

Lesson 1 — Orientation & Baseline

Session 1 of 8 | Duration: 60 min | Artifact: Unassisted 5-min recording + L1 score

Purpose

Collect each learner's current, unassisted solution walkthrough as the baseline score for the course.

Phases

Time	Phase	Trainer does
0:00–0:10	Welcome & task framing	Introduce the course; state the one task that will be trained for 8 sessions. Show the five beats on screen but don't teach them.
0:10–0:20	Architecture brief	Hand out the brief (below). 10 min for silent reading. No questions on language.
0:20–0:55	Baseline walkthroughs	Each learner records a 5-min walkthrough, one at a time. Others stay on camera as the design authority. No interruptions, no help.
0:55–1:00	Close	Thank learners. State that Lesson 2 introduces the structure. Save recordings for scoring.

Scripted teacher language

"For the next 8 sessions you'll train one task: a 5-minute walkthrough of a proposed architecture to a client design authority. Today I just want to see how you do it now."

"You have 10 minutes to read the brief. Then each of you will walk the design authority through the proposed architecture in 5 minutes. I won't help with language or structure today — that starts next session."

"Stay on camera during each other's walkthroughs. You're the design authority. Don't interrupt, don't ask questions."

Architecture brief — shared by all learners

Client: Nordlink Communications — legacy billing modernization

Background: Nordlink is a Tier-2 European telecom operator with 7 million subscribers across mobile, fixed broadband, and pay-TV. Their billing platform is a 14-year-old monolith running on-premise, with three customisation layers added by previous integrators. End-of-month batch billing currently runs 31 hours; the SLA target is 12. New product launches typically take 9 months from concept to billable.

Engagement: Nordlink has selected Netcracker for a 24-month transformation programme. The architecture you are walking through is for Phase 1: replace the legacy billing core with a cloud-native catalog-driven revenue management platform, while keeping the existing CRM and order management in place for Phase 1.

Your proposed architecture (your choice within these parameters):

- Cloud-native deployment on the client's existing Kubernetes platform

- Catalog-driven product modelling using TM Forum SID
- Event-driven integration to the existing CRM and order management via Kafka
- Phased data migration with a 90-day dual-run period
- Mediation layer to handle network usage records from existing OCS and policy systems

Decision needed from the design authority: approval to proceed to detailed design and sprint 0 in 6 weeks.

The walkthrough: Present a 5-minute walkthrough to the client design authority. Take a clear architectural stance — recommend approval, recommend changes, or recommend escalation.

After the session

Score each learner's recording using the scorecard. Save the L1 score to the learner's portfolio folder. Do not share scores with learners until L8.

Artifact

5-min recording per learner + L1 score sheet (5 criteria, /10). Save as NCT_[Region]_[LearnerID]_SolutionWalkthrough_L1_YYYY-MM-DD.