

Activity Type

Speaking Activity: information gap, asking and answering questions from prompts (pair work)

Focus

Types of TV programme

Aim

To learn about different types of TV programme by asking and answering questions about what's on TV.

Preparation

Make one copy of the two worksheets for each pair of students.

Level

Pre-intermediate (A2)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

In this TV programme information gap activity, students learn about different types of TV programme by asking and answering questions about what's on TV.

Procedure

Draw two columns on the board. Label the first column 'Names of TV programmes' and the second column 'Types of TV programme'.

Ask the students what TV programmes they watch and write their answers in the first column.

Then, elicit the type of TV programme for each one and write the answer in the second column.

Example:

Q: What kind of programme is Game of Thrones?

A: It's a drama.

It may be necessary to pre-teach some of the more difficult TV genres such as docudrama, soap opera, or current affairs programme.

Ask additional questions about viewing times and channels, e.g. 'What time is it on?' 'What channel is it on?' Remind students to use the preposition *at* with times and *on* with channels.

Next, divide the students into pairs (Student A and B).

Give each student a corresponding worksheet.

Tell the students not to show their worksheet to their partner.

Explain that the students are going to complete the missing information in the TV guide on their worksheet by asking questions to their partner about what's on TV.

Go through the example questions and answers on the worksheet.

Students then ask and answer questions with their partner and complete the missing information in the TV guide.

When the students have finished, have them check their answers by comparing worksheets with their partner.

Afterwards, have a class feedback session to find out which TV shows the students would like to watch from the worksheet and why.

Student A

Complete the missing information in tonight's TV guide by asking questions to your partner about what's on TV.

Example: Q: What's on Channel 5 at six o'clock?

A: Family Guy.

Q: What kind of programme is Family Guy?

A: It's a cartoon.

Evening	Channel 1	Channel 2	Channel 3	Channel 4
6:00 - 6:30		Chernobyl (docudrama)		Masterchef (cooking show)
6:30 - 7:00	The Big Bang Theory (sitcom)		Days of Our Lives (soap opera)	
7:00 - 8:00			The Walking Dead (drama)	The Price is Right (game show)
8:00 - 9:00	Wish You Were Here (travel show)	Life on Earth (documentary)		

Student B

Complete the missing information in tonight's TV guide by asking questions to your partner about what's on TV.

Example: Q: What's on Channel 5 at six o'clock?

A: Family Guy.

Q: What kind of programme is Family Guy?

A: It's a cartoon.

Evening	Channel 1	Channel 2	Channel 3	Channel 4
6:00 - 6:30	The Daily Show (news programme)		Match of the Day (sports show)	
6:30 - 7:00		The Simpsons (cartoon)		Last Week Tonight (talk show)
7:00 - 8:00	Who wants to be a millionaire? (quiz show)	Panorama (current affairs programme)		
8:00 - 9:00			American Idol (reality show)	Animal Kingdom (wildlife programme)