

Let Me Entertain You



Start thinking!

What different forms of entertainment can you think of?

Do you ever go to the theatre?

Do you ever read TV, film or theatre reviews?



Reading

- 1**  **2.04** Read this newspaper column. Which programme would you most like to watch?



Lucy Chang tells you what's new (and not so new!) on your screens this summer.

I always look forward to this time of year, and I'm always disappointed!

It's the time of year when the TV channels tell us their plans for the summer and every year I tell myself that it might be different. It never is. Take SuperTV, for example. This channel, on our screens for five years now, broadcasts a depressing mix of game shows and music videos. So what do we find in the new schedule? *I'm The One*, a game show with holidays as prizes, and *VJ-TV*, yet another music video programme with brainless presenters.

- 13** **They're** also planning to repeat the dreadful chat show *Star Quality*, which is about as entertaining as watching grass grow. Why can't they come up with new ideas?

TV REVIEW

Channel 9 does a little better. Now that *Train Driver* has finished, they've decided to replace it with *Staff Room*, a reality show that follows teachers around all day. It should be the hit of the summer, giving us an idea of what really goes on when the lesson is over. Who doesn't want to see and hear what teachers say about their students at the end of the school day? Great stuff! Together with *Life in Aylesford Street*, the soap opera that everyone's talking about, it looks like Channel 9 could be the channel to watch this summer.

Over on BTv1, Max Read is back with *Joke-a-Cola*, the comedy show. The first series was slightly amusing, the second hilarious. Let's wait and see what the third series is like. Comedy is difficult to get right, but it ought to be great. I wish I could say the same about the sitcom, *Oh! Those Kids!* It's enough to look at the expressions on the faces of the cast! It's obvious they know it's rubbish and the script is just so badly written! Oh! Those writers!

- 2** Read the statements from the column and decide if they are facts or express the writer's opinion.

- 1 SuperTV has been broadcasting for five years.
- 2 The presenters of *VJ-TV* aren't very intelligent.
- 3 *Staff Room* is replacing *Train Driver*.
- 4 *Life in Aylesford Street* is very popular.
- 5 *Joke-a-Cola* will be funny.
- 6 There is a lot of choice of entertainment.

3 Read the text again. For questions 1–6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

- 1 At this time of year
 - A the TV channels change all their programmes.
 - B the writer disappoints the TV channels with her reviews.
 - C the writer hopes for something that never happens.
 - D the writer's favourite programmes often disappear.
- 2 What does 'They' in line 13 refer to?
 - A SuperTV
 - B the TV channels
 - C the presenters of *VJ-TV*
 - D TV viewers
- 3 The writer says that *Staff Room* will probably
 - A be successful.
 - B shock students.
 - C be worse than *Train Driver*.
 - D be on instead of *Life in Aylesford Street*.

- 4 The writer thinks that *Joke-a-Cola* is now
 - A more difficult to understand.
 - B more popular with viewers.
 - C funnier than before.
 - D more like a sitcom.
- 5 Because of the choice of entertainment
 - A people watch more television.
 - B people move to areas with more facilities.
 - C programme makers have to tell lies.
 - D programmes have to be more exciting.
- 6 The writer thinks that television
 - A will never be as popular as the theatre is.
 - B should show more programmes about hobbies.
 - C could lose its popularity in the future.
 - D ought to provide more than just entertainment.

The programme makers must think we'll watch anything. That's just not true. People might have hundreds of channels on their TV or might live near a cinema with a dozen screens. There is so much choice of entertainment these days – TV, the cinema, the theatre, even the internet – that they have to work hard to keep their audience. What they should be doing is making new, exciting programmes. Where are the programmes that make people think they must stay in to watch them?

We have to ask ourselves what entertainment is. We have to think about what people do with their leisure time. Television has been popular for about 50–60 years but it might not be popular forever. More people are going to the cinema and theatre than ever before. More people are surfing the internet or playing computer games than ever before. If *Oh! Those Kids!* is all that the TV can offer, why should we watch it? With one or two exceptions, this summer's programmes will make more people turn off than turn on.

WORD BOX

4 Use words or phrases from the text to complete the definitions. You've been given the first letter to help you.

- 1 M_____ v_____ are short films showing musicians singing their songs.
- 2 If something is e_____, it is enjoyable and interesting.
- 3 A h_____ is a great success.
- 4 If something is a_____, it's a little funny, but not very.
- 5 If something is h_____, it's very funny.
- 6 The group of people who act in a programme, film or play is called the c_____.
- 7 The s_____ contains all the words the actors have to learn.
- 8 Another phrase meaning 'free time' or 'spare time' is l_____ t_____.



Have your say!

- Which of the programmes mentioned in the TV review would you like to watch?
- Do you watch any programmes similar to the ones mentioned in the review?

G Grammar clinic

Modals (1)

👁 Look at *Grammar database* pages 187–188 before you do the exercises.

1 Read the sentences and phrases from the article on pages 86 and 87. Match each one to an explanation.

- ... every year I tell myself that it *might* be different.
- Why *can't* they come up with new ideas?
- It *should* be the hit of the summer, ...
- The programme makers *must* think we'll watch anything.
- What they *should* be doing is ...
- We *have to* ask ourselves what entertainment is.

This expresses ...

- something which is probable.
- an ability/inability.
- something which is possible.
- a way of giving advice.
- a certain opinion.
- an obligation.

2 Choose the correct option to show the meaning of the verb in italics.

- They *should* close down the theatre in this town because nobody ever goes.
a giving advice b giving permission
- I think I *might* stay in and watch the film on Channel 4 this evening.
a expressing obligation b expressing possibility
- My mum says I *can* be in the school play.
a expressing ability b giving permission
- Do you *have to* go to university to become an actor?
a asking about obligation
b asking about probability

3 Choose the correct verb in each sentence.

- You really _____ go and see Spielberg's latest. It's brilliant!
a could b should c might
- Oh, Dad! Do we _____ watch that opera programme again?
a must b should c have to
- I read somewhere that Isla Fisher _____ be on TV tonight.
a might b can c has to
- Ask your parents if you _____ come to the concert with me.
a can b ought to c will
- I really _____ get some new clothes to go to the theatre.
a might b must c could

4 Rewrite the sentences using the verbs in brackets.

- Justin Bieber's new song will probably win an award. (**should**)
Justin _____
- There's a possibility that Madonna is recording a new album. (**might**)
Madonna _____
- People's ears are often damaged by listening to very loud music. (**can**)
Listening _____
- You can get me a CD if you like, but it's not necessary. (**have to**)
You _____
- We should probably check to see if there are any tickets left. (**ought to**)
We _____
- I'm thinking of going to the theatre while I'm in London. (**might**)
I _____

Entertainment

1 Use the words in the box to answer the questions.

rehearsal • audition • play • critic
review • stage • act

- Where do the actors perform in a theatre?
- What do we call a dramatic performance in a theatre?
- What do actors do?
- What do we call the test actors do before they get the part?
- Who judges theatre performances for a newspaper or magazine?
- Where do we read a judgement of a theatre performance?
- What do we call a practice of a performance?

2 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in exercise 1.

- The _____ were terrible! I'm surprised the play didn't close sooner.
- We saw a great _____ the other day. *Blue Murder*, it was called.
- I can't meet you on Friday because I'm in the school play and we've got a(n) _____.
- The _____ absolutely loved the performance but the public just didn't seem to be interested.
- The curtain went up and two actors came out onto the _____.
- I'm really nervous about the _____. Hope I get the part.
- I know she's beautiful, but she can't _____ and I'm not having her in my show.

Confusable words

3 Circle the correct word or phrase in each sentence.

- I was always very **popular/famous** at school.
- Nobody seems to like my favourite group, but they're very **popular/famous**.
- In my free time, I like to **hear/listen** to music, especially rap music.
- Sh! I think I can **hear/listen to** music coming from upstairs.
- I'm going to call Sarah to **tell/say/speak** to her about the tickets.
- What did Mark **tell/say/speak** you about the film he saw?
- Some people **tell/say/speak** that pop music is a kind of art.
- I love **reading/studying** romantic books and books for teenagers.
- I love **reading/studying** English grammar, believe it or not!

Collocations: entertainment

4 Match to make common phrases about entertainment.

- | | |
|--------|-------------------|
| 1 get | a a joke funny |
| 2 find | b the joke |
| 3 tell | c fun |
| 4 have | d fun of somebody |
| 5 make | e a joke |

I don't get it!

5 Write a word in each gap. Use the phrases from exercise 4 to help you.

My friends and I often sit around and (1) _____ jokes. We (2) _____ a lot of fun, but no-one ever (3) _____ my jokes funny! I don't know why. Maybe I just haven't got a good sense of humour. And I hate it when someone tells a joke and I don't (4) _____ it. I always feel stupid! I also don't like it when someone makes (5) _____ of somebody else in the group - probably because it's usually me they're making fun (6) _____ !



Listening

1 You are going to listen to an interview on an online radio station. Before you listen, look at the sentences in exercise 2. In pairs talk about:

- what type of word or phrase (noun, verb, etc) might fill each gap.
- what actual words or phrases might fill each gap.

2 **2.05** Listen to the interview. For questions 1–8, complete the sentences.

In a previous show, they asked for ideas of enjoyable things teenagers can do **1** _____.

Liz says making a short film is lots of fun and very

2 _____.

It's not a good idea to film yourselves without

3 _____.

Liz says that **4** _____ is not necessary.

There may sometimes be difficulties with outdoor

5 _____ quality.

You can choose whether to write a (n)

6 _____ or just a rough outline.

The person holding the camera should also be

7 _____.

Choose the characters, time and place carefully so that the actors can **8** _____.



Soundbite /ə/



2.06 Listen and pay attention to the vowel sound in the syllables underlined.

There's a new theatre across the road from me.

One syllable in each word contains the sound /ə/. Underline the syllable. Listen and check your answers.

letter about entertain teacher

leisure exercise occur

3 Were any of your guesses in exercise 1 right or nearly right?



Speaking

1 Decide what you like and dislike about the activities. Write something in each box. Use your imagination.

	... reading books because going to pop concerts because ...
I like ...		
I dislike ...		

2 Work in pairs. One of you should read the instructions and the other should talk for one minute. Then swap.

What do you like and dislike about each form of entertainment?

I'd like you to compare and contrast the two photos and say what you like and dislike about each form of entertainment.

Look at *Speaking database - Comparing and Expressing preferences* on page 165.





Use of English

Parts of speech

1 Choose the kind of word that is needed to complete the sentences.

- The audience clapped _____ and the actors came back onto the stage.
a adverb b adjective
- The stadium is great for concerts because of its _____.
a adjective b noun
- I love reading _____ books with characters my age in them.
a adjective b adverb
- Do you think we could _____ what we're doing this evening?
a noun b verb
- I really get a lot of _____ out of watching and reading about sports.
a noun b adjective

2 Now decide what parts of speech the words in the box are. Use five of them to complete the sentences in exercise 1.

loud • loudness • sizeable • decide
 enjoyable • exciting • excited • decision
 decisive • size • loudly • enjoyment
 indecisive • enjoy

3 Choose two words from the box you didn't know before. Write sentences using those words. In groups, compare your sentences.

Word formation: prefixes

4 Use the prefixes to form the negative of the adjectives and nouns. One of them has two answers.

	un-	dis-	in-
able		believable	expected
ability		clear	lucky
advantage		comfort	organised
approve		comfortable	suitable
belief		employed	

5 For questions 1–10, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0). Write your answers IN CAPITAL LETTERS.

BUSKING

Street (0) PERFORMERS, or 'buskers', help make any city centre a place of (1) _____. In every major European city you can find young, (2) _____ people juggling, playing the guitar or even doing magic tricks for money. All they need is a(n) (3) _____ place to perform and a good crowd. Some people might (4) _____ of busking and find it annoying, but most people in the city centre agree that it's an (5) _____ break from shopping and having to rush around when there's an (6) _____ show in the street. Some young people, (7) _____ to afford a luxury trip around the world, busk in order to travel. It can be (8) _____, but it is a very cheap way to see the world. A few hours playing, unless you are (9) _____, will pay for a bed or a bus ticket. The (10) _____ is that you need to have some talent or you might go hungry!

- PERFORM
- ENTERTAIN
- EMPLOY
- SUIT

- APPROVE

- ENJOY
- EXPECT
- ABLE
- COMFORT

- LUCK
- ADVANTAGE

Writing

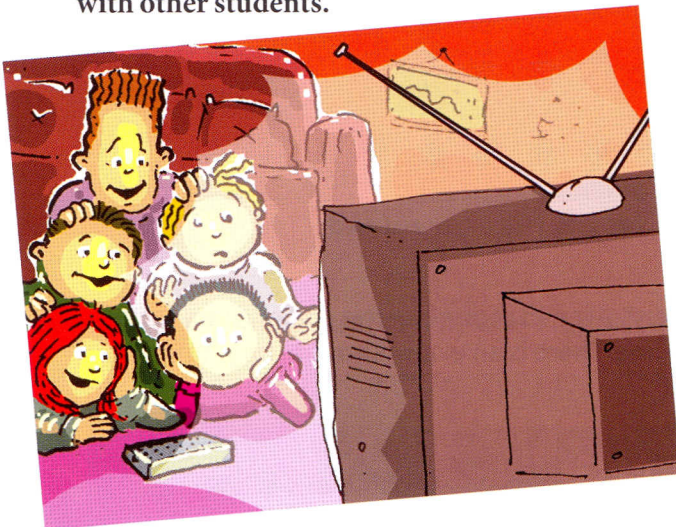
An essay

👁 Look at *Writing database - essays* on page 153 before you do the exercises.

1 Make notes to answer the questions.

- 1 What programmes are there on TV for children?
- 2 Which programmes are popular?
- 3 Which of these would you like to see more of? Why?
 - cartoons
 - drama for children
 - news for children
 - game shows for children
- 4 Should children's TV educate or entertain? Why?

Talk about your answers with the class. Explain clearly why you agree or disagree with other students.



2 Read this writing task. What kind of style would be appropriate?

You have had a class discussion on TV programmes for children. Now your English teacher has asked you to write an essay, giving your opinions on this question:

Should children's TV educate or entertain?

Write an **essay** of between **120** and **180** words in an appropriate style.

Working model

3 Read the answer to the writing task.

1 Children today are under more pressure than ever and need to relax. **They** often do **this** by watching television. **Although** parents worry about how **it** will affect them, I believe television should entertain, rather than educate.

6 **First of all**, there is no reason why television for children should be different from television for adults. The most popular programmes tend to be game shows and drama series. Adults watch **them** to relax after a busy day at work and children should also be able to relax after a hard day at
12 school.

Secondly, programmes such as **these** do teach us things. Game shows improve your general knowledge. Drama series teach us about human relationships and the problems people face. **Despite** **their** parents' disapproval, children learn a lot while
18 they are being entertained.

To sum up, children's television should provide quality entertainment. Instead of uninteresting educational programmes, there should be game shows and drama series made for children.

It should be a way for **them** to escape their
24 problems, **although** watching too much television might cause problems with schoolwork, **for instance**.

4 Do you agree with the writer? Why? / Why not?

5 The words in red are important! Decide what each word in red refers to.

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1 They (line 2) | 5 these (line 13) |
| 2 this (line 2) | 6 their (line 17) |
| 3 it (line 3) | 7 It (line 23) |
| 4 them (line 9) | 8 them (line 23) |

6 The words and phrases in blue are also important. Decide which words and phrases in blue are used ...

- to refer to an example. _____
- to introduce the conclusion. _____
- to refer to a negative point.
_____ / _____
- to introduce the first main point. _____
- to introduce the next main point. _____

Ready to write!

7 Read this writing task.

You have had a class discussion about television. Now your English teacher has asked you to write an essay, giving your opinions on this question:
Do children nowadays watch too much TV?

Write an **essay** of between **120** and **180** words in an appropriate style.

8 Before you write, complete the essay plan.

what I'm going to include

- Paragraph 1 _____

- Paragraph 2 _____

- Paragraph 3 _____

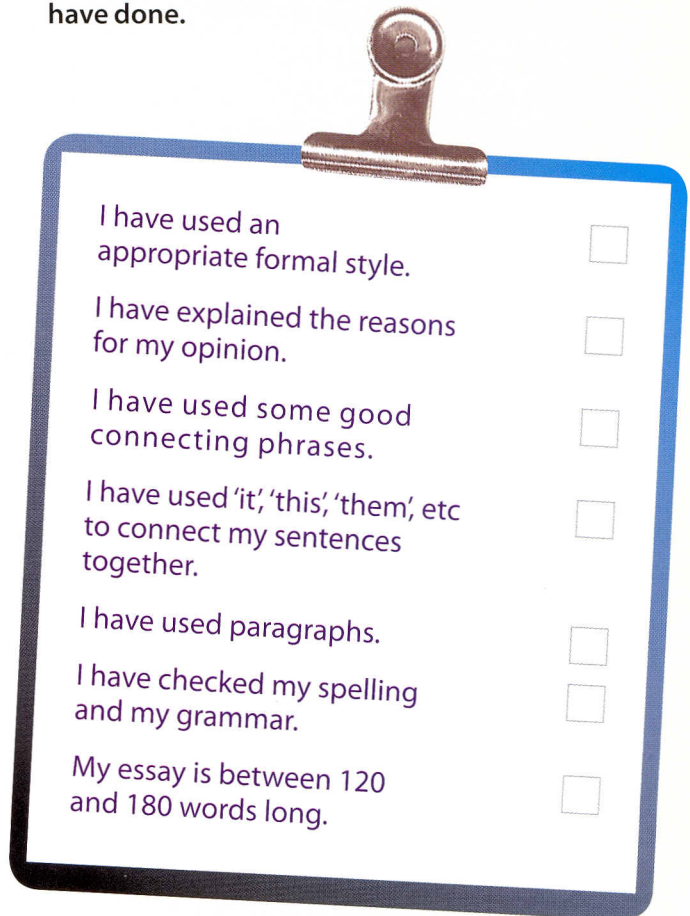
- Paragraph 4 _____

Now write!

9 You are now ready to write your essay. Use your notes to help you. Use some of the connecting phrases. Use 'it', 'this', 'them', etc to connect your sentences.

Check it out!

10 Check your work. Tick (✓) what you have done.



Look Back

Can you answer these questions? If you can't remember, look through the unit for the answers.

- What is another word for a great success?
- Which of these modals can be used for giving advice? *could should might*
- What do critics write?
- If lots of people like you, are you popular or famous?
- What is a busker?

Now complete **Writing Planner 10** on page 159.