

# UNIT 2: CREATING A TV SERIES



Goal: You will imagine a brand new TV series, and prepare an oral presentation where you will pitch your series in front of the class.

## Step 1: Talking about series.

→ VOCABULARY: Fill in the sentences with the right word from this list.

Soap opera – Sitcom – Thriller – Action drama – Police procedural(s) – medical drama – Cartoon series – Sci-fi – Historical drama – character(s) – fantasy



1. The Simpsons is a \_\_\_\_\_ created in 1989, I wasn't even born when it started !
2. House MD is a \_\_\_\_\_ where Hugh Laurie plays a grumpy doctor who is an addict.
3. Vikings is a \_\_\_\_\_ which takes place in early medieval Scandinavia.
4. How I met your mother isn't my favorite \_\_\_\_\_, I'm sorry !
5. I usually watch a series because of the \_\_\_\_\_, especially if the actors are good-looking !
6. NCIS and Bones are American \_\_\_\_\_ broadcast by M6 in France.
7. Desperate Housewives is a \_\_\_\_\_, but the creators of the series decided to had humour and mysteries to make it more interesting. Its target audience is the women, especially the housewives.
8. Dexter is a \_\_\_\_\_ about a policeman by day who is also a sociopath who kills bad guys by night.
9. The 100 is a \_\_\_\_\_ series set in the future : it's about 100 teenagers sent back on Earth a century after a world nuclear war.
10. Arrow is an teen \_\_\_\_\_ created for teenagers: the cast is made of young attractive actors, and the main character is a superhero.
11. I love \_\_\_\_\_ serial dramas such as Game of Thrones because when I watch a series, I want to be transported in a different world.

## Step 2: What are your favourite TV series?

A. SPEAK. In pairs, ask you partner about his/her favourite TV series and fill in this grid.

a) How often do you watch TV?	
b) Which series do you prefer? French? American? British? Others?	
c) What style of series do you like?	
d) What makes you like a show?	
e) What is your favourite TV series of all time?	
f) What is it about? Can you pitch it for me?	

B. SPEAK. Using the grid, tell the class about your friend's favourite series.

His/her favourite TV show of all time is...  
It's about... [*described in present simple*]  
It's an amazing show because it deals with...  
What he/she likes about this series is...  
Her/his favourite character is...



## Step 3: The Making-of a TV series.

A/ READ this presentation of an American TV series and fill in this grid (with full sentences).



1) Who created the series?	
2) Which channel produces it?	
3) What is it about?	
4) Where is it filmed?	
5) What was the audience's reaction to the show?	
6) What makes it different from the other series?	

B/ LISTEN to the extract and fill in the script.

46 survivors of a plane crash are stranded on an island. The main character, Jack, is trying to convince the others that they need to unite and find shelter in a cave instead of hopelessly waiting for rescue on the beach.



It's been six days, and we're [ ] [ ] waiting... waiting for [ ] to come. But [ ]  
 [ ] they don't? We have to stop waiting. We need to start [ ] things [ ]. A woman  
 [ ] this morning just going for a [ ]. We [ ] do this. Every man for [ ] is not  
 gonna [ ]. It's time to start [ ]. We need to [ ] [ ] how we're gonna  
 [ ] here. Now, I found water. [ ] [ ], up in the [ ]. I'll take a group in at first  
 light. If you don't [ ] come, then find [ ] [ ] to [ ]. Last week,  
 [ ] [ ] [ ] were [ ]. But we're [ ] here now. And [ ] knows [ ]  
 [ ] we're gonna be here. But if we [ ] live [ ] ... we're gonna [ ] [ ].

C/ GRAMMAR: Put these sentences in the passive voice.

Ex: The BBC **broadcasts** Sherlock → Sherlock **is broadcast by** the BBC.

- a) Hugh Laurie **plays** Dr House. → .....
- b) TF1 **will broadcast** my new series. → .....
- American viewers **watched** Desperate Housewives for years → .....
- d) We **film** this series in Toronto. → .....
- e) Martin Scorsese **directs** this series. → .....
- f) JJ Abrams **created** Alias and Lost. → .....

D/ Now using the previous activities, WRITE a short pitch to present the series to people who never saw it.

**TOOLBOX: Information you need in your pitch.**

- title of the series
- genre of the series
- creator of the series
- cast of the series (actors)
- channel which broadcasts the series
- short synopsis of the series
- what makes it special and interesting

