

Reading

- 7 Read four people's comments about a recent TV series called *Human Universe*. Match the statements (1–6) with the people (A–D). You can choose the people more than once.

A Harry

I just want to say how amazing I think this TV series is. I've seen three of the programmes so far and in those three hours I learned more about science and the universe than I did in my whole time at school! Somehow Professor Cox brings science to life in a way none of my teachers ever could. Mind you, he does have the advantage of a lot of special effects to illustrate his points. I suppose it's also the sort of language he uses; it's really accessible and he's a brilliant storyteller. At school, the terminology was so difficult to follow that I used to switch off immediately and I know I wasn't the only one.

B Diana

What I like about this series is that the presenter doesn't talk down to his audience, even though he knows a huge amount about his subject. When I listen to him talking about space and the universe, I don't feel like a kid at school. I feel that he's treating me like an adult. He seems to have a vast knowledge and you can tell he enjoys sharing that knowledge. I've recorded the whole series. I particularly liked the programme about training for a space mission where he went underwater and showed what the living conditions are like for astronauts. It made me realise how difficult it must be to live in such cramped conditions. The series also got me thinking about what scientists still don't know or understand. It's pretty scary to think about how small a piece we really are in the giant puzzle of existence.

C William

Having watched the first programme of the series *Human Universe* I can't wait until the next one. I'm particularly impressed by the visuals. They add a great deal to the professor's explanations, and that's something close to my heart. I enjoy playing around with computer graphics and I've done some work on amateur films but watching this has opened my mind up to the possibilities of other career paths; perhaps television work would be something I could aim for. Obviously, special effects are getting better and better. Overall, I think it's one of the best science series I've ever seen and it's a great marriage between science and art. I also love the way the professor sets his explanations against things we can see and understand by showing us specific examples from different places around the world. Just brilliant!

D Charlotte

I missed the first couple of programmes and then a friend said I simply had to watch it. I've never enjoyed science programmes very much; I'm much more of an arts person. Give me a series about books or galleries and I'm hooked, but for me, science programmes are usually quite dull and I lose concentration quickly. However, I must admit that this one is a bit special! I think it's the combination of a compelling personality (the professor looks much too young to be so clever, doesn't he?) and some really interesting science. And the beautiful location photography makes the programme particularly memorable. Although how long I'll remember the science is a different matter.

Which person:

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|---|---|
| 1 admires the presenter's skill with words? | 4 has a critical opinion of those who previously taught him/her? |
| 2 has enjoyed the programme more than he/she expected? | 5 believes the professor doesn't behave as if he is better than the viewers of the programme? |
| 3 has been inspired by the programme to consider a particular line of work? | 6 comments on the professor's age? |