Watching TV

Warmer – Types of TV programmes

Unscramble the letters to spell types of TV programmes.

1. paso  s _ _ _
2. okermave  m _ _ _ _ _
3. skid  k _ _
4. posrts  s _ _ _ _
5. aliter  r _ _ _ _
6. darycuenotm  d _ _ _ _ _ _
7. drmaa  d _ _ _
8. corekyo  c _ _ _ _
9. iwfeldil  w _ _ _ _ _ _
10. valert  t _ _ _ _

Can you think of any examples of these programmes on British television just now? What other types of TV programmes do you know?

Task 1 – Discussion

Talk with your group about television. Use some of the questions below.

• Do you watch TV in English?
• How much time do you spend watching TV?
• What types of programmes do you watch? Why?
Task 2 – First viewing

Watch and listen to Anne talking about the programmes she watches and answer the questions.

1. How much time does Anne spend watching TV?

2. What types of programmes does Anne mention? Put a tick next to those she mentions:
   • documentaries
   • wildlife programmes
   • soaps
   • programmes about family history
   • crime thrillers
   • cookery programmes
   • horror films
   • reality programmes
   • programmes about antiques
   • travel

Check your answers with a partner.

Answer the follow-up questions with your partner
• Which of the programmes does Anne like or dislike?
• Can you remember why?
Task 3 – second viewing

You are going to watch the video clip again. Before viewing, try to fill the gaps below.

Hi. Do you watch much TV? I do. I watch quite a lot of TV, actually, 3 or 4 hours every evening. What kind of programmes do you like? I'm quite ________ in wildlife programmes but I find programmes about antiques and family history quite ________, although I know a lot of people are ________ in them.

I like ________ crime thrillers with lots of action and a strong story line, but I don't like horror films because I don't want to be ________ just before I go to bed, because I'll just have bad dreams all night.

What about you? What's your favourite TV programme?

Task 4 – Choosing the correct adjective

Choose the correct adjective to complete the sentences.

1. I enjoy watching soaps because I think they are really __________ (interested/interesting).
2. I sometimes get a bit __________ (bored/boring) when I watch the news.
3. I feel __________ (frightened/frightening) when I watch horror films.
4. I missed Big Brother last night. I'm really __________ (annoyed/annoying) because I was quite __________ (interested/interesting) in what was going to happen next.
5. I was really __________ (shocked/shocking) by the end of the film. It was very __________ (surprised/surprising).
6. The football match I watched last night was very __________ (exciting/excited).
Grammar summary  Look at the information in the boxes on using –ed/-ing adjectives.

**-ed adjectives**
We describe people’s feelings using –ed adjectives. We use the verb ‘to be’.
- I’m interested in the programme...
- He was bored with the film.

We can also use other verbs such as get and feel.
- I get bored when I watch TV....
- I felt bored during the soap.

We use adverbs to show how much:
- I am a bit/a little/quite/pretty/very/really interested in documentaries.

**-ing adjectives**
We describe what causes our emotions using –ing adjectives. We use the verb ‘to be’.
- It’s an interesting programme.....
- The film was boring.

We can also use other verbs such as find, look and sound.
- I find wildlife programmes interesting..... That programme looks boring.....
- The film sounds exciting.

We use adverbs to show how much:
- The film was a bit/a little/quite/pretty/really/very boring.
Task 5 – Talking about likes and dislikes/giving reasons

Take turns to ask each other about the types of programmes in Task 1.

• What do you think of…?
• Do you like…?
• Do you ever watch…?

This material is based on:
http://esol.britishcouncil.org/grammar-lessons/watching-television-adjectives
(Note: Use the ESOL Nexus website to do some grammar practice at home)