

UNIT 7: TELEVISION

Reading comprehension

A. Read the article and then decide whether the statements are true (T) or false (F).

Information about what happens in the world comes to us in many ways. Television and radio are two important ways of the news. They get the news out faster than the newspapers and magazines, and they don't have to be read. Television and radio stations broadcast the news several times each day. In America, there are the news programmes every hour. People can choose the favourite TV programmes, such as sports, films, fashion, news, etc. People who cannot read get the news from television or radio easily.

1. There are only two ways of getting the news. _____
2. Television and radio get the news faster than other ways. _____
3. Television stations broadcast the news several times each day. _____
4. People cannot choose the TV programmes that they like. _____
5. Television can bring the news to people who cannot read. _____

B. Choose the letter A, B, C or D to answer these questions

At the beginning of TV history, there were several types of TV technology. One system was a mechanical model based on a **rotating** disc. (Rotating discs are discs that spin like CDs.) The other system was an electronic model. In 1906, Boris Rosing built the first working mechanical TV in Russia. In the 1920s, John Logie Baird in England and Charles Francis Jenkins in the United States demonstrated improved mechanical systems. Philo Taylor Farnsworth also showed an electronic system in San Francisco in 1927. His TV was the forerunner of today's TV, which is an electronic system based on his ideas.

Now TV is everywhere. Before 1947, there were only a few thousand televisions in the U.S. By the 1990s, there were televisions in 98% of American homes.

1. **Rotating** means: _____

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| A. going up and down. | B. going back and forth. |
| C. spinning. | D. staying still |

2. Who invented the mechanical TV model?

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| A. Boris Rosing | B. John Logie Baird |
| C. Charles Francis Jenkins | D. Philo Taylor Farnsworth |

3. Which of the following statements is wrong?

- A. More than one TV technology was developed in the history.
- B. Nowadays TV is a popular household equipment.
- C. John Logie Baird and Charles Francis Jenkins invented an electronic TV based on the previous mechanical one.
- D. No inventors mentioned in the passage came from Asia.

4. Whose invention is the current TV mostly based on?

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|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| A. Boris Rosing | B. John Logie Baird |
| C. Charles Francis Jenkins | D. Philo Taylor Farnsworth |

5. How many TVs were in the US in 1945?

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| A. A few hundred | C. A few million. |
| B. A few thousand. | D. A few billion. |