

CBET in ACTION

Episode 7: “Using Television to Teach English”

BEFORE the VIDEO Questions

Think about or discuss these questions before watching the video:

- What do you usually watch on TV?
- Are you going to watch TV tonight? If so, what will you watch?
- Do you like to watch children’s programs?
- How often do you rent videos? How often do you watch TV?
- What is one of your favorite TV shows? Why do you like it?
- What is the most popular drama/comedy/game show in your country, and what is the storyline (drama) or format (game show)?

BEFORE the VIDEO Vocabulary List

Look up any words you don’t know in a dictionary or ask your teacher.
Write the meaning. One is done as an example:

- algae similar to plant and lives in water, e.g. seaweed
- to appreciate _____
- an audience _____
- a dinosaur _____
- a drawback _____
- a flamingo _____
- a giraffe _____
- guidelines _____
- habitat _____
- input _____
- make-believe _____
- ratings _____
- a sample _____
- a suggestion _____
- to take it upon oneself _____
- tempting _____
- valuable _____

WITHIN the VIDEO

Answer the following questions:

1. How does Tatyana feel about the topic of using television to teach English?

2. What is an example of an educational TV program?

3. What is “active watching” of TV?

4. What does the rating “TVY7” mean?

5. How can a parent make watching a basketball game educational?

Fill in the blanks with the missing words from the conversation between Ms. Zamora and the CBET students: [5 pts.]

6. See, there are many _____ things you can learn by _____ educational television.

7. I noticed that the video store in my _____ has a special _____ for educational videos.

8. Oh! That _____ me: you can also get educational videos at the _____.

9. I found a video at the library on how to _____ the guitar. My _____ is just starting out.

10. This is great. I like the way everyone here _____ the different kinds of educational television that’s out there. Now, in _____ to being educational, these videos can help your children further their English skills.

BEYOND the VIDEO

Answer the following question in complete sentences:

1. What are five adjectives one could use to describe an elephant? _____

2. What, in your opinion, are some good TV rules for children? _____

3. How can you find books related to what you watch on TV? _____

4. What are some of the drawbacks of TV, in your opinion? _____

5. Is it important that you watch TV with your children? Why or why not? _____

BEYOND the VIDEO GRAMMAR TAG QUESTIONS

A tag question is a short question added onto the end of a statement. An affirmative verb in the statement takes a negative tag. A negative verb in the statement takes an affirmative tag. Be sure the pronoun in the tag agrees with the subject of the statement. Note these examples:

statement	+ tag
<i>affirmative</i> Children <u>can</u> benefit from watching TV,	<i>negative</i> <u>can't they?</u>
Parents <u>are</u> their children's first teacher,	<u>aren't they?</u>
That program <u>had</u> important information,	<u>didn't it?</u>
<i>negative</i> Titanic <u>isn't</u> a children's movie,	<i>affirmative</i> <u>is it?</u>
Most people <u>don't</u> do anything while they watch TV,	<u>do they?</u>
You <u>shouldn't</u> forget to read to your children,	<u>should you?</u>

The tag question is a way to invite someone to have a conversation with you.

Circle the tag question that fits the best. The first is done as an example:

1. It could rain tomorrow, couldn't it? [could it?]
2. It's hot in here, [isn't it?] [doesn't it?]
3. I didn't make the best coffee, [did I?] [does I?]
4. Your husband can drive you to your CBET class, [can't she?] [can't he?]
5. Television should be used as an educational tool, [shouldn't it?] [should it?]
6. We're almost done with these exercises, [aren't we?] [aren't they?]
7. Maria isn't a bad student, [is it?] [is she?]
8. You look tired. You are, [aren't you?] [can you?]

**Elk Grove Adult and Community Education
CBET Distance Learning Program**

Complete the following sentences with a tag. The first is done as an example:

9. Parents should ask their children questions about what they watch on TV,
 shouldn't they?
10. Our CBET teacher didn't give us homework last night, _____
11. This is my picture dictionary, _____
12. You watch TV, _____
13. We can't rent a video without a library card, _____

Circle the tag that best completes each statement:

1. *CBET in Action* is an informative video series, isn't it? / can it?
2. Tatyana Petrovich enjoys spending Friday evenings watching TV with her son,
doesn't she? / does she?
3. They discussed how to use videos and television to help educate children, didn't
they? / didn't they.
4. We shouldn't watch videos only in our native language, shouldn't we? / should
we?
5. Daisy enjoyed the video *At the Zoo*, is she? / didn't she?

GRAMMAR ANSWERS

2. isn't it?
3. did I?
4. can't he?
5. shouldn't it?
6. aren't we?
7. is she?
8. aren't you?
9. *example*
10. did she?
11. isn't it?
12. don't you?
13. can we?