Television

**Language level**: Intermediate (B1)–Advanced (B2.2)

**Learner type**: All ages

**Time**: 90 minutes

**Activity**: Watching a short film, listening to and reading a poem, reading an infographic, speaking and writing

**Topic**: Television

**Language**: Imperative form and vocabulary related to television

**Materials**: Short film, poem, two infographics

*LOOK at me*
Overview

The lesson is based around the theme of television, and a short film called *Television* by Beth Fulton inspired by Todd Alcott's poem of the same name. The lesson also shows students how they can use and learn vocabulary using the superb online dictionary Lingro.

**Step 1**

Ask your students to read the questions related to television in the document below and to choose 6 questions they would like to ask their partner. Then they should take turns asking and answering the questions.

**Step 2**

Tell your students they are going to watch a short film which is inspired by a poem called *Television*. Ask them what they think a poem called *Television* might be about. Show them the film, and ask what they think the message of the film and poem is. Do they agree with the message?

Link: [http://www.vimeo.com/10857606](http://www.vimeo.com/10857606)

**Step 3**

Tell the students they are going to watch the film again, but this time they should note down any uses of the affirmative and negative imperatives which they hear and see.
Step 4

Get students to check their answers, and then show them the poem with the imperative in bold in the document.

Step 4

Put your students into pairs and give each student one of these two infographics about TV viewing. Ask them to study their infographic and to write 5 questions which they will ask their partner about information in their infographic. For example, How many people have recorded TV in the last month? What are the most popular programmes online? Why do people watch TV online?

When the students have finished writing their questions they should give their partner their infographic and ask their 5 questions which their partner should answer.
Americans & TV: HOW THEY'RE WATCHING...

What type of television service do you have in your home?

- Over the Air: 8%
- Basic Cable: 26%
- Premium Cable: 37%
- Satellite Services: 25%
- Don't Have TV Service: 4%

On average, how many hours per week do you spend watching TV?

- 1% ZERO
- 14% LESS THAN 5
- 33% 5-10
- 19% 10-15
- 15% 15-20
- 18% MORE THAN 20

Have you recorded live TV at least once in the past month?

- Yes: 56%
- No: 44%

Do you watch more or less television shows online today than you did a year ago?

- More: 58%
- Less: 20%
- Same: 22%

Do you watch TV shows online?

- Yes: 80%
- No: 20%

How do you record television programs?

- DVR/TIVO: 75%
- VCR: 13%
- Computer Program: 12%

What websites do you use to watch TV shows online?

- YouTube: 64%
- Hulu: 47%
- Netflix: 22%
- Amazon Prime: 14%
- Redbox: 8%
ONLINE TV: THE NEWEST WAY TO WATCH TV ISN'T ON YOUR TV

REGULAR TV VS. ONLINE TV

Average American's Monthly Hours Spent Watching
Regular TV: 153
Online TV: 3

According to comScore, Viewers Who Watch Both Kinds of TV
Add 3 hours of mobile viewing
and
Add 3 hours of online TV

WHY WE WATCH ONLINE TV

Forgot to watch a specific episode when it aired on regular TV.
54%

Catching up on many episodes of a current season.
47%

Catching up on many episodes of a past season.
33%

Forgot to record an episode on DVR.

The regular TV is being used by someone else.

Watching TV at work, according to inc.com.
Follow up

Ask your students if they use an online dictionary and, if so, which one they use. Tell them they're going to look an online dictionary which they probably won't know.

Show them this short video which shows how to use Lingro.

Link: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zTdj0cTqA-k&

Give your students the link to this article on TV viewing.

Link: http://www.economist.com/node/15980817?story_id=15980817

Show the article on the screen, cut and paste the address, go to Lingro and paste in the address into the first field.

Link: http://lingro.com/

The Economist website will come up, and then click on some difficult words to show that a definition comes up. Tell students they should read the article with the help of Lingro, and then write a composition titled.

How people really watch TV