Stranger than fiction

What's new?

Subject:

Entertainment

Functions: Expressing likes and dislikes; talking about future plans and

intentions Language: going to future

The BIG question:

ARE REALITY SHOWS GOOD TV?

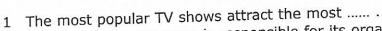
The first reality TV show was Survivor in 2000. Today in the USA, reality shows make up about 20% of all TV programmes.

FOCUS ON ...

Words

- A Match the TV shows with their definitions.
 - 1 soap opera -
 - 2 talk show
 - documentary
 - the news
 - game show

- a) what happened in the world today.
- b) people answer questions or do activities to win prizes.
- d) a presenter asks people about their lives.
- e) a daily or weekly story about the lives of fictional people.
- f) a programme that gives information about an interesting topic.
- **B** What sort of TV programmes do the photos show? Do you know any TV programmes like these?
- C Put the words in the box in the correct sentences.
 - a) contestants b) critic c) producer d) series e) viewers

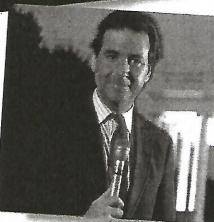


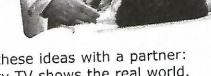
- 2 The of a programme is responsible for its organisation.
- 3 I can't wait for the new of my favourite show.
- 4 A TV writes reviews about programmes.
- 5 try to win prizes on game shows.
- **D** Combine the words from the text to make phrases.
 - 1 look like «
 - 2 do
 - 3 eat
 - 4 be
 - 5 have
- a) plastic surgery
- b) spiders
- c) gross
- d) a celebrity
- e) challenges

Ideas

- A Use Language Bank 6 to discuss with a partner what sorts of TV shows you like and don't like.
- B Discuss these ideas with a partner:
 - 1 Reality TV shows the real world.
 - 2 Reality TV is harmless entertainment.







3 READING

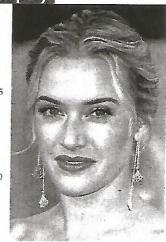
- A Look at the names of the TV shows and the photos. What do you think the two TV shows are about?
 - Tonight's TV: Is this reality? by Robert Gilbert, TV CRITIC

I want a famous face (10.30pm)

Twins Mike and Matt had plastic surgery to look like Brad Pitt. And last week Jeanette had stomach and breast operations: "I'm going to be Kate Winslet," she said before the 5 surgery. Tonight on I Want a Famous Face we're going to meet Jessica, who wants to be Jennifer Lopez.

MTV's documentary series is about people who want to look like their 10 favorite celebrity. It follows them before, during and after painful plastic surgery operations. The patients seem happy with their new faces and bodies, but they don't actually look like their favorite stars.

Lots of people want to look like stars such as Kate Winslet



Critics say the show trivializes plastic surgery and exploits people who feel bad about themselves. However, according to the MTV website, all the patients decided on their surgery and paid for it themselves; MTV just shows the operations. And having celebrity surgery seems to be a popular trend - there's going to be another series soon.

- **B** 1 What sort of TV shows are described?
 - Were your ideas in A correct?
 - Summarise what happens on each show.

C	Read these sentences about the two	shows
	Which are true (T) and which are	
	false (F)? Why?	T/I

- 1 On I Want a Famous Face people have plastic surgery on their face and body.
- 2 Critics like I Want a Famous Face.
- 3 After plastic surgery MTV patients look like their favourite stars.
- MTV is not going to make any more Famous Face programmes.
- Survivor is a documentary.
- 6 Tonight a new series of Survivor starts.
- 7 Survivor is a new show.
- 8 The challenges on Survivor are gross.

Survivor (7pm)

Tonight's Survivor program is the last in the series. On tonight's show, the final three contestants are going to do their last challenges - including

walking over 5 hot coals. All three are going to try and win the million dollar prize.

Survivor is the man reality TV game shows. know the story: 16 contestants 15 on a tropical island who find food, make their own house, do challenges – and 20 vote each other off the island. Viewers who



A contestant walks over hot coals

love watching the gross challenges of new reality game shows, find Survivor old- 25 fashioned. Contestants don't lie in a box with rats or eat spiders and fish eyes. On Survivor, the contestants' challenges are hard, but the hardest and most important part is living together. This is why the $_{\rm 30}$ show is special - and why it's such good TV. I'm certainly going to watch this one.

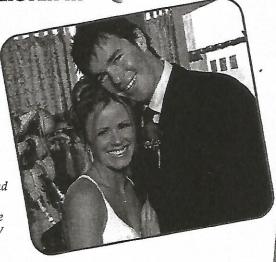
- Do you think these programmes show reality?
 - 2 Would you like to be on one of these shows? Which one? Why?/Why not?

LANGUAGE

- Find six sentences in the article with going to. Highlight them.
 - Do the sentences refer to past, present or future activities?
 - Are the actions in the sentences plans and intentions, or predictions?
 - How do we form the going to structure?

WORKBOOK UNIT 4: GOING TO FUTURE





Trista Rehn and Ryan Sulter found true love on a reality TV show

A Before you listen, look at the photos of two TV programmes. Would you like to watch these shows?



B You are going to listen to three people talking about TV shows. First check the meaning of these words and phrases:

unattractive beauty queen dumb humiliate they suck! worms

C Listen to the conversation and tick (the correct boxes.

	Likes reality TV	Dislikes reality TV
Speaker 1		
Speaker 2		
Speaker 3		

D Listen again and write the correct speaker (1, 2 or 3) for each statement. 1/2/3

a) I like reality shows. Some are really dumb.

b) I'd love to be on a show like that and be famous.

c) These shows just exploit and humiliate people.

d) I love all the reality shows.

e) It's not as real as you think.

f) It's their own fault if they can't cope with problems.

These people go on game shows for the money.



Aimee Baum, a 32-year-old housewife from Las Vegas, after her appearance on a make-over TV show

Casting call: Beautiful People

We are looking for contestants for the next series of Beautiful People. We are looking for you and a friend, a cousin, a sister, mom, daughter, aunt or neighbor, to get a new face and body. Apply now!

YOUR TURN TO SPEAK

A Role play

Look at the internet casting call for Beautiful People. You would like to be on the show with your best friend but your friend doesn't want to do it. Can you persuade him or her?

B Conversation

Work with a partner. Use Language Bank 7 to talk about the following:

1 What shows are you going to watch on TV this week? Why?

2 What programme are you definitely not going to watch?

3 What else are you going to do in your free time this week?

YOUR TOPIC

Choose a popular soap opera or game show on TV in your country. Make notes about:

What sort of programme it is; how often it is

Who the characters, presenters or contestants are.

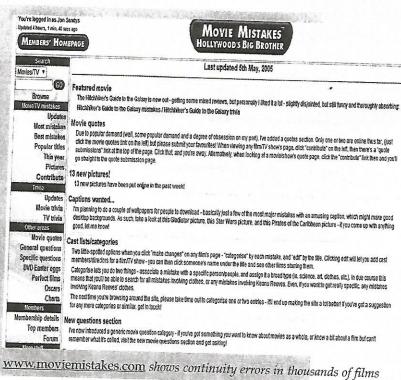
What happens in the show.

Why you like or don't like it.

Tell your class about the programme. Answer their questions.

8

MEDIA STUDIES in English



Continuity

In movies, continuity is making sure that the people, things, places and events stay the sain different shots or scenes. There are two typof continuity errors:

- Visual errors: things change colour and things change place or disappear in the same scene. Visual mistakes happen because the order of the filming is not the same as the order of the final movie. The crew perhaps films a scene from the end of a movie first, then one from the middle and so on. Location, weather, the light, and the cast can all influence a shooting schedule.
- Plot errors: a mistake in the story of the movie. For example, a character says he was an only child, but later says he has a sister. Plot errors often happen in complicated science fiction or fantasy movie

A Find words in the text which mean:

- the story of a film (UK) / movie (US).
- 2 the team that make the film.
- 3 a part of the film.
- 4 a place outside the studio where filming takes place.
- 5 the actors in a film.
- 6 the timetable for filming a film.
- **B** Say whether these mistakes are visual or plot errors.
 - 1 Terminator 3: a plane's number changes from N3035C on the ground to N9373F in the air.
 - 2 Spider-Man: Spider-Man throws two men into two windows and breaks them. A minute later the two windows are OK.
 - 3 Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban: Arthur Weasley says to Harry, "Thirteen years ago, when you stopped you-know-who..." Harry is 13 now and was one year old when he stopped Voldemort. So Harry stopped Voldemort 12 years ago, not 13.
- C 1 What is your favourite film? Why?
 - 2 Can you remember any mistakes in films?

9 PORTFOLIO WRITING

Write a review of a film (120–150 words). Use the present tense for your review. Write three paragraphs. First, give the name of the film, what sort of film it is and who the actors are. Next describe what happens in it. Finally, say why you liked or disliked the film.

10 **Your answer:** Are reality shows good tv?

Is reality TV real? Does it entertain people? Does it exploit contestants? Are TV shows and movies getting dumber?



SEE WORKBOOK UNIT 4

Last word:

Can you use all the language items below? Write Yes, No, or Almost against each.

Functions: Expressing likes and dislikes; talking about future plans and intentions

Language: going to future Vocabulary: Television; films

25.1	-	omplete the sentences using will (11) or going to.
	1	A: Why are you turning on the television?
		B: I'm going to watch the news. (I/watch)
	2	A: Oh, I've just realised. I haven't got any money.
		B: Haven't you? Well, don't worry you some. (I / lend)
	3	A: I've got a headache.
		B: Have you? Wait a second and an aspirin for you. (I / get)
	4	A: Why are you filling that bucket with water?
		B: the car. (I / wash)
	5	A: I've decided to repaint this room.
		B: Oh, have you? What colour it? (you / paint)
	6	A: Where are you going? Are you going shopping?
	_	B: Yes, something for dinner. (I / buy)
	7	A: I don't know how to use this camera.
	_	B: It's easyyou. (I / show)
	8	A: What would you like to eat?
		B: a sandwich, please. (I / have)
	9	A: Did you post that letter for me?
		B: Oh, I'm sorry. I completely forgot it now. (I / do)
	10	A: The ceiling in this room doesn't look very safe, does it?
		B: No, it looks as ifdown. (it / fall)
		A: Has George decided what to do when he leaves school?
		B: Yes. Everything is planned a holiday for a few weeks
		(he / have) Then a computer programming course. (he / do
23.2	Re	ad the situations and complete the sentences using will ('II) or going to.
		The phone rings and you answer. Somebody wants to speak to Jim.
	_	CALLER: Hello. Can I speak to Jim, please?
		YOU: Just a moment'llget him. (I / get)
		t's a nice day, so you have decided to take a walk. Just before you go, you tell your friend.
		The weather's too nice to stay in a walk. (I / take
		FRIEND: Good idea. I think you. (I/join)
	3	Your friend is worried because she has lost an important letter.
		OU: Don't worry about the letter. I'm sureit. (you / find)
]	RIEND: I hope so.
		There was a job advertised in the paper recently. At first you were interested, but then you
	(lecided not to apply.
		RIEND: Have you decided what to do about that job you were interested in?
		OU: Yes, for it. (I / not / apply)
	5	You and a friend come home very late. Other people in the house are asleep. Your friend
	i	s noisy.
)	OU: Shh! Don't make so much noise everybody up. (you / wake)
	6 I	aul has to go to the airport to catch a plane tomorrow morning.
		AUL: Liz, I need somebody to take me to the airport tomorrow morning.
	I	Z: That's no problem you. (I / take) What time is your flight?
	P	AUL: 10.50.
	L	Z: OK, at about 9 o'clock then. (we / leave)
	I	ater that day, Joe offers to take Paul to the airport.
		Paul, do you want me to take you to the airport?
	P.	No thanks, Joe me. (Liz / take)
		The same