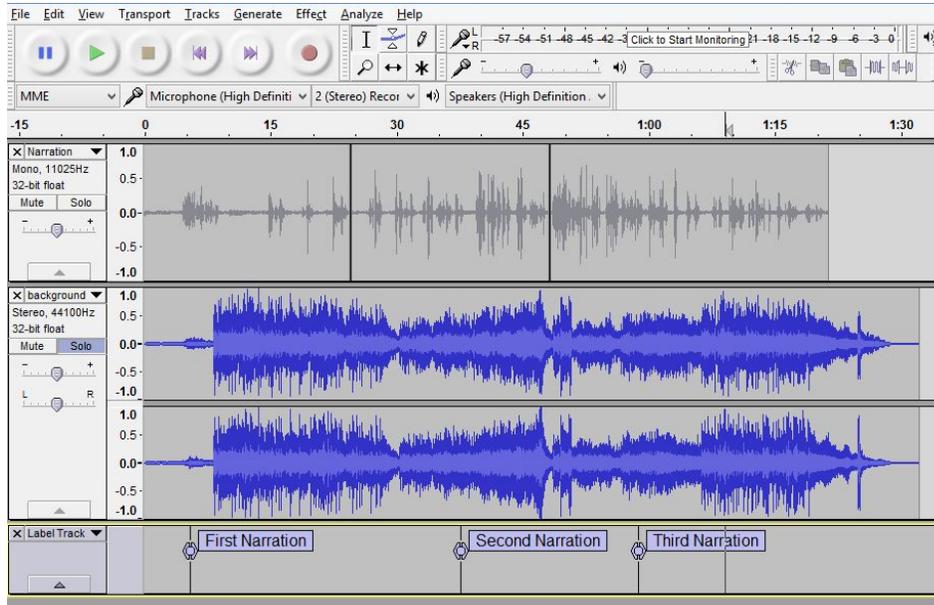
### Marking places on the Background music where we want the narration track to start:

Our goal is to cut the narration to fit the music. We need to pick the spots in the background music track where we want the three clips to start. Start by clicking the "Solo" button on the background music track.

Identify the point in the background music track where you want the narration to begin. Click at that point with the Selection Tool.

**Choose Tracks > Add Label at Selection.** Type a name for the label, for example "First Narration".

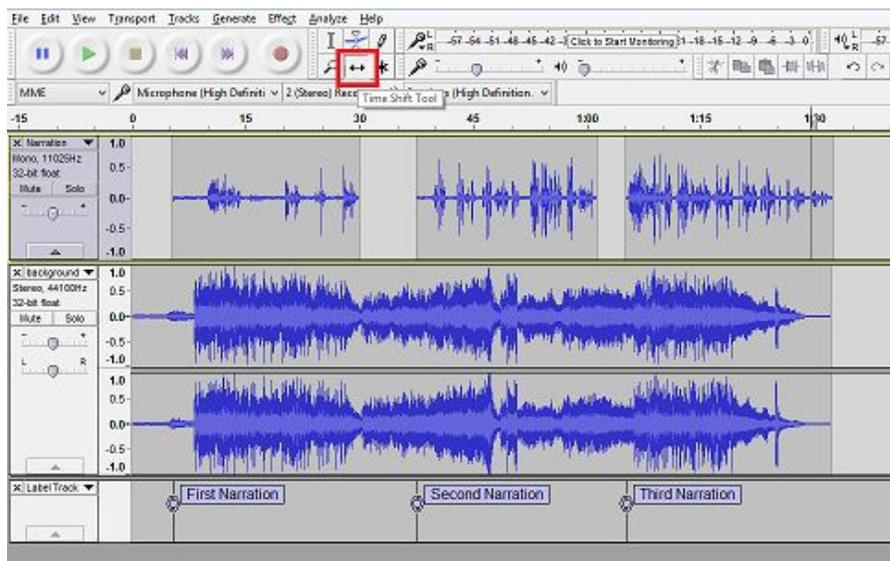
Similarly, identify the points in the background music track where you want the second and third narration clips to begin, and create labels at those points.



Click on the solo button again before you move to the next step to hear both the narration and music tracks.

### Move Clips as per the Labels:

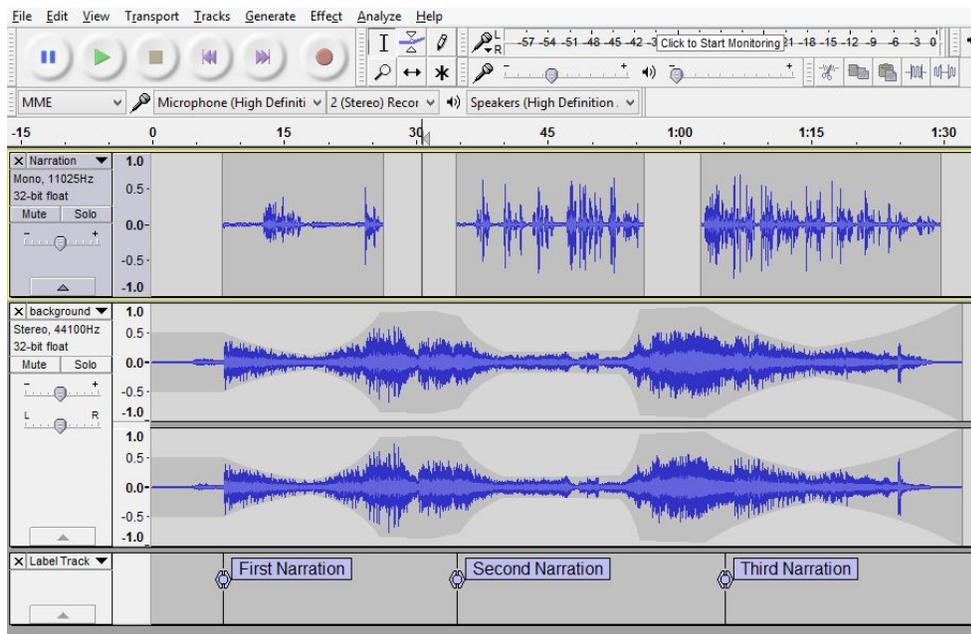
Using the Time Shift Tool  drag the third narration clip so that the start of the clip lines up with the third label. Audacity will help you line this up perfectly - when the start of the clip lines up with the third label a yellow Boundary Snap Guide will light up. Similarly, drag the second narration clip to line up with the second label, and drag the first narration clip to line up with the first label.



## Adjust volumes of the tracks:



Select the *Envelope Tool* from the Tools Toolbar. In the music track, click to create a control point a second or so before the first narration clip begins. Click to create a second control point just as the narration starts. Drag the second control point down to reduce the volume of the music track. Adjust the first and second control points to get the length and depth of the fade you want. In a similar manner create the fade up at the end of the first narration clip. continue in this manner doing the fades on the music track for each clip in the narration track. You can always go back and change the fades.



## Check Your Mix

Play the mix and check after performing volumes fading.

## Save and Export

The **File > Save** command just saves the Audacity project.

The **File > Export** command exports the audio file to the desired location. When you export your project, Audacity automatically mixes it, so the exported file sounds just like what you hear when you click the Play button.