

TELEVISION IN OUR LIFE

Television is one of the greatest achievements of the 20-th century. Television viewing is by far the most popular leisure pastime.

Why do people spend time watching TV?

- it's a way of escaping from reality or everyday problems, it helps to relax
- it's a really cheap form of entertainment, which gives pleasure to millions of people, especially those who live alone. It brings ballet, opera, theatre and sports events to people
- gives an opportunity to be well-informed about what is happening in the world. You can see world events with your own eyes.
- has a power to educate: with the help of TV it is possible to learn foreign languages, to know a lot of wonderful things concerning different issues

What are the dangers of television?

- it occupies our free time and isolates us from others, we communicate face-to-face less and less
- damages our health, makes us couch potatoes, has bad effect on eyes
- contains a lot of violence, shows wars and criminals, it dulls our sensitivity and makes us aggressive.

What do most teenagers prefer: watching TV or browsing the Internet, and why?

In my opinion, watching TV is losing its popularity with teenagers. Their favourite media resource is the Internet, it is convenient and fast, contains a lot of information, represents all sources in one. If we want to read the daily news, we go online. When we want to listen to the radio or to watch a new film, again we turn on our computers.

What do you dislike most about TV?

endless blocks of commercials drive me really crazy! It goes without saying that advertising gives money for producing new content, but there should be some limits to advertising.

- How many TV sets are there in your house?
- How much time a day do you watch TV?
- Is there a TV programme you really like/dislike? Why?
- What TV programmes would you recommend your friends to watch? Why?
- What TV programmes are popular in your family? Why?
- Who watches most TV in your family?
- Would you like to take part in a TV show, e.g. in a quiz show?
- Does a career on TV attract you or not? Why?
- Is TV more a source of information or entertainment for you personally?
- Do you think there should be violence on TV?
- Should TV be strictly censored?
- Does TV really have a negative influence on society?
- Should commercials be banned on TV?

Useful vocabulary:

TV programmes: *a soap opera, a quiz show or game show, a chat or talk show, a documentary, a series, a current affairs programme(the news), a cartoon, a sports programme*

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boring, waste of time, silly, predictable,*

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