

Lesson 2 — Structure & Core Language

Session 2 of 8 | Duration: 60 min | Artifact: 60-sec fragment (headline + one beat)

Purpose

Introduce the five-beat structure and the functional language that makes each beat work.

Phases

Time	Phase	Trainer does
0:00–0:10	Review L1 patterns	Share 2–3 observations from L1 recordings (no names). Common patterns: stance buried under architecture detail; trade-offs named without alternatives explicitly ruled out; decision request missing or vague.
0:10–0:25	Teach the five beats	Walk through each beat on screen. Name the purpose and time budget. ~3 min per beat.
0:25–0:45	Language bank	Introduce the 8 anchor phrases (see below). Each learner says each phrase aloud once in context.
0:45–0:55	Micro-task	Each learner picks any solution from their own work and records a 60-sec "headline + problem context" fragment.
0:55–1:00	Close	Confirm Lesson 3 drills the trade-offs beat. Save fragments.

Scripted teacher language

"The structure isn't a script. It's a checklist. If any beat is missing, the design authority can't decide."

"You're going to give walkthroughs like this for the rest of your career as an SA. The first sentence should name your stance — recommend approval, recommend changes, or recommend escalation."

"For this exercise, pick a real solution from your own work. Don't invent."

Language bank — 8 anchor phrases

Beat	Phrases (use each at least once during the course)
Headline & recommendation	"I'm recommending we [approach] for [client]'s [program / phase]."
Client problem & context	"[Client] needs to [outcome]." "Today, their [system / process] [limitation]."
Proposed solution	"The proposed architecture has [N] [components / layers]: [list]." "[Component] handles [function]."
Trade-offs & risks	"We considered [alternative] but ruled it out because [reason]. The main trade-off is [X]; we've accepted this because [reason]."

Beat	Phrases (use each at least once during the course)
Decision needed	"I'm asking the design authority to approve [specific]. With that approval, we can [next step]."

Between-session work

Each learner brings one real solution from their own pipeline to Lesson 3 — with the proposed architecture and one trade-off already drafted in their head. They don't write a script.

Artifact

60-sec recording per learner. Headline + problem context only. Save as NCT_[Region]_[LearnerID]_SolutionWalkthrough_L2_YYYY-MM-DD.