

Lesson A Grammar Adding information

A Is the information in bold essential, or is it extra? Write **D** (defining, or essential) or **N** (non-defining, or extra). Then add commas where necessary.

1. I can't stand magazines **that are full of ads**. ____
2. Fashion magazines **which are really mostly about shopping** usually have the most ads. ____
3. The celebrities **who are always in the gossip magazines** don't really interest me. ____
4. Good theater actors **who never get as famous as movie actors** deserve more attention. ____
5. I really enjoy reading about celebrities and the charity work **they do**. ____
6. When I buy music magazines, I'll usually buy the ones **which have a free CD**. ____
7. The magazine **I like the most** is about art and culture. ____

B Complete the conversations with *who*, *that*, or *which*. If you can leave them out, write parentheses () around them. Sometimes there is more than one correct answer.

1. **A** I'm looking for a good TV show _____ could help me improve my listening skills in English. What do you think I should watch?
B I think maybe sitcoms, _____ are often about everyday life, are best for that. Check out the two _____ I watch – Wednesday nights at 8:00 and 8:30 on Channel 2.
2. **A** Look at this magazine _____ I just bought . . . it's full of ads! Why can't I find magazines _____ aren't trying to sell me stuff?
B Well, magazines have to make money, _____ ads provide.
3. **A** Ugh, I can't listen to any more about that actress, Leya March, _____ seems to be on the news every minute of the day!
B Oh, I find it all pretty entertaining. And most of the events _____ are happening in the world are pretty depressing, so hearing about her is kind of a relief.
4. **A** I'm obsessed with reality shows. The people _____ are on them are hilarious.
B I know. They'll do anything to be famous, _____ can be so funny to watch.

C Complete the sentences with relative clauses using *who*, *that*, or *which* and the information in parentheses. Add commas where necessary.

1. The TV show _____ is about a group of college students. (I like it best of all.)
2. My best friend _____ has a TV in every room. (She watches TV constantly.)
3. The online magazine _____ is about current events. (I read it the most.)
4. I watch TV every night to relax _____. (I need to do that before I go to bed.)
5. Some people are obsessed with celebrity gossip _____. (I think it's ridiculous.)

Lesson B Vocabulary Describing research

A Circle the correct prepositions to complete the sentences.

1. There is a lot of concern **about** / **on** / **of** violence on TV.
2. Research has shown that exposure to violent TV shows has an effect **to** / **on** / **with** the brain.
3. One reason **for** / **between** / **of** lower test scores is that kids spend more time on the Internet.
4. We don't know enough about the impact of TV **in** / **on** / **with** the youngest children.
5. Many of the ads on TV **between** / **on** / **for** junk food are aimed at children.
6. The rise **in** / **on** / **with** Internet advertising may affect young people's habits, too.
7. Scientists don't know all the causes **of** / **with** / **about** obesity in young people.
8. There may be a relationship **on** / **with** / **between** watching TV and language development.

B Complete the blog post with the words in the box. Sometimes more than one answer is possible.

concern impact increase influence link ✓ problem research

Settings

Browse

Channels

Home

Menu

Is there a problem with TV?

Some researchers believe that watching TV has a huge _____ on children. Some experts claim that they have found a _____ between watching TV and learning problems in children. However, people don't have the same _____ about educational TV shows. It's my feeling that we should look at their _____ on children, too. While it's likely that some educational shows are good for children, what's disturbing is that there has been a large _____ in advertising for fast food and other junk food during these programs. I believe these commercials contribute to unhealthy eating habits. So before I make a decision about TV for my kids, I need to know more. What I'm saying is, we need more _____ on this subject.

Posted by Blog Girl, March 3

About
you

C Answer the questions with your own opinions.

1. Do you think watching TV has an impact on your own behavior? Why or why not?

2. Do you have any concerns about young children and TV?

3. Why do you think there is a relationship between watching TV and obesity in young people?

4. Do you think watching TV is the main cause of poor test results? Why or why not?

Lesson B Grammar Linking ideas

A Complete the information about TV viewing. Use *that* or the correct form of *be + that*.



How much TV do you watch every week? You may think _____ you watch too much TV. But what's surprising about today's TV shows _____ they might actually help your brain. It's probably true _____ many people watch shows with no real benefit. However, some experts now claim _____ TV shows today are more advanced than ever. One key difference _____ they have more complex stories. Experts claim _____ the brain has to work harder to understand them. So next time you want to watch TV, don't feel guilty! Go ahead and turn it on. It just might be making you smarter.

B Rewrite the sentences using a *that* clause. Start with the words given in parentheses, and add a verb where necessary.

- TV and the Internet have changed children's reading habits. (Some experts . . .)
Some experts agree that TV and the Internet have changed children's reading habits.
- Many children prefer watching TV to reading. (What's clear . . .)

- Reading improves children's vocabulary development. (One problem with spending less time reading . . .)

- Most books and magazines will only be online in the future. (It's likely . . .)

- Publishers may stop printing books altogether. (What's interesting . . .)

- Going digital is inevitable. (Many people believe . . .)

About
you

C Complete the sentences with your own ideas about the impact of TV and the Internet.

- It's not surprising _____.
- Many people feel _____.
- What's clear is _____.
- It's possible _____.
- One problem with the Internet is _____.
- It's true _____.

Lesson C Conversation strategies

A Complete the conversation with the *which* comments in the box. There is one extra.

which always ends up being expensive	which is so annoying
which is not surprising	which totally goes against what I just said

Marco I really hate getting junk email.

Lina Me, too. Like those email chains people send. There's one I've seen at least ten times.

Marco _____.

Lina I know. Some of them are so stupid.

Marco Wait, though. Somebody sent me a video clip a couple of days ago. Hold on, you have to see this – _____.

Lina Um, OK . . .

Marco Oh. They must have taken it off. It's not here anymore.

Lina _____. Happens all the time – you finally find a good one, and it's gone.

B Complete the conversations with *You know what . . . ?* Use the information in parentheses.

1. **A** Video ads are all over the place. It's so annoying.

B You know what really gets me? They're in your personal email. (It really gets me.)

2. **A** Check this out – do you know about this video site? It's awesome.

B Yeah, it's great. And _____ I'm totally addicted to it. (It's ridiculous.)

3. **A** My friend's constantly posting videos and pictures of me without asking.

B _____ When you start looking for a job, employers can see those pictures and videos. (I'd be concerned about this.)

C Complete the conversations with the expressions in the box.

just so annoying	I prefer	really bothers me
really scares me	so convenient	so important

1. **A** You know what _____? You can't watch a video clip on this website without watching an ad first. And you can't skip it!

B Which is _____. There should be a way to get past it.

2. **A** Are you still watching DVDs on your laptop?

B Yeah. I can take them with me when I travel, which is _____.

A It is. But you know what _____? Just downloading them off the Internet.

3. **A** I finally figured out how to add privacy controls to my profile.

B Which is _____, especially now that you're looking for a job.

A Yeah, but you know what _____? My friends who *don't* use privacy controls.

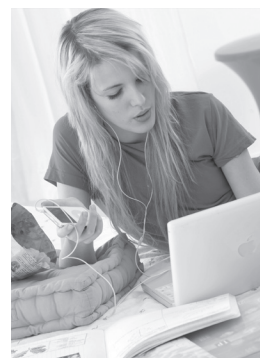
Lesson D

Reading Distractions

- A Prepare** If something is *distracting*, it takes your attention away from what you're doing. Think of three distractions – things that you find distracting – in your daily life.
- B Read for main ideas** Read the article. Does the writer mention any of the distractions you thought of in Exercise A?

DISTRACTIONS: Should we be concerned?

- 1 Young people have always been faced with distractions, but now with computers, video games, tablets, and smart phones, there are even more things demanding their attention. A recent study found that more than half of students – aged 8 to 18 – are distracted while doing homework, and for 56 percent of the time they are also using the Internet, watching TV, or using some other form of media. Should we be concerned about these kinds of distractions?
- 2 Some researchers say that one problem with these technologies is that they have a greater impact on young people. First, young people's brains become used to constantly switching tasks, which makes them less able to pay attention for long periods of time. Second, some experts say that distraction has an impact on people's ability to think deeply.
- 3 One study looked at the computer use of students in grades 5 through 8. The researchers found a link between access to home computers and a drop in reading and math scores. What is clear, they say, is that middle graders are mostly using computers to socialize and play games rather than for educational purposes. The study used data from 2000 to 2005, before the huge rise in social networking sites, so the problem may be even more extreme today.
- 4 In other studies, researchers have shown that boys who have access to video game systems at home are frequently distracted from their homework. The research showed that the boys' reading and writing scores suffered as a result. It's also possible that playing video games, which involves multitasking (doing more than one thing at a time) has more impact on the brain than distractions such as watching TV. In one study, boys aged 12 to 14 spent an hour every other night playing video games after they finished their homework. On the other evenings, they spent an hour watching a movie on TV. The researchers found that on nights when the boys watched TV, they slept better than when they played video games. The video games also had a negative impact on the boys' ability to remember vocabulary, even words that they were already familiar with.
- 5 What kinds of activities, then, should we encourage children to do? Some scientists say that reading books is a good choice because children are less distracted when they read books. This may be because children identify with the characters and are able to focus their attention for longer periods of time. Many studies have found that students who read books have significantly higher test scores than students who don't.
- 6 On the other hand, critics of these studies claim that playing complex computer games and doing Internet searches actually improve a person's ability to concentrate and stay focused. They say that books promote one type of learning, whereas the Internet promotes a different, equally beneficial type.
- 7 The impact of computer use on the brain is a complex issue, and not all experts agree on its positive and negative effects. What is clear is that electronic media are here to stay. For this reason, education experts may need to turn their attention to designing educational technology that helps students focus on learning and not be distracted by the media they are using.



C Understanding viewpoints Check (✓) the points that the writer makes in the article.

- ☐ 1. Many children are being distracted by electronic media while they are doing homework.
- ☐ 2. Some distractions can be more harmful than others.
- ☐ 3. Watching a movie has a more positive effect on the brain than doing activities that involve multitasking.
- ☐ 4. Children who read books do well in all of their school subjects.
- ☐ 5. Experts all agree that technology has negative effects.

D Read for detail Circle the correct information to make true sentences about the article.

1. According to the article, various technologies distract children because **young learners think they're fun / the user has to constantly switch tasks**.
2. The article suggests that **watching TV / playing video games** is a form of multitasking.
3. One study showed that **TV / video games** had a more negative impact on young boys' sleep.
4. This study also showed that **watching TV / playing video games** had an effect on the boys' ability to remember vocabulary.
5. The study in which researchers found a link between home computers and lower test scores used information from **before / after** the huge rise in social networking.
6. **Critics / Supporters** of these studies say playing video games and surfing the Internet actually improve people's ability to concentrate.
7. The writer suggests that educational researchers should be focusing on improving online materials because electronic media **are better than books / aren't going to disappear**.

E Focus on vocabulary Find these words and expressions in the text. Match them with their meanings. Write the letters a–f.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. extreme (para. 3) _____ | a. start looking at |
| 2. be familiar with (para. 4) _____ | b. people who don't like an idea |
| 3. identify with (para. 5) _____ | c. know |
| 4. critics of (para. 6) _____ | d. feel a connection with |
| 5. a complex issue (para. 7) _____ | e. a difficult subject |
| 6. turn attention to (para. 7) _____ | f. very great |

F Do you think that technology has a positive or negative impact on your ability to study? Give reasons for your answer.

Writing A one-paragraph essay

Essay question

Should video websites warn teenagers about dangerous behavior?

- A** Read the essay and the Help note. Underline the topic sentence. Then add the words in the box to the sentences with supporting details. Use commas where necessary.

First

Second

Third

Finally

Video websites should warn teenagers about dangerous behavior for several reasons. Teenagers tend to take more risks because their brains are at a particular stage of development. With the rise in Internet video sites, teenagers can see people doing all kinds of dangerous activities, and some feel pressure to copy what they see. Some children are taking great risks and filming these activities so they can share the videos with their friends. The Internet makes sharing the videos easy – teens who want to impress their friends simply have to upload a clip to their profile page.

Help note: Commas after listing expressions

Use a comma after **First**, **Second**, **Third**, **Lastly**, and **Finally**.

- B** **Editing** Correct the errors in these sentences and add punctuation, where necessary. One sentence is correct.

I don't agree that video websites should have warnings for teenagers. At first many teenagers are very responsible. Second it is not the Internet's responsibility if someone does something dangerous. Third parents should be responsible for their children's behavior. At last the reasons for dangerous behavior are not always clear.



- C** Write a paragraph to answer the essay question. State your opinion in a clear topic sentence, and give at least three reasons to support it. Then check your paragraph for errors.

Listening extra *Talk Tuesday*


A What words and expressions would you expect to hear in a debate about television and children? Add four more ideas to the chart.

get rid of TV

educational

a waste of time

fun

B  Listen to the introduction to a radio call-in show. Check (✓) the correct answers to the questions.

1. What is the main topic of the show?
 - ☐ a. Should children watch TV and if so, what type?
 - ☐ b. Do children need a break from school work?
 - ☐ c. Why do children spend too much time watching TV?
2. What are some of the topics that parents are debating?
 - ☐ a. Should parents watch TV with their children?
 - ☐ b. Should children watch TV at all?
 - ☐ c. When should children watch TV?
 - ☐ d. Should all children's TV programs be educational?

C  Listen to three callers to the radio show. Are the sentences true or false? Write T or F. Correct the false sentences.



Mike




Michiko



Angelo

1. Mike is concerned about all the advertisements on TV that target kids. _____
2. He got rid of his TV a few years ago. _____
3. He believes children should spend their time in more useful ways. _____
4. Michiko thinks parents are the best teachers. _____
5. She thinks TV can be educational. _____
6. She's worried about her children watching shows in Spanish. _____
7. Angelo believes that watching TV is a big issue. _____
8. He thinks it's important that parents decide what children watch on TV. _____
9. He thinks the main problem is that people who watch TV are less intelligent. _____

About
you

D  Listen again. Do you agree or disagree with the callers' opinions? Write one opinion that each caller gives, and complete the rest of the sentence with your own views.

1. Mike says that _____, which I think is _____.
2. Michiko believes that _____, and what's interesting is that _____.
3. Angelo thinks that _____, which is totally _____.

Now complete the *Unit 2 Progress chart* on page 98.

Unit 2: The media