

DISCUSS

- Do you enjoy watching TV shows and movies in a language you're trying to learn?
- What are some challenges you face when trying to learn a new language?
- Have you ever tried to learn a language by immersing yourself in its media?
- How important do you think it is to focus on the mouth and lips when learning a new language?
- Do you think watching comedies is an effective way to learn a language? Why or why not?

WATCH AND LISTEN. THEN, ANSWER T (TRUE) OR F (FALSE)

1. The speaker is from Germany. _____
2. The speaker learned English from her parents. _____
3. The speaker's first language is German. _____
4. The speaker learned most of his vocabulary and accent from reading books. _____
5. The speaker recommends starting with podcasts to learn a language. _____

LISTEN AND JUSTIFY THE FALSE STATEMENTS

LISTEN AND COMPLETE WITH ONE WORD

But then, how? What? I usually give the same answer. I just watch a lot of TV and movies in English. I'm serious. I learned most of my 1. _____ and my accent from watching TV in English from the age of 2. _____. I showed up in Atlanta with my 3. _____ already firmly in place because I was so accustomed to 4. _____ and replicating the American accent. I'm not going to lie, I'm good with 5. _____ and accents and hearing where someone's from by their accent or replicating an accent or a 6. _____. But I don't think you necessarily need any of that. What you need is a 7. _____ for a language. I love English. I feel more 8. _____ with it than with my first language, German.

LISTEN AND CHOOSE THE BEST OPTION**1. What is the author's advice for starting to learn a language?**

- a. Start with visual media where you can see how someone's mouthing the words.
- b. Start with podcasts or audiobooks.
- c. Start with music.
- d. Start with a book in the target language.

2. Why does the author recommend starting with a film or TV show that you know well?

- a. So you can learn new vocabulary more easily.
- b. So you can understand what's going on and breach language gaps with common sense or context.
- c. So you can practice your reading skills.
- d. So you can learn about the culture of the target language.

3. Why does the author recommend sticking to TV shows?

- a. Because TV shows are more serious than movies.
- b. Because movies are too distracting.
- c. Because movies don't have enough time for character development.
- d. Because things are more likely to be repeated within an episode or a season.

4. Why does the author recommend watching comedies?

- a. Because they are based on writing, language, and communication.
- b. Because they have physical humor.
- c. Because they are more distracting than other types of shows.
- d. Because they are shorter than other types of shows.

5. Which TV shows does the author recommend for learning a language?

- a. The Crown, Downton Abbey, Peaky Blinders, Sherlock.
- b. Game of Thrones, Breaking Bad, The Sopranos, The Wire.
- c. Friends, The Office, Brooklyn Nine-Nine, Parks and Rec.
- d. Stranger Things, Black Mirror, The Haunting of Hill House, Narcos.

6. According to the author, why is it important to focus on how characters interact with each other through language?

- a. Because it's more interesting than other aspects of a TV show.
- b. Because that's how you learn a language.
- c. Because it's easier to understand than other aspects of a TV show.
- d. Because it's more important than other aspects of a TV show.

7. What is the author's opinion of using podcasts and audiobooks to learn a language?

- a. They are better than visual media.
- b. They are not as good as visual media.
- c. They are equally good as visual media.
- d. The author does not express an opinion on this topic.

FOUR OPINIONS, ONE DISCUSSION**J** Jenny

I think using videos and pictures are really helpful in learning new words and pronunciation. For example, I always watch TV shows in English with subtitles to learn new words and see how they are pronounced.

M Mike

I don't think pictures are helpful when it comes to language learning, because sometimes they can be misleading and confusing. When I started learning Spanish, I relied solely on pictures, and it took me a while to realize that some of the words were actually pronounced differently than they appeared in the picture.

K Kelly

Honestly, I'm not sure if visual media helps in language learning or not. I've tried using pictures and videos before, but I feel like I'm not really sure if I'm learning anything. Though I do enjoy watching movies in the language I'm trying to learn, I don't know if it's really helping me learn the language.

N Nick

I swear by using visual media to learn a new language! It's the only way to do it. All throughout high school, I learned French by watching French movies dubbed in English, and now I can speak it fluently. Seeing the pronunciation in action really helped me to learn the language faster.