

UNIT 7: FAME AND THE MEDIA

A. VOCABULARY & GRAMMAR

Exercise 1. Complete the descriptions with the words and phrases in the box.

| | | | |
|-----------|----------|------------|-------------|
| celebrity | fan | film star | lead singer |
| paparazzi | reporter | role model | supporter |

1. A _____ is someone who is famous
2. A _____ is a famous movie actor
3. The _____ of a band is the main (and sometimes the only) singer.
4. A _____ is someone who really likes a particular person, group or team.
5. Your _____ is a person who you like and want to be like.
6. A _____ is someone who likes a particular sports team, person or group and wants them to do well.
7. A _____ is a person whose job is to find information about news events and describe them for newspaper, on TV, etc.
8. The _____ are photographers who follow famous people and try to take photos of them.

Exercise 2. Choose the best words to complete the sentences.

1. Everybody knows his name. He's really talented/ well-known/rich.
2. He's a really good-looking actor. He's so popular/ handsome/famous.
3. She's very attractive. She's such a beautiful/ talented/ well-known woman.
4. Everybody loves that band. They're really attractive/ pretty/popular at the moment.
5. She's got lots of money. She's extremely popular/ well-known/ wealthy.
6. He can do amazing things that other people find difficult. He's so talented/ stylish/ attractive.
7. Her clothes are always really cool. She's very fashionable/ handsome/famous.
8. They wear beautiful clothes. They look very rich/ stylish/ talented.

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Exercise 3. Complete the text. Use the words in the box.

| | | | | |
|---------|-----------|------|------|-----------|
| appear | attend | earn | own | passed on |
| present | recognise | sign | star | take |

I'm going to be famous when I'm older. I'm going to _____ a TV programme about a film. Later, they'll ask me to _____ in films and I'll have my name in big letters on movie posters. I'll _____ a fortune for every film I make and I'll be incredibly rich. I'll also _____ a luxury yacht and perhaps I'll have my own private island. My photo will appear on the cover of lots of magazines. I'll _____ film premieres (and see movies before anyone else), where I'll wear stylish clothes. Of course, it won't be so nice if thousands of people _____ me in the street. I don't really want to _____ hundreds of autographs every day. It'd be horrible if newspapers and magazines _____ rumours and gossip about my private life. I also don't think I'd like to _____ part in lots of boring interviews and press conferences. Maybe being famous wouldn't be so nice after all.

Exercise 4. Complete the sentences. Use the words in the box.

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------------|--------------|------------|-------|--------|
| blogs | broadcasting | internet | magazines | media | movies |
| newspapers | radio | social media | television | | |

1. The _____ is general name for the group which includes the Internet, newspapers, magazines, television, etc.
2. One of the oldest branches of the media is _____. They are written by journalists and then printed on printing presses or can be read online.
3. _____ are similar to newspapers, but they're generally more colorful and entertaining. They are usually weekly or monthly.
4. Films became popular around the beginning of the 20th century, when people visited cinemas to watch moving pictures (or _____) for the first time.
5. The 20th century was the age of _____ - sending programs to lots of people at the same time, using, for example, television or radio.
6. _____ was the first way of broadcasting spoken words and music, and it continues to be popular today.
7. In the middle of the 20th century, as _____ sets became cheaper, TV took over from radio as the most popular form of broadcast media.

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8. At the end of the 20th century, the _____ added a new way of providing traditional media, such as news, music and films.
9. However, in the early 21st century, millions of ordinary people started creating their own online ‘newspaper’, where they reported whatever they found interesting in their web logs (later shortened to ‘_____’).
10. Later, thanks to _____ sites like YouTube, Facebook and Twitter, everybody could broadcast everything to the world, instantly.

Exercise 5. Read the information. Then complete the sentences. Use the idioms in the box.

An idiom is a group of words in a fixed order which has its own meaning. Even when you know the meaning of each of the words in an idiom, you will need to learn the meaning of the whole idiom.

Are in the public eye *claim to fame* *make it big* *paying the price*
rising star *victim of her own success*

1. I don't know why she's famous. Her only is that her dad was a famous singer.
2. I don't feel too sorry for celebrities who complain about the paparazzi. They're just for being famous.
3. This singer isn't famous yet, but she's been on TV a few times, so she's definitely a – I'm sure everyone will know her name this time next year.
4. I think all people who should be very careful about what they say and do in public – many people look up to them and copy their actions.
5. She was a great songwriter before she was famous, when she was poor and angry. But now she's rich and happy, she's got nothing to write about! She's a
6. It's very difficult to in the music business. Many people try, but only a small number succeed.

Exercise 6. Match the sentence endings with the correct beginnings.

It'll be the best day of my life. do you ask them for an autograph?

they go on tour their fans won't be happy at all. there aren't any tickets?

they keep printing private pictures of celebrities.

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1. I'll definitely go and see them in concert if,
2. If you see famous people,
3. If the lead singer leaves the band,
4. I'm going to see my idol next week!
5. What will you do if
6. I won't buy that magazine again if

?

Exercise 7. Correct the first conditional sentences by changing the incorrect use of *will*. Use contractions where possible. The first one has been done for you.

1. I'm going to start writing about my life on social media. If **it'll be** interesting, I'm sure people will want to follow me. **it'll be** → **it's**
2. If I'll get lots of followers, I'll start my own YouTube channel and make funny videos.
→
3. All my followers will watch my YouTube channel if I'll tell them about my funny videos.
→
4. If they'll like my videos, they'll keep coming back for more.
→
5. If enough people will watch my videos and share the links on social media, they'll go viral – thousands of people all over the world will watch them.
→
6. TV and newspaper reporters will notice if my videos will go viral, and they'll tell even more people about them.
→
7. If a TV or film producer will hear about my videos, he/she will pay me to make professional films or TV programs.
→
8. I'll make a fortune if that'll happen.
→
9. On the other hand, if nobody will follow me on social media, none of those things will happen.
→
10. But if I won't try, I'll never know.
→

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Exercise 8. Read the information. Then match the situations with the examples.

Can, could, may and might

Talking about ability

- Present: *can / can't*
- Past: *could / couldn't*
- Future: *will be able to / won't be able to*

Asking for permission

- Formal: *May / Could I / we ... ?*
- Less formal: *Can I / we ... ?*

Giving permission (saying 'yes') and refusing permission (saying 'no')

- Very formal: *You may / may not ...*
- Less formal: *You can / can't ...*

Asking for help

- Formal: *Could you ... ?*
- Less formal: *Can you ... ?*

Offering help

- *I can ... / Can I (help) ... ?*

Talking about things that aren't certain in the future

- Positive: *It may / might / could happen.*
- Negative: *It may not happen / It might not happen.*

Asking for help

Asking for permission

Giving permission

Offering help

Refusing permission

Talking about future ability

Talking about past ability

Taking about present ability

Taking about something that's not certain in the future

1. May I leave early, please?
2. You can leave when you're ready.

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3. I'm afraid you can't sit there.
4. I didn't enjoy the concert because I couldn't see the stage.

5. She isn't talented – she can't even sing!
6. Don't phone me when I'm at the concert later. I won't be able to talk to you.

7. I might go to the cinema tonight – I haven't decided yet.

8. Could you hold my camera for me?
9. Can I help you with your bags?

Exercise 9. Choose the correct modal verbs to complete the sentences.

1. Do you/May I/Will I be able to have your autograph, please?
2. I'm sure I may not/might/ won't be able to get into the concert tomorrow without a ticket.
3. Let's go to the party – it can/couldn't/might be quite good.
4. I'm afraid you can't/couldn't/might not take photos inside the cinema – it's against the rules.
5. When the film star said 'Hello', I couldn't/ might not/ won't be able to think of anything to say, so I just smiled.
6. I know lots of famous sports stars. I can / I'll be able to / I may not get you their autographs if you like.
7. Could/May/Might you be quiet, please? I'm trying to listen to the radio.
8. I'm not sure about my plans for next weekend. I couldn't/ might not/ won't be able do anything.
9. The TV program is on again tomorrow evening, so if you miss it tonight, you may/you could/ you'll be able to watch it tomorrow

Exercise 10. Match the sentence endings with the correct beginnings.

I may ask? they put the price up again. you become famous?

you can send me a text and I'll come and find you.

you manage to get tickets for the concert? you might be famous one day.

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1. I might stop buying that magazine if
2. If you can't find the concert hall,
3. If you work really hard and practice every day,
4. Will you still be able to have a normal life if
5. Could you send me a text if
6. Do you enjoy being famous,