S10

Track Matte Key

CHAPTER ASSIGNMENT

Name _____ Class _____ No. _____ Date _____

> Practical assignment for Adobe Premiere Pro 2026 | Grade 12. Follow every step in Premiere Pro; use the lines to note your settings and file names.

Questions from the Guru Jazzy session page, for classroom use.

Track Matte Key — Title Sequence with Footage Inside Text

Task **Your task:** Create a 15–20 second title sequence where video footage plays inside large bold text. You will use the Track Matte Key effect with a three-layer timeline setup. The text must animate onto the screen. You will also try a shape-based matte as a second exercise.

This assignment reviews skills from Sessions 1, 2, 4, and 10.

(1) Step 1 — Set up your project

1. Open Premiere Pro 2026 and create a new project: `YourName_Session10`
2. Create a bin named: `Footage`
3. Import at least 2 video clips — choose clips with strong movement or texture (water, fire, city traffic, clouds, nature, people walking are good choices)
4. Set your sequence to 1920×1080, 25fps

(2) Step 2 — Build the three-layer timeline

This is the most important step. The layers must be in this exact order:

Track	What goes here
V3	White text on a black background (the matte)
V2	The video clip you want to appear inside the text
V1	The background (start with a black Color Matte)

(a) Layer V1 — Black background

1. Go to File > New > Color Matte
2. Choose pure black (R:0, G:0, B:0) — click OK
3. Name it: Background
4. Drag it onto V1 — extend it to 15 seconds

(b) Layer V2 — Your footage

1. Open your chosen clip in the Source Monitor
2. Press I (Mark In) and O (Mark Out) to select 15 seconds
3. Press comma (,) to insert onto V2 — do not drag
4. Make sure it covers the same time range as V1

(c) Layer V3 — White text matte

1. Press T to select the Type tool
2. Click in the Program Monitor and type a bold word or phrase (your name, a city name, "LOVE STORY", "BANGKOK", "ADVENTURE")
3. Font: the heaviest/boldest available — Arial Black, Impact, or similar
4. Size: minimum 120pt — the bigger the better
5. Colour: white (#FFFFFF)
6. In the Essential Graphics panel, add a rectangle shape behind the text
7. Set the rectangle fill to black — it must cover the entire frame
8. The rectangle layer must be below the text layer in the Essential Graphics panel list

(3) Step 3 — Apply Track Matte Key

1. Click on the footage clip on V2 to select it
2. In the Effects panel, search: Track Matte Key (Video Effects > Keying > Track Matte Key)
3. Drag it onto the V2 clip
4. In Effect Controls, set Matte to Video 3 and Composite Using to Matte Luma
5. Press play — your footage should now appear inside the white letterforms
6. If it isn't working, check: is your text graphic on V3? Is the background rectangle black?

(4) Step 4 — Improve the background

1. Delete the black Color Matte from V1
2. Drag a copy of the same footage clip onto V1
3. In the Effects panel, search: Gaussian Blur, and drag it onto the V1 clip
4. In Effect Controls, set Blurriness to 40–60 — the background must be heavily blurred
5. Apply Lumetri Color to V1 — reduce Exposure to -0.5 to darken the background slightly
6. Preview: the blurred footage should sit behind the text with the sharp footage visible inside the letterforms

(5) **Step 5 — Scale and reposition**

1. Click on the V2 footage clip — in Effect Controls > Motion > Scale, increase scale until the footage fills the letters well

2. In Effect Controls > Motion > Position, move the footage so the most interesting part sits inside the text

3. Click on the V3 text graphic — in Effect Controls > Motion > Position, move the text to a well-balanced position on screen

(6) **Step 6 — Animate the text reveal**

Choose one of the following animations and apply it to the V3 text graphic:

(a) **Option A — Slide in from left**

1. Select the V3 graphic clip

2. In Effect Controls > Motion > Position, click the stopwatch at frame 0

3. Set Position X so the text is fully off screen to the left (e.g. X: -960)

4. Move the playhead to 1.5 seconds and set Position X to the on-screen centre position

5. Right-click each keyframe > Temporal Interpolation > Ease In / Ease Out

(b) **Option B — Scale grow**

1. Select the V3 graphic clip

2. In Effect Controls > Motion > Scale, click the stopwatch at frame 0 and set Scale to 0

3. Move the playhead to 1.5 seconds and set Scale to 100

4. Right-click each keyframe > Ease In / Ease Out

(c) **Option C — Opacity fade in**

1. Select the V3 graphic clip

2. In Effect Controls > Opacity, click the stopwatch at frame 0 and set Opacity to 0%

3. Move the playhead to 1.5 seconds and set Opacity to 100%

(7) **Step 7 — Fade in the background**

1. Select the V1 background clip

2. In Effect Controls > Opacity, click the stopwatch at frame 0 and set Opacity to 0%

3. Move the playhead to 1 second and set Opacity to 100%

4. The background now fades in while the text reveals above it

(8) **Step 8 — Shape-based matte (second exercise)**

1. At the end of your title sequence, add a second section using a shape instead of text

2. In the Essential Graphics panel, draw a large circle or rectangle — fill it white, background black

3. Place this on V3 after the text graphic ends

4. Place a second footage clip on V2 in the same time range — the Track Matte Key on V2 should already apply to this section

5. The footage should now play inside the circle or rectangle shape

6. Animate the shape: in Effect Controls > Motion > Scale, keyframe from 0 to 100 over 1 second

(9) Step 9 — Add text labels

1. Using the Essential Graphics panel, add a small text label below or above the main matte (your name, a tagline, or a date)
2. Font: Regular, White, 28pt minimum
3. This text sits separately from the matte — place it on V4 so it is not affected by the Track Matte Key

(10) Step 10 — Final check and export

1. Play the full sequence from start to end
2. Confirm: footage is visible inside the text letterforms
3. Confirm: background is blurred and darker than the text area
4. Confirm: text animates onto screen smoothly
5. Confirm: shape matte section plays correctly
6. Total duration: 15–20 seconds
7. Save: Ctrl+S
8. Export: File > Export > Media > Format: H.264 > Preset: Match Source – High Bitrate
9. File name: `YourName_Session10_Export`

Files File names

File	Name
Project file	`YourName_Session10`
Exported MP4	`YourName_Session10_Export`

Example: Somchai_Session10 / Somchai_Session10_Export

Submit both files to the class shared folder before the start of Session 11.

Help Common problems and fixes

Problem	Fix
Footage on V2 disappeared completely	Expected before applying Track Matte Key — continue to Step 3
Text shows as white — matte not working	Check Composite Using is set to Matte Luma, not Matte Alpha
Area outside text is white instead of black	The rectangle behind the text in Essential Graphics must be black, not white
Matte dropdown only shows Video 1 or 2	Your text graphic is not on V3 — move it up one track
Footage inside text looks too dark	Apply Lumetri Color to V2 clip and increase Exposure slightly
Animation is not smooth	Right-click keyframes > Temporal Interpolation > Ease In / Ease Out

End of assignment · Check your answers against the chapter at gurujazzy.com/subjects/video-editing/session-10-track-matte-key/