

SKILLS TEST 3 & 4

READING

1 Read the entertainment guide. Match the types of programme with the names.

These days, you can easily watch TV online. Not everything's good, of course, but here are our recommendations.



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Today

A look at what's in the news around the world.

Professor Strange

This popular show is about a man who travels through time and space. Professor Strange (no-one knows his real name) is 1,000 years old, but he looks much younger. Every week, he goes to a different time, or place, meeting aliens and fighting monsters. This is a low-budget British programme, and the special effects aren't as good as big Hollywood films, but the stories are always much more interesting.

The \$1,000,000 Quiz

No one has won the big million-dollar prize yet, perhaps because the host, Nick Parsons, asks the most complicated questions on TV. Most contestants leave with nothing.

Star in my car

Neil Smith drives around Los Angeles in a big car. Inside is a camera, and a celebrity! They sing along to the radio. It's not as boring as it sounds. Neil asks much more interesting questions than other presenters ask.

The Sound

Every week, contestants get the chance to sing in front of celebrity singers. Some contestants have got talent – but many haven't. The winner of the show gets a recording contract.

Nutty Antiques

This comedy is about a group of people who work in a shop, selling old furniture. It's far funnier than anything else on TV. The best character is Mrs Macaroon, the cleaner, who breaks everything.

I want to go home!

Ten celebrities are on an island in the middle of nowhere, with no electricity, or network coverage. They have to find their own food and cook it. It's great to see them have arguments – and they often do! All the celebrities want to go home, but you can go online and vote for the celebrity you want to keep on the island!

Old Bernard's Balloon

This is easily the best kid's show on TV. Bernard tells stories about how he flies around in a balloon, meeting his friends Russell the dragon and Jack the parrot. It's beautifully animated.

- 0 Today
- 1 Professor Strange
- 2 The \$1,000,000 Quiz
- 3 Star in my Car
- 4 The Sound
- 5 Nutty Antiques
- 6 I want to go home!
- 7 Old Bernard's Balloon

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| a talent show | e sitcom |
| b the news | f chat show |
| c reality show | g cartoon |
| d sci-fi | h game show |

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2 Read the entertainment guide again. Mark these sentences T (true) or F (false), or the guide doesn't say (DS).

- 0 It's not difficult to watch TV online these days.
- 1 The *Today* programme is a comedy show about the news.
- 2 In *Professor Strange*, the special effects are often better than big American movies.
- 3 The questions are very difficult in *The \$1,000,000 Quiz*.
- 4 *Star in my car* isn't as interesting as other chat shows.
- 5 Many singers who are famous now won *The Sound*.
- 6 *Nutty Antiques* isn't as funny as other sitcoms.
- 7 The celebrities on *I want to go home!* often disagree with each other.
- 8 The presenter in *Old Bernard's Balloon* is not animated.

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SKILLS TEST 3 & 4

LISTENING

3  Listen to two teenagers, Rita and Mark, talking about a problem. Tick [✓] the things which are true.

- 1 Someone is making Mark upset.
- 2 Mark is phoning someone.
- 3 Mark has got a blog.
- 4 Someone is writing messages under Mark's blog.
- 5 Mark thinks the writer is offensive.
- 6 Rita knows the writer's name.
- 7 Rita thinks Mark shouldn't write back.
- 8 Rita says the person only wants to make Mark upset.
- 9 Rita advises Mark to change his blog.
- 10 Mark tells the person what he's going to do.
- 11 Mark finds out the person's email address.
- 12 Mark is happy with Rita's advice.

✓

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4  Listen again. Choose the correct answers.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 0 Mark is busy because he wants to | |
| A finish his blog. | B reply to some comments on his blog. |
| 1 The comments are | |
| A about the blog. | B about Mark. |
| 2 Rita thinks it's someone who wants to | |
| A start an argument. | B ignore Mark. |
| 3 First, she advises Mark | |
| A not to answer. | B write back more comments. |
| 4 She thinks the troll | |
| A is angry. | B is happy to make Mark upset. |
| 5 Mark wants the troll to think | |
| A he is smart. | B he often has arguments. |
| 6 Rita thinks that it's | |
| A easy to win an argument with a troll. | B not possible to win an argument with a troll. |
| 7 At the moment, people who comment on Mark's blog | |
| A have to give their email address. | B don't have to give any personal information. |

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