

EPISODE 74
LEVEL A1.2/A2.1

READING COMPREHENSION



WATCHING TV

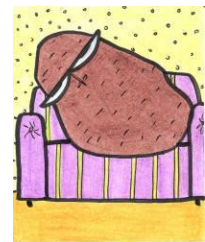
"Can we **switch the telly on**? (= Can we turn the TV on?) Where is **the remote** (= a special device with which you can for example change channels on TV)?"

"You are such **a couch potato** (= a person who spends most of their free time watching TV). **There is nothing on** (= they aren't showing anything interesting now) Let's go for a walk instead!"

"OK, but I'd like to watch the news on the second **channel** later on (= TVP 1, TVN 24, Discovery etc.)"

"But my favourite series starts at 9:00! We can't watch the news at the same time!"

"Well, this is what we can do: Let's watch a bit of your film until the **commercial break** (= time for advertisements) and then we'll **switch to** (= change the channel to) the news. It sounds ok, doesn't it?"



More contexts for the new words:

- I saw it **on TV**. (= You say it when you talk about films, programmes etc.)
- We spent the weekend in **a remote village**. (= far away from cities and other places to live)



EXERCISE 1

Add the missing vowels (a, e, l, o, u).

1. This film is boring. Let's SWTCH to the news instead.
2. I always go to the kitchen and make myself a sandwich during the CMMRCL BRK.
3. Most of my CHNNLS are in Polish, but I have a few in English, for example Discovery.
4. I've been switching the channels for an hour and it's all so boring! There's NTHNG N.
5. Dad is a real CCH PTT – all he does is sit on the sofa and watch TV.
6. I hate it when I can't find the RMT.
7. Let's switch the TLLY on and watch something.



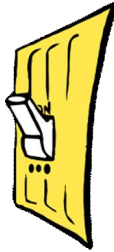
EXERCISE 2

Use the pictures to complete the questions, and then answer them.



1. Are you a couch or do you prefer to spend time more actively?

2. When there's nothing interesting on, how long do you wait before you



..... to a different channel?



3. How do you make sure your never gets lost?

<p>ENGLISH IN USE</p> 

And again we are going to look at an example of a question tag, but this time with a different construction.

*It sounds ok, **doesn't it?***

As you can see this time we use "**doesn't**" in our sentence. Why? Because we ask a question with "does" in the sentence: *It sounds ok*. For question tags we use the same words we ask questions with. And of course, we need to remember that when a sentence is negative, the question tag is positive. When a sentence is positive, the question tag is negative.

*It looks easy, **doesn't it?***

*It doesn't sound right, **does it?***

IDIOM CLOSE-UP



A/ Can I get the remote?

B/ No you can't. You'll be **CHANNEL-HOPPING** again!

When you're **channel-hopping**, you keep changing the channels from one to another very quickly.

PHRASAL VERBS CLOSE-UP



1. When you **CLOWN ABOUT**, you act like a clown.

*Kids tend to **clown about** after watching too many cartoons.*

*He always **clowned about** in the class.*

2. If a person, especially a child, plays up, they behave badly.

*I'm exhausted! The children have been really **playing up** this afternoon.*

*Stop **playing up** and wash the dishes!*



EXERCISE 3

Rewrite the sentences keeping the same meaning and using the word in capitals.

1. He always behaved badly when his friends were watching.

[UP]

2. John acted like a clown to cheer up his ill sister.

[ABOUT]

3. Please stop changing the channels.

[HOPPING]

NEWS



CHANNEL-HOPPING CONTEST

The first edition of an international channel-hopping contest has just started in Cracow. The contest has attracted hundreds of couch potatoes from all over the world, **eager** to prove their **prowess** with the remote. The rules are simple: you are sitting on a **comfy** sofa, in front of the telly, and you have to keep changing the channels longer than the competitors. The maximum pause allowed is five seconds. If you fall asleep – you're out. If you get tired – you're out. If you get **blisters** on your thumb and can no longer press the buttons on the remote – you're out. It is expected that the winner will last for at least a few days. So **stay tuned in** and **root for** your contestant!

GLOSSARY

- **eager** – willing
- **prowess** – skill
- **comfy** – comfortable
- **blisters** – painful swellings
- **stay tuned in** – keep watching TV
- **root for** - support

KEY TO EXERCISES

Ex.1

1. switch
2. commercial break
3. channels
4. nothing on
5. couch potato
6. remote
7. telly

Ex.2

1. potato
2. switch
3. remote

Ex.3

1. He always played up when his friends were watching.
2. John clowned about to cheer up his ill sister.
3. Please stop channel-hopping.