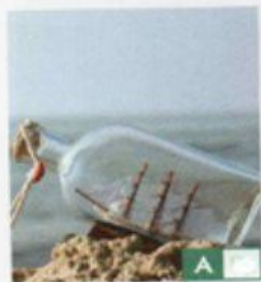


READING

1 Read the article and number the photos in the order that they are mentioned.



How Do They Do That?

I've just discovered a fantastic new show called *How Do They Do That?* It's one of the best series on TV at the moment! The idea is simple: take a topic – like travel, for example – and then think of lots of little mysteries that could be explained. How do planes take off and land? How do driverless cars work? How do they build model boats in a bottle? That sort of thing. Then get two young, enthusiastic presenters, dress them in white coats and put them in a laboratory to do lots of exciting experiments. Add some cool graphics to explain the rest and there's your show. Get the idea?

Each programme looks at a different subject. As well as *Travel*, topics that have already been covered include *Education*,

The body, *Around the house* and *Magic* – my favourite so far. Still to come are *Personal finances*, *The natural world*, *Sport* and *Life and how to live it*.

What I like best about the show is that it's fun and you learn something at the same time, so you don't feel so guilty about spending sixty minutes in front of the TV each week. We've been shown how to boil the perfect egg (wash it, put it in boiling water for three minutes and then leave it in the water for a further 60 seconds); how birds make their way back to exactly the same place each summer (they use the stars); and how a touch screen works (that one didn't really make much sense to me). We haven't been shown how to eat chocolate without

putting on weight yet, but I'm still hoping they might include that!

In future programmes, secrets such as how Usain Bolt can run so fast and how spiders make webs will be revealed. The one I'm personally looking forward to the most is how to meet the perfect partner.

So if you aren't already watching *How Do They Do That?*, I strongly recommend that you make time to. It gives you facts that you can use to pretend that you're actually quite intelligent for a while – as long as you can remember them, of course. It's on every Tuesday at 9 pm, but this week's show won't be shown until half an hour later because of the live international football. Get watching and start learning!

2 Read the article again. Answer the questions.

- 1 What do the presenters wear on *How Do They Do That?* Why do you think they do this?
- 2 How many different programmes are mentioned?
- 3 What's the best way to cook an egg?
- 4 Why couldn't the writer tell you how a touch screen works?
- 5 What evidence is there that the writer doesn't have a partner?
- 6 What time will this week's programme start?

3 In which programme are these questions probably answered?

- 1 How do you buy a house?
- 2 How do you do well in an exam?
- 3 How do you do the housework in half an hour?
- 4 How do whales communicate?
- 5 How does a GPS work?

4 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Choose four of the programmes and think of a question you would like to see answered in each one.