

Level: Pre-intermediate (A2)

Age: Teenagers

Time: This lesson can be divided up in various ways to suit the time you have with your students. Below are three time options which you can choose from depending on the length of your class. However, these are just suggestions and there are plenty of other ways you could divide the lesson up.

90 minutes – Complete all activities in Are you a TV addict?, On television and the extension activity.

60 minutes – Complete all activities in Are you a TV addict? and On television.

45 minutes – Complete Are you a TV addict? Or On television.

Summary: This lesson is divided into two sections: Are you a TV addict? and On television. In the lesson, students will:

1. do a TV survey;
2. learn some TV expressions;
3. talk about their TV habits;
4. plan a TV schedule;
5. play a zapping game.

Key skills: reading, speaking

Subskills: adverbs of frequency, talking about TV viewing habits, TV vocabulary, types of TV programme

Materials: one copy of Are you a TV addict and On television per student

TV ADDICT SURVEY

1. Dictate the following questions and ask students to write answers.

1. *How many hours of TV do you watch a day?*
2. *What time do you stop watching TV?*
3. *What are your three favourite programmes?*

2. Get students to tell you their answers to the questions in open class.

3. Ask students if they think they are TV addicts. Then, hand out the Are you a TV addict? survey and ask them to complete it in pairs.

4. When they have completed the survey, they should read the analysis for their score. Ask them if they agree with the analysis. Then, see how many students in the class fell into each of the four score bands. Write the results on the board.

5. Point students towards the language box on the worksheet. Go over the language with them. Then, tell them to discuss the results of the survey using the language.

6. After a minute or two, ask a few students about the class's TV viewing habits and get them to respond using the new language. Are your students a class of TV addicts? If so, do they think they should do something to change their habits? Why? Why not?

ON TELEVISION

1. Play a word hangman game with the words *What did you do last night?* Draw six lines on the board and add

a question mark at the end of the six lines.

_____ ?

Students call out words in English and, when they say a word that is in the question, you write it onto the appropriate line on the board. Ask some students the question, get them to ask each other and, finally, find out how many in the class watched TV last night.

2. Elicit the different verbs connected to watching TV. For example, *watch, see, switch on / turn on, switch off / turn off, turn over, turn down*. Hand out On television worksheet 1. Practise and expand on this vocabulary by getting students to do the Matching and TV actions activities.

Key: Matching – a. 8; b. 1 / 6; c. 2; d. 7; e. 9; f. 3; g. 1 / 6; h. 4; i. 5; TV actions – a. 1 / 6; b. 4; c. 5; d. 1 / 6; e. 8

3. Check the answers with the class. Then, ask them to turn over their worksheets. Test their memory of the vocabulary by asking them questions such as:

What do you press if you want to go and get a drink?

answer – pause

What do you press if your sister talked over an important bit in the film?

answer – rewind

What do you press if your dad complains the TV is too loud?

answer – volume down

4. Students then complete activity Your TV habits, using the vocabulary in the box.

ARTS AND MEDIA >>> TELEVISION

Key: 1. switch on / turn on; 2. watching / to watch; 3. saw; 4. switch off / turn off; 5. watch; 6. turn over; watch; turn down

5. Check over the answers together. Then, students mark which of the sentences are true for them and compare with a partner. They should use their answers as a starting point to discuss their TV habits.

6. Check comprehension and pronunciation of the types of programmes described in the TV programmes activity, for example *documentary*, *soap opera*. Then, tell them to complete the second column with the examples of the different types of programme. If you don't think your students are aware of these programmes, you can show them images of the programmes, complete the table in groups, as a class or omit it altogether.

Key: cartoon – *The Simpsons*; children's programme – *Octonauts*; documentary – *Africa*; drama – *The Bridge*; talent show – *The X Factor*; sitcom – *How I met your mother*; soap opera – *EastEnders*; talk show – *Jimmy Kimmel Live*; quiz show – *Who wants to be a millionaire?*

7. When you have gone over the answers, encourage students to work in pairs and complete the table with at least one programme they know for each programme type.

When they have finished, conduct some feedback on the answers. Then, elicit other types of programme. For example: makeover programmes, the weather forecast, sports programmes, cookery programmes, reality TV, the news.

8. Students work in small groups and plan a TV channel schedule for one evening between 8 and 11pm. They complete the grid.

9. You can then ask groups to present their schedules. They must be prepared to justify their choices – why do they think the programmes they have chosen are the best? Take a vote on which schedule students would most like to watch (making sure nobody votes for their own schedule).

OPTIONAL EXTENSION ACTIVITY

1. Have a TV remote control to hand to play this game or use your phone and pretend it's a remote control. Explain that you are undecided about which TV channel to watch this evening and are going to flick through the channels to find the most interesting programme.

2. Students prepare some dialogues for one (or more) of the TV programmes they chose for their evening TV schedule. It might be interesting to have a variety of programmes. For example: a soap opera, a reality show, the news and a sports programme.

3. You 'turn on' the TV by pointing the remote control at one of the groups – that group must then start enacting

their show. You 'change the channel' by pointing at another group – the first group stops and the next one starts. Encourage students to make their programme interesting to stop you from changing channel.

Homework task

Get students to keep a TV diary for a week. They should make a note of all the TV that they watch, including:

- the names of the programmes
- how long they watch for
- what time they start and finish watching

At the end of the week, examine the results. Were students objective about their TV habits in the TV survey above or do they watch more or less TV than they thought they did?



ARE YOU A TV ADDICT?

- 1 **When do you have the TV on?**
 - a. always when I'm at home
 - b. when there's something I want to see or when I don't have anything to do
 - c. hardly ever or never
- 2 **Do you watch TV when you are eating?**
 - a. always or almost always
 - b. sometimes
 - c. rarely or never
- 3 **Where do you watch TV most?**
 - a. in my bedroom
 - b. in the living room
 - c. I don't watch TV
- 4 **Do you ever stay up after your normal bedtime to watch TV?**
 - a. often
 - b. sometimes
 - c. never
- 5 **On average European kids watch about three and a half hours of TV a day. How much TV do you watch?**
 - a. more than three hours
 - b. about three hours
 - c. less than three hours
- 6 **Do you like watching reality shows?**
 - a. yes
 - b. sometimes
 - c. no
- 7 **The TV is broken and will take two weeks to repair. What do you do?**
 - a. rent or borrow another TV
 - b. watch TV on another device or at a friend's house
 - c. spend more time doing other things
- 8 **You're watching a show that you like and a friend comes to see you. What do you do?**
 - a. continue watching the programme
 - b. chat to my friend and watch the programme at the same time
 - c. turn off the TV
- 9 **Do people say you watch too much TV?**
 - a. often
 - b. sometimes
 - c. never
- 10 **Do you know what's on TV tonight?**
 - a. yes, of course
 - b. only the programmes I watch regularly
 - c. no

**Calculate your score**

2 points for every 'a'

1 point for every 'b'

0 points for every 'c'

My score _____

ANALYSIS

0-5

Either you don't like TV or you have very strict parents!

6-10

You like watching TV but you're not a TV addict.

11-15

You watch a lot of TV. Be careful *not* to become an addict!

16-20

You are definitely a TV addict!

PHRASEBOOK

**Talking about the results of a survey**

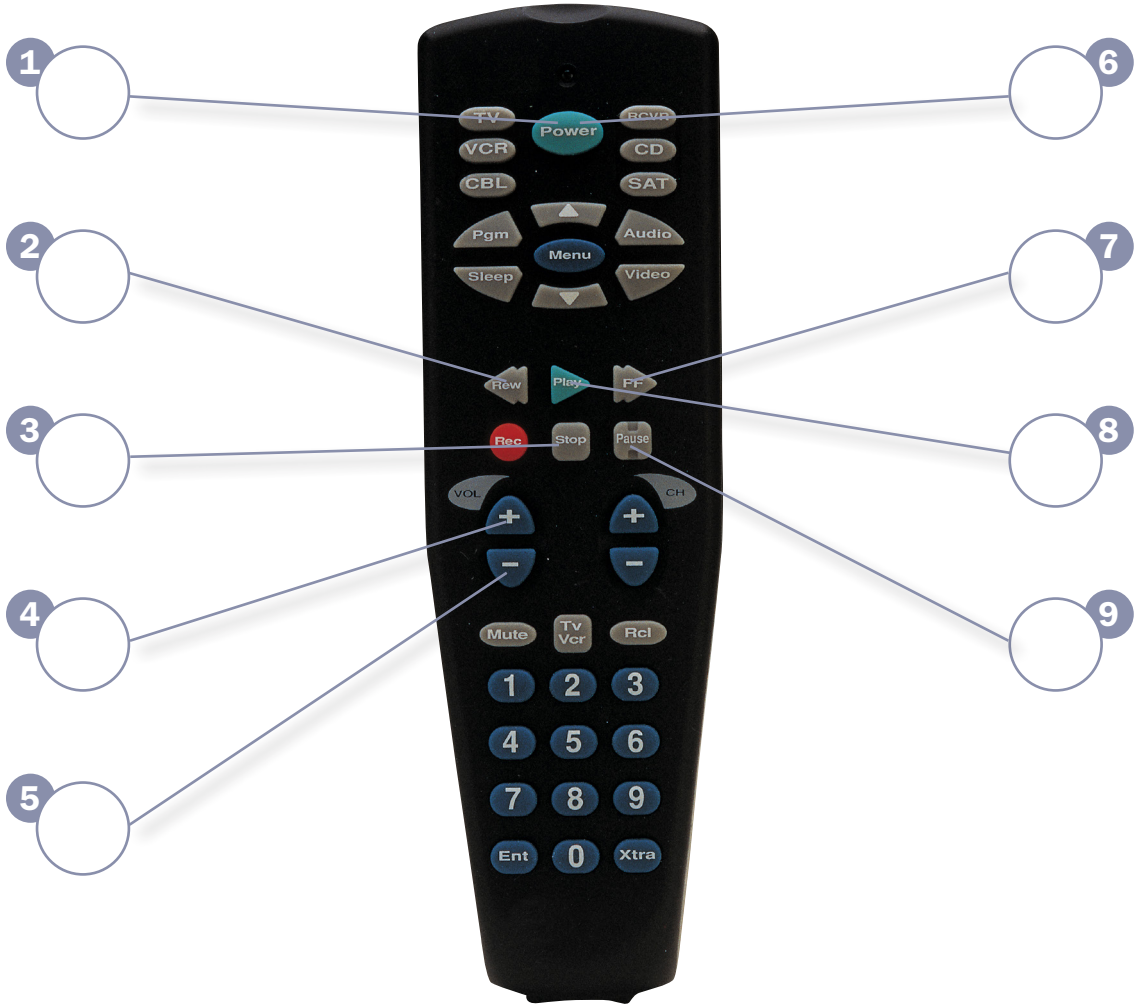
- Do the results of the survey surprise you?
- It looks like the (vast) majority of people in our class are TV addicts.
- There are only a few TV addicts in our class.
- Judging by the results, roughly ___% of the class are (not) TV addicts.
- I was surprised to learn that ...
- I'm not sure the results are that reliable. People aren't always honest about their habits.



ON TELEVISION

Matching

Match each instruction with the correct symbol.



- | | | | | |
|---------|--------|--------------|-----------------|----------|
| a. play | b. on | c. rewind | d. fast forward | e. pause |
| f. stop | g. off | h. volume up | i. volume down | |

TV actions

Which button would you press to ...

- a. ... turn the TV on?
- b. ... turn it up?
- c. ... turn it down?
- d. ... turn it off?
- e. ... start the DVD?

Your TV habits

Complete the sentences about TV habits using the verbs below.

watch	see	watch	switch on / turn on
switch off / turn off	turn over	watch	turn down

- I quite often _____ the TV as soon as I get home.
- I like _____ TV while I'm eating.
- I _____ a really good film on TV last week.
- If someone comes to visit, we usually _____ the TV.
- I try to _____ the news at least once a day.
- I don't like adverts, so I generally _____ to another channel while they're on. Also, the volume of adverts is always high, so, if I do _____ them, I have to _____ the volume.

TV programmes

Complete the table with the TV programmes below. Then, write your favourite programmes in the table.

EastEnders	Octonauts	The Simpsons
Jimmy Kimmel Live	Who wants to be a millionaire?	The Bridge
The X Factor	How I met your mother	Africa

type of programme	example	my favourite
a cartoon		
a children's programme		
a documentary		
a drama		
a talent show		
a sitcom		
a soap opera		
a talk show		
a quiz show		

Use this grid to plan your own prime-time TV schedule for Thursday evening.

THURSDAY	8.00	
	8.30	
	9.00	
	9.30	
	10.00	
	10.30	
	11.00	

