

Media around the world



VOCABULARY

Habits and preferences

1 Cross out the expression that does *not* fit.

- I can't stand / I'm really into / I hardly ever watch sport on TV. I find it really boring.
- I don't watch much TV. I'd rather / I prefer to / I used to read a book or listen to the radio.
- I'm not keen on / I'm a big fan of / I'm really into reality shows. I know they're stupid, but they're really entertaining.
- When I want to hear the news when I'm working, I tend to / I'll / I hardly ever listen to the radio on the Internet.

GRAMMAR

Talking about the present

2 Complete what Melanie says with the correct form of the verbs in brackets: present simple, present progressive or present perfect simple.

When I lived at home, I used to watch quite a lot of television in the evenings with my mum, but now I ¹ 've moved (move) to Auckland and I ² _____ (not watch) it much. There are too many other things to do – I ³ _____ (enjoy) meeting new people and checking out new places at the moment. I ⁴ _____ (use) the Internet a lot at work, so when I'm at home I ⁵ _____ (prefer) to read or watch a movie. I ⁶ _____ (see) some really good films recently – now I don't have to watch the programmes my mum likes!



Melanie, New Zealand

3 Complete the questions with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

- A Are you reading anything at the moment? (read)
 B Only some stuff for work, actually.
- A _____ you _____ any TV programmes in English? (watch)
 B I sometimes see the news on the BBC or Al Jazeera.
- A _____ you _____ the news today? (hear)
 B No, what's happened?
- A _____ you _____ the same kind of programmes as you used to do? (enjoy)
 B Well, I still like documentaries and nature programmes, but I've stopped watching reality shows.
- A _____ you _____ any good TV series at the moment? (watch)
 B No, there's nothing very interesting on.
- A _____ you _____ anything good recently? (read)
 B Yes, I read a really good book by someone called Fred Vargas, who's a woman, actually!

Over to you

Write your answers to the six questions, or record them using the DVD-ROM.

VOCABULARY

Talking about facts and information

4 Complete the words in this advice for young journalists.

TIPS FOR YOUNG JOURNALISTS
 Want to be a journalist? Make sure you get the facts right!

- ✓ Use ¹**re liable** _____ sources! Get your information from places you can ²**tr**_____.
- ✓ Check those numbers! Don't use ³**in**_____ data or statistics.
- ✓ Be honest! People might enjoy gossip or ⁴**sc**_____ about famous people, but don't ⁵**m**_____ **u**_____ stories – you'll be in big trouble if your story's a ⁶**f**_____.

VOCABULARY

Evaluating and recommending

5 Match the sentence halves.

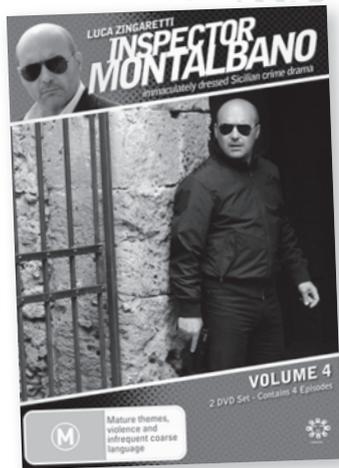
- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Listening to music on your MP3 player is a great way ... | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 If you're doing research, it's a bad idea ... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 The Internet is a good place ... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 Now is a good time ... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 Online newspapers are an easy way ... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 It's a good idea ... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
- a to read different people's opinions.
 b to get up-to-date news.
 c to start an online magazine.
 d to download podcasts of programmes you like, so you can listen to them again.
 e to relax when you're travelling.
 f to get all your information from just one source, like Wikipedia.

6 Add *really* to make sentences 1–3 stronger, and *quite* to make sentences 4–6 weaker.

really
 1 Listening to music on your MP3 player is a **l** great way to relax when you're travelling.

VOCABULARY

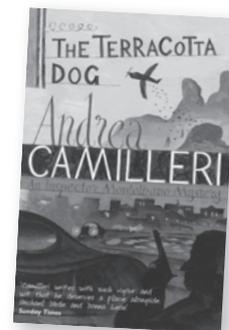
Describing books and TV shows



7 Complete the expressions in bold using the words in the box.

about based ~~called~~ found has looks really say shows well-known

- 1 **It's by someone** called Andrea Camilleri.
- 2 **It's** _____ this police detective, Salvo Montalbano.
- 3 **It** _____ a well-known actor **in it**.
- 4 **I** _____ **it** quite hard to read.
- 5 **It** _____ **at** the reality of life in a small town in Sicily.
- 6 **People** _____ **it's** very realistic.
- 7 **It's quite a** _____ series.
- 8 **It's** _____ **on** life in the writer's own town.
- 9 **Basically, it** _____ **you** the character of this police inspector.
- 10 **It's a** _____ interesting programme.



8 Which sentences are about the book? Which are about the TV series? Which can be both?

1

MYEnglish

9 Read what Christine says about learning English through the media and choose the correct way to complete the sentences.

- Twenty years ago, Christine used English / Spanish more for her work and free-time activities.
- Compared with twenty years ago, Christine has more / less contact with English.

I'm from England originally, but I live in Spain with my husband, Ramón. We run a riding school near Bilbao. When I first came here about twenty years ago, I had to learn Spanish fast, as I hardly ever saw or heard English. All films and TV programmes were dubbed in Spanish, there was just one bookshop that had a few, very expensive English books, and I occasionally found an English newspaper or magazine at the station. Now it's totally different – we have a satellite so I can watch English and American TV, films on DVD have the original language, and of course the Internet is brilliant for online papers, radio, podcasts, video clips ... everything! And if I want to read an English book, it's quick and cheap to order online. Brilliant! My kids really enjoy their English lessons, too – their teachers often use stuff from the Internet in class. There's never been a better time to learn English, I think.



YOUR English

10 Have you ever used the resources Christine talks about in your English classes? For the things you have used, circle a number: 1 = I didn't like this, 5 = I liked this a lot.

a film, or part of a film	1	2	3	4	5
a TV programme, or part of one	1	2	3	4	5
a book, or part of a book	1	2	3	4	5
an article from a newspaper	1	2	3	4	5
an article from a magazine	1	2	3	4	5
a radio programme, or part of one	1	2	3	4	5
a podcast	1	2	3	4	5
a video clip	1	2	3	4	5

11 How easy is it for you to find these things in English *outside* the classroom? Have you read, watched or listened to any of them? Which did you enjoy the most? Which was the most difficult?

12 How much do you agree with Christine that 'there's never been a better time to learn English'?

