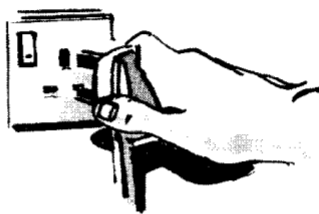
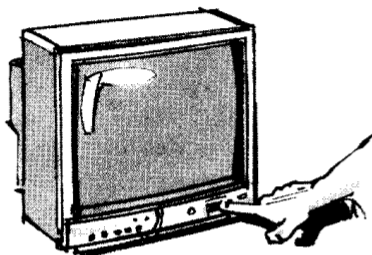


75 Television

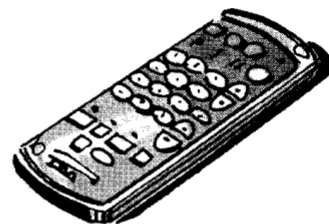
A Operating a television



plug it in



turn it on (≠ turn it off)



remote control

You may also want to **turn it up** (= increase the volume because you can't hear) (≠ **turn it down**); and **turn over** (= change to a different **channel**, e.g. from 1 to 3)

Note: You can also say **switch on**, **switch off**, or **switch over** (but *not* switch it up/down).

B Types of programme

Here are some types of TV programme:

Soap opera: a programme often on two or three times a week, which follows the lives of a group/community of people; the stories are often exciting, dramatic and hard to believe.

Quiz show or **Game show:** individuals, teams or families who answer questions or play different games against each other. The winner gets a **prize**, e.g. a car, a holiday, money.

Chat show: a programme where a **presenter** talks to famous people about their lives and careers; sometimes there is music as well.

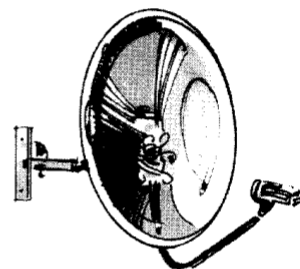
Documentary: a film with factual information, often analysing a problem in society.

A series: a number of programmes about the same situation or the same characters in different situations. This may be a **comedy series** (the programmes are intended to be funny), or a **drama series** (the programmes are intended to be exciting, with interesting characters and situations).

Current affairs programme: a programme about a current social/political problem. **Current** means that it is happening 'now / at the present time'.

C TV in Great Britain

At the moment there are five 'terrestrial' **channels** (or **stations**) on TV (BBC 1, BBC 2, ITV, Channel 4, and Channel 5). If you pay extra, you can have a **satellite dish** and receive **satellite TV**; or pay to have **cable TV** – there are many channels available.



D Talking TV

Here are some useful words and phrases connected with television:

What's **on TV** tonight? (= what programmes are showing on TV tonight?)

What time's the film **on**? (= what time does it start?)

How long do the **commercials** last? (= the advertisements between programmes)

What's your **favourite** programme? (= the programme you like most/best)

Are they showing the game **live** (= as it happens) or just **recorded highlights**? (= parts of the game after it has been played, e.g. later in the day/evening)

How much is a TV **licence**? (= money you have to pay the government if you have a TV)

Exercises

75.1 You are watching TV with a friend. What could you say in each of the situations below? Look at the example first.

Example: You want to watch a programme on TV. Could you *turn the TV on?*...

- 1 You can't hear the programme very well. Could you?
- 2 You want to watch a different programme. Could you?
- 3 Now it's too loud for you. Could you?
- 4 You don't want to watch any more. Could you?

75.2 Here is part of an evening from three British TV channels. Can you find at least one example of: a documentary, a quiz show, a game show, a drama series, and a current affairs programme? There is also one example of a comedy series and two soap operas. Can you guess which programmes they might be?

7.00 Telly Addicts

Noel Edmonds hosts the quiz in which teams have their television knowledge put to the test.

7.30 Watchdog

Anne Robinson presents the stories that affect consumers in the 1990s. With Alice Beer and reporters Chris Choi and Johnathan Maitland.

8.00 EastEnders

Kathy tries to come to terms with Ted's revelations. Michelle receives a letter that could change her life.

For cast see Tuesday
Stereo Subtitled5500

8.30 2 Point 4 Children

The Deep. There's something fishy going on when Bill and Ben are asked to look after their neighbour's house.

9.00 Nine O'Clock News

With Peter Sissons.

Subtitled

Regional News

Weather Rob McElwee3245

7.00 The Krypton Factor

Four new contestants compete for a place in the November final.

Director Tony Prescott; Producer Wayne Garvie Stereo Subtitled9448

7.30 Coronation Street

It's farewell time at the Rovers.

Episode written by Stephen Mallatrat
For cast see Wednesday. Repeated on Wednesday at 1.25pm Subtitled239

◆ **Bet's off: page 22**

8.00 Bruce's Price Is Right

Game show testing knowledge of the price of consumer goods.

Director Bill Morton; Producer Howard Huntridge Stereo Subtitled2968

8.30 World in Action

In a classroom fitted with cameras, World in Action reveals what is really going on in Britain's overcrowded schools and asks who is to blame.

9.00 New series

Cracker

CHOICE Brotherly Love (part 1). In the first of this three-part thriller, a prostitute is found raped and murdered, opening old wounds at the station. See today's choices.

7.00 Channel 4 News

Presented by Jon Snow and Cathy Smith. Including **Weather**

Subtitled829535

7.55 The Slot

The daily soapbox offering viewers the chance to air their opinions.

Stereo141603

8.00 New series

Desperately Seeking Something

A four-part series in which Pete McCarthy explores the strange universe of alternative beliefs.

8.30 Baby It's You

Continuing the six-part series which uses natural history filming techniques to observe the first two years of a baby's life.

9.00 Cutting Edge

The Trouble with Money

CHOICE Strange though it seems to some, not everyone enjoys winning the lottery. This documentary explores the joys and pitfalls of getting rich quick.

75.3 Answer these questions about TV in your own country.

- 1 How many 'terrestrial' channels are there?
- 2 Do you watch satellite TV and/or cable TV?
- 3 In total, how much TV do you watch every week?
- 4 What are your favourite programmes on TV at the moment?
- 5 What night are they on?
- 6 Do you enjoy watching the commercials?
- 7 Do you often watch football matches live on TV? If not, do you watch the highlights?
- 8 Do you need a TV licence in your country? If so, how much is it?