

READING

Read the text below about detective series on TV. Decide if the sentences are A (True), B (False), or C (Doesn't say).

- 1 Inspector Morse was based on a real-life detective.
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 2 Most detective series are written specially for TV.
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 3 People often have one detective who they like the best.
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 4 The stories in detective programmes are very realistic.
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 5 Sometimes, TV detectives take time to solve crimes.
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 6 The audience has a good chance of working out who committed the crime in detective shows.
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 7 Crime fiction has increased in popularity in recent years.
A True B False C Doesn't say

Turn on your TV any evening of the week, and you'll probably find there's a detective series on one channel or another. The Inspector Morse series, for example, is based on a well-known detective from Oxford, who was the creation of his author, Colin Dexter. Other on-screen detectives are created specially by writers for TV series.

But all the programmes are very popular, and watched by millions of people all around the world. Of course, many people have their own favourite detectives – and nowadays they can watch old shows again and again, as they're repeated on cable and satellite channels.

So what's the reason for the popularity of these detective programmes? Some of the stories are quite unlikely, and it's hard to believe in them, and others involve crimes that would be very serious in real life. But perhaps because they're in a TV show, they don't have the same effect on us.

Of course, lots of people enjoy attempting to solve the crime faster than the detective by noticing things and spotting clues. But sometimes it's not possible because at the last minute, something new is discovered that we couldn't possibly know – and that's disappointing!

Reading crime novels has become popular, too. They were once something that people just bought at airports to read on holiday. But now more people are reading them, and they're seen as serious literature now. And there are hundreds to choose from. So, happy reading!