

**Chatterbox #54 – TV****Transcript**

Maura: Hello everyone out there. It's Maura!

Harp: And Harp!

Maura: And we're here with your Culips podcast. And, as always, we try to tell you the most interesting and most useful expressions in English, and hopefully you can start using them very soon.

Harp: Yes. And go to our website, Culips.com, CU-L-I-P-S.com, because there, you can find all our older episodes and you can sign up to become a member. Because when you're a member, you have access to the Learning Materials, which is a complete transcript, detailed explanations, and even a quiz.

Maura: And if you're already a member, let us know what you think of our Learning Materials. Did they help you understand some of the vocabulary in our episodes even more? Or did you learn a cultural aspect that you didn't know before? Let us know what you think of them, because we always wanna make them better and help you learn more.

Harp: Exactly.

Maura: Now, today's episode is a Chatterbox episode, and this is a kind of episode that Harp and I like, right?

Harp: Yes, 'cause we get to chat—our favourite thing in the world.

Maura: So, we talk about all different kinds of things. We might talk about what's going on in Canada or Montreal, or we might talk about some aspect of English-speaking culture, but today we're going to talk about something that exists all over the world, pretty much, and many people have one—or more than one—of these items at home.

Harp: Yes. We're talking about TV.

Maura: Yes, the television. The beautiful, wonderful invention of at-home television.

Harp: Yes. TV. So today, we're gonna start by talking about the basics, some general topics related to TV.

Maura: And then we're gonna talk about trends in television, so what's popular in the land of English-speaking TV right now.

Harp: Exactly. And then we're gonna talk about our favourite TV shows of all time.

- Maura: Yes. Those shows that still hold a special place in our hearts. So first, let's talk about some basic vocabulary related to television because, really, there's so much of it.
- Harp: All right. So let's start about by talking about the basics.
- Maura: Yes. Now, if you have a television, you probably have this other little device, which is the remote control, because, well, people are lazy. They don't wanna get up to change the channel on the TV.
- Harp: Exactly. They like to sit on their couch and change the channel from there.
- Maura: Yeah. So that is called a remote control, but many people also call it **the flicker**.
- Harp: Yes, **the flicker** or **the clicker**.
- Maura: Yeah, so, sometimes people might call it a remote control, but they might just say, "Hey, pass me **the flicker**."
- Harp: Exactly.
- Maura: And the reason for this is because you flick through the channels, so you press the button, you go from channel to channel, and you see what's on.
- Harp: I hate when someone has control of **the flicker** and they just go from channel to channel to channel very quickly. You can't see what's going on. You don't get to watch a show. They just end up watching nothing for hours.
- Maura: Yeah. When someone is **channel surfing**, it can be really annoying to watch. But I have to say that when I'm doing it, I don't mind.
- Harp: That's a good point.
- Maura: Yeah. It can be a battle in some households to see who has the control of the remote, because that person really has all the power of what you're going to watch on TV.
- Harp: Yeah, definitely.
- Maura: It's funny talking about **a flicker**, too, because I remember back when I was young and we had a television and the control for the channels was actually attached to the TV by a wire, so it was before we had remote controls.
- Harp: I used to have a TV that you changed the channels with a knob on the side.

- Maura: Right. Kind of like the dial that you turn and, yup, old-fashioned televisions.
- Harp: Yeah, I can't even imagine that anymore.
- Maura: No. Sometimes I see them in the garbage or on the edge of the curb waiting to be picked up.
- Harp: Yeah, definitely.
- Maura: So, that's kind of what most people have when they're watching TV. They have a TV—it could be a flat-screen TV; it could be a high-definition TV, more and more that's what you see—and then you have a remote, or **a flicker**. And in order to get TV, you might have a satellite, so then you get hundreds of channels from across Canada, and sometimes international channels.
- Harp: Yeah. My parents got satellite after I moved out of the house and when I go home now, I actually I turn into one of those people who just spends the whole time **channel surfing** because there are hundreds of channels. I don't know any of the channels, so I spend all my time just going through all the channels.
- Maura: Yeah, you can really **veg out** when you have that much to choose from.
- Harp: Yeah.
- Maura: But you know, sometimes I find that even with so many channels, sometimes you can't find anything good.
- Harp: I agree 100% with you.
- Maura: Yeah, it's really strange how that is. You have more options, but still nothing... nothing **strikes your fancy**.
- Harp: Definitely.
- Maura: So, you might have satellite. Most people have cable. It's still the most popular way to watch television. And some people might even have an antenna, like **rabbit ears**, which picks up some stations, but I think that they're going to be obsolete soon because they're changing television to digital.
- Harp: Yup. I remember having **bunny ears**, and you could get just some local channels, you couldn't watch any speciality channels, you couldn't get the Food Network or Home and Garden network.

- Maura: Right. So it's kind of one end of the spectrum, where with antennas you have just a handful of stations and then with a satellite you have hundreds of channels that you can't possibly know them all.
- Harp: Exactly.
- Maura: And on these channels, there are so many different kinds of shows to watch now and so many different channels that are specialized for different shows.
- Harp: Yeah. So you have your basic **sitcoms**, which are...
- Maura: Comedies and shows usually about friends or families and different things that happen to them in their lives.
- Harp: Yeah. Or you can see a **talk show**, where there's usually one or two hosts and they just talk, basically, about different topics.
- Maura: Yep. Oprah was a big one that Harp and I both liked, but now she retired. We'll still see her on **reruns**, though, I'm sure.
- Harp: Yes, definitely.
- Maura: And there's **reality TV** and, like you were saying earlier, the Food Network, Comedy Central. I mean, there are so many speciality stations with specialized shows for a particular interest.
- Harp: Yeah, definitely.
- Maura: So, you can usually find something that interests you on TV. Now, there's also **primetime** television, which is the time when many people are watching TV, when it's the most popular time for people to watch TV. So **primetime** is defined a little bit differently by everybody, but it's generally from about 7:00 at night to maybe 10:00 or 11:00, when people have come home from work, eaten dinner, put the kids to bed, and then they have some time to kind of relax. That's when **primetime** is.
- Harp: Yes. That's when you get all the good, exciting new shows coming on TV.
- Maura: Yeah. And out of the days of the week, the most popular night to watch TV is Thursday night. That's when the most popular shows are on television.
- Harp: Yes, yes, you're right. And, of course, there's always the news.
- Maura: Yes. That is on twice in the evening, sometimes even more than twice, but at around 6:00, the news comes on and then again at 10:00 or 11:00.

- Harp: Yeah. And you usually always have two separate segments: one for national news and one for local news.
- Maura: Yup, so you get a taste of everything there.
- Harp: Yeah. And, like we were talking about, the speciality channels. Now we have more and more speciality news channels, where there's news all day, like CNN or Fox News or...
- Maura: Yup, even CBC, in Canada, has a special station where it's news all the time.
- Harp: Yes.
- Maura: OK. Now, that's kind of the basic info about talking about TV. So now let's talk about trends in television and what has happened to TV more recently.
- Harp: Well, we've talked about this already, but: **reality shows**.
- Maura: Yeah, I think it's been about 10 or 15 years since **reality shows** really started up and then exploded. Now there are so many different kinds of **reality shows**.
- Harp: It's overwhelming how many **reality shows** there are now.
- Maura: Right. And by **reality show**, we just mean that it's not acting—that the people in the show are not acting, they're not pretending to be anything. It's real people put into different situations, often there's some kind of game or competition, and their lives are recorded.
- Harp: Yup. Or sometimes it's maybe a game, like Survivor. I know you like that show, where... where they follow people and they have games and they have to do activities.
- Maura: Yup, like Big Brother is another one like that. And there's also shows about love, like The Bachelor or The Bachelorette, where they choose a man or a woman to go on TV and meet all kinds of people to see if they're interested in dating them and spending their lives together, and I think at the end of the show, they're supposed to get married.
- Harp: Yeah, they definitely get engaged.
- Maura: That is crazy.
- Harp: It's intense. It's, like, 13 or 14 women fighting after one man or vice versa. It's intense.

- Maura: Yeah, but people love it, I think because of all that drama that's created from being a real show.
- Harp: Yeah. They get very attached to the people on the show. Like, people at my work talk about, "Oh, did you see The Bachelor last night? Oh, did you see this person didn't get picked? Oh, she got sent home."
- Maura: Yup. There are also other **reality shows**, like The Hills or Jersey Shore, but some people think that it's not completely real. So, it's like **reality television**, but the things that happen to them are not real, so it's kind of like acting and kind of like real life. It's weird.
- Harp: Yeah, definitely. I've never seen any of them, but a lot of my friends watch them, so I know some of the characters, but it doesn't seem like it can be real.
- Maura: Yeah, it's a little bit crazy. So, it blurs the line between **reality TV** and acting.
- Harp: Yeah, and Jersey Shore, and The Hills, it's actually following these groups of teenagers, young adults, in their lives, in their day-to-day lives. So...
- Maura: Except they're not regular young people. They have a lot of money, and most of them don't have to work. And they go out a lot and party, and it's a bit crazy.
- Harp: Yeah, definitely.
- Maura: But in addition to **reality shows**, there's also regular television shows that are still around, like regular dramas. And two kinds of shows that I think of that are popular are dramas related to hospitals...
- Harp: Yeah.
- Maura: I think it's because there's always the life-and-death situation. So, there's a show like Grey's Anatomy, which is still very popular and just is about the doctors that work there and about their lives, which are, of course, dramatic, and about the different things that happen in the hospital with people being sick or needing help, so...
- Harp: Yeah. I don't watch Grey's Anatomy, but I used to watch **ER**, which was the same idea; it followed doctors in the emergency room in Chicago. It wasn't real, it was made up stories. But it was always interesting.
- Maura: Yeah. And that show was popular for a long, long time.
- Harp: Yeah, it was, I think, at least ten years long.

- Maura: And the other kind of show I thought of was detective or crime shows. There are so many of them right now, I can't even believe it. Like CSI, CSI New York, CSI Miami, and Bones, and so many more.
- Harp: And Law and Order, and... Yeah.
- Maura: The list **goes on and on**.
- Harp: **On and on**. And I think one reason why they're so popular is because the subject is... It's interesting. But it's also; you don't have to follow the whole series. It's one show and it follows one case and at the end of the show, it's done, they've solved a case, or they've put someone in jail. It's very easy to watch just one of them and not have to follow the whole series or the whole season.
- Maura: Yeah, that's a good point. So, if you miss a show, it's not a big deal. And also, something else that's popular lately is watching television shows online, so that if you do love a show and you do miss it, you can just go on the Internet and go to the website of a... usually a channel or the television show, and you can watch the television show there.
- Harp: Exactly. That's what I like to do. Because I'm not home every week on the same day and the same evening to watch a series, so I'll watch it online.
- Maura: Yeah, and you don't want to schedule your life around that anyways, so it's so convenient to watch it online. And also what's happened is a lot of illegal sites have come up, so that you can watch television illegally online, because not every show is posted on the Internet. So, now you can go on and find different sites and then you can watch these shows.
- Harp: Yeah, it's definitely becoming more popular.
- Maura: Yeah. They talk about doing something about it, like fining people or getting more strict and cracking down on the problem, but I personally know a lot of people who watch shows online that way.
- Harp: Same. I know a lot of people who do it that way and I think they enjoy, again, that they don't have to be at home at the same time always in the week, and also that there are no commercials.

- Maura: Yeah. There are no commercials if you're doing it illegally, but if you're going to the website of a TV station, there are some commercials, but a lot less. Yeah. And **speaking of** watching TV online, now there are even shows that are only available online, so you have online TV shows that are not shown on regular television, but they have... they have continued episodes and maybe every week or every month they put out a new episode but it's only shown on the Internet. OK, so now let's get to what I think is gonna be the most fun part of this episode, and that is talking about our favourite shows, because even shows that stopped being made ten years ago—they're still awesome.
- Harp: Definitely.
- Maura: So, tell us. Start with one, at least one of your favourite television shows of all time.
- Harp: Hmm, difficult question, but I would say that one of my favourite TV shows of all time is The Wonder Years.
- Maura: Aw, The Wonder Years. That was a good one. So, why don't you tell us what it's about a little bit?
- Harp: It followed a boy who was, I think, eight or nine years old, until he was at the end of high school, in the '60s and '70s. And it was... It showed his whole family and his friends, and it showed him, basically, growing up in the very tumultuous '60s and '70s.
- Maura: Yeah.
- Harp: It was playing in the late '80s and early '90s, so I remember coming home from school and watching The Wonder Years. And it was like it was our family. We knew all of the characters and it had Kevin Arnold and Winnie, and it was just an awesome show.
- Maura: I agree. I have really fond memories of that show too, and even though it took place in the '60s or '70s, which is before we were really born, you could still relate to it, because the problems in the show were problems that could happen any time.
- Harp: Yup, Exactly. And have you ever seen any of the **reruns** lately?
- Maura: No, but now that we're talking about it, I wouldn't mind going online, maybe.
- Harp: I've seen the **reruns** and that show **holds up**. It's 2011 right now, and it is still a really good show.



- Maura: Yeah, I bet. The one thing I really remember about it is that, even though the story was about Kevin Arnold, the boy in the family, it was told from the perspective of him as an adult, remembering back to his childhood. So, you had this voiceover where you could hear the adult Kevin Arnold talking about what he thought about his life and his memories. And I thought that was pretty cool.
- Harp: Yeah, so that's an awesome show. Now Maura, what's your favourite show of all time?
- Maura: Well, one of my favourite shows came out when I was in high school and so, of course, this show was about being a teenager too, and it was a very short-lived show. It didn't run for very long, but it was a great show. It was called My So-Called Life.
- Harp: Ah, My So-Called Life. That was a good show.
- Maura: Yeah. And it was about a teenager, a teenaged girl, who was really discovering herself and trying to figure out who she was. And she had friends and problems, like most teenagers, but just something about the way the show was done, it was a bit more introspective and really made you think about deeper issues.
- Harp: Yeah. It's sad that they cancelled the show so quickly, 'cause it could have been a really good long-running show.
- Maura: Yeah. A lot of people at that time were upset when it was cancelled and Claire Danes and Jared Leto, who are both still popular now, were in that show, so they had a good first show to launch their career.
- Harp: Definitely. I had a huge crush on Jared Leto.
- Maura: Well, yeah, of course!
- Harp: He was so cute. He's still cute, but he was really cute in that show.
- Maura: Yup. That's probably one of the reasons why the show was such a favourite.
- Harp: Yeah, definitely.
- Maura: Oh, I could **go on and on** about the best shows, but I think we'll end it there.
- Harp: Yeah. There are so many other good shows.
- Maura: Yeah. And I'm sure that you have some of your favourites, which we'd love to know about, especially if we should watch them too, because maybe we could see them. That would be cool.

- Harp: Yeah. And you know, watching TV, especially if you watch it in English, not dubbed, not with subtitles, but watching it, is a good way to learn English.
- Maura: Yup. Especially if you can get involved with the characters and then you wanna know what's happening, even if you need to use subtitles to help you.
- Harp: Yeah. No. Definitely. Start with subtitles, but eventually you'll be able to understand more and more and try without subtitles.
- Maura: Yup. It's an excellent way to practice. I've practiced my French doing that, too.
- Harp: Yeah, definitely.
- Maura: So, in this episode, first we started talking about the basics in TV and just some general vocabulary you should know if you're gonna be talking about TV.
- Harp: And then we moved on to trends in TV.
- Maura: Right. And last, we talked about our favourite shows.
- Harp: Yes.
- Maura: So, maybe you're curious about The Wonder Years or My So-Called Life, so check them out.
- Harp: Yes, and maybe tell us your favourite shows.
- Maura: Yeah. We will talk to you soon. This has been Maura.
- Harp: And Harp.
- Maura: Bye!
- Harp: Bye everyone!

## **Detailed Explanation**

### The flicker/the clicker

**The flicker** and **the clicker** are slang terms for a remote control, which is also sometimes just called *a remote*. A remote control is a device that can control electronics—like TVs or stereos—from a distance. With a remote control, you can change all sorts of things on your TV, but the remote is most commonly used for changing the channels and changing the volume.

There is a well-known joke in North America, and probably many other parts of the world, that people fight over who has control of the remote control. Harp and Maura mention this a bit in our episode. The reason people fight over the remote control is because whoever has the remote gets to control what you watch on TV.

Here's an example using **the flicker**:

Ben: Who's got **the flicker**?

Melissa: I do. Why?

Ben: Could you change the channel? I hate this show.

### To channel surf

*Surfing* is a sport that's done in the water, where using a board, people are able to ride along the waves. Nowadays, **to surf** is also used to describe someone who is looking around very casually at different TV channels or at things on the internet.

**To channel surf** is to change channels on the television until you find something interesting. When some people are **channel surfing**, they might continuously change channels even when they find something interesting. Some people watch one channel for five minutes, then change to another and watch for ten minutes, and never stick with just one program.

When online, this is called **surfing the net/Internet**.

To veg out

When someone **vegges out**, it means that they just sit and relax and don't do anything important or active. When people **veg out**, they do not want to think. Watching TV, sitting or lying down doing nothing, or taking a nap are some of the things that people do when they are **vegging out**.

This expression, **to veg out**, comes from the verb *to vegetate*. *To vegetate* means to not think and to do nothing. If you compare a person to a vegetable, it might help you to remember this expression. A person who's **vegging out** is like a vegetable in that they are alive, but they do not move or think.

Here is an example with **to veg out**:

Nina: What do you want to do tonight?

Jack: Not much. I totally **vegged out** all afternoon and I just feel like sleeping now.

People can also say **to veg**.

To strike your fancy

If something **strikes your fancy**, it means you like it! If you are interested in something, you can say that it **strikes your fancy**. This expression has origins in England, where **to tickle your fancy** also exists. Even today, they say *to fancy*, meaning *to like*.

In North America, this expression is not that popular. Some people might say it for fun, but it is not a common way to say that you like something. To use this expression is kind of an elegant way to say that you like something.

Here's another example with **to strike your fancy**:

Travis: What do you want to snack on?

Heather: It doesn't matter to me. Whatever **strikes your fancy**.

### Rabbit ears

**Rabbit ears** and **bunny ears** are slang terms for the antennas that are used to get reception on an older TV. The reason these antennas are called **rabbit ears** is because there are two of them and they stick straight up like **rabbit ears**. These are used all over the world to have access to some television channels for free.

In Canada, soon people will not be able to use just **bunny ears** to get television reception. This is because all the stations are going digital, due to advances in technology and because you get a clearer picture on your television screen. People will have to get digital converters to continue using their **bunny ears**. Today, most Canadians watch television through a cable or satellite subscription.

### Sitcoms

**Sitcoms** are a popular style of television show. The word **sitcom** is actually short for *situation comedy*. We've talked about these kinds of TV programs before here at Culips. In these types of shows, each episode plays out funny stories and events in the lives of the main characters, their families, and their friends. Very popular recent American **sitcoms** include Friends and Seinfeld.

### Talk shows

**Talk shows** are another kind of television program that we talk about at Culips from time to time. On **talk shows**, there's a host or several hosts, and there are different guests each episode who talk about a variety of issues. Some **talk shows** have a different theme for each episode. Other **talk shows**, like late-night **talk shows**, follow a format with a monologue full of jokes, interviews with celebrities, and then a musical guest who performs a song or two.

Some examples of American **talk shows** that are currently very popular are The Oprah Winfrey Show, Ellen, The Late Show with David Letterman, and Maury.

### Reruns

A **rerun** is any show that plays again after its original, first broadcast. To run a television show is to play the show on a channel for people to watch. To run a show again is **to rerun** the show, and so this is how these types of shows got their name: **reruns**.

In this episode, Harp and Maura talk about the talk show *The Oprah Winfrey Show*. This show is finished now, so there will be no more original broadcasts. But because this show is still so popular, **reruns** will likely be shown for a long time.

### Primetime

The word **primetime** refers to the time in the evening when a lot of people watch television. *Prime* means best or most important, so in this case, the most popular time to watch television. **Primetime** also includes more popular shows that many people like to watch. And commercials during this time cost more to advertisers than other times.

**Primetime** is a bit different from place to place.

**Primetime** can also be written as two words: **prime time**.

### Reality shows/reality TV

**Reality shows**, or **reality TV**, are a kind of television show that became really popular in North America in the late 1990s. These kinds of shows record regular people (not actors) in different situations, so they are said to reflect reality. In **reality shows**, the people are often in strange situations, as many of them have a contest to compete in. Some popular **reality shows** that include a competition are Survivor, Big Brother, The Amazing Race, and The Bachelor.

There are also **reality shows** that film the lives of different groups of friends or families, and there is no competition involved. Many of these shows have been accused of controlling the events in these people's lives, thus making it not actually reality.

Documentaries and other news programs also reflect reality, but they are not considered **reality television**.

### ER

**ER** is one of many television shows centred on what happens in a hospital. This show ran for a very long time, from 1994 to 2009, making it the longest running primetime medical drama ever. The abbreviation **ER** stands for *emergency room*. Many of the events in this show happened in the emergency room of the hospital.

The abbreviation **ER** is not just the name of a television show. The abbreviation is also used by people when they're talking about the emergency room of a hospital. Here's an example of that:

George: I'm really not feeling well. I think I might have appendicitis.

Noah: That can be really serious. Let's get you to the **ER**.

### To go on and on

When something **goes on and on**, it means that it continues for a long time, possibly too long. A show, a song, or an event are just some of the things that can **go on and on**. If a person **goes on and on** about something, it means that they talk about it a lot and for a long time.

This expression is actually two separate times in this episode. The first time, Maura is talking about crime shows. Harp and Maura list some of them, but there are so many more that they don't mention. Maura says that the list of crime shows **goes on and on**, because it is a very long list. Maura uses the expression again when she says that she could **go on and on** talking about television shows. Maura and Harp only mention a couple of their favourites, but they would like to continue to talk about them all!

Here are a couple more examples with **to go on and on**:

Yvonne: How did you like the movie last night?

Tyson: The first half hour was pretty good, but it just **went on and on**. I got a little bored by the end.

Julie: Kristen can really **go on and on** about knitting, can't she?

Paula: Yes, I know.

Julie: At some point it really becomes annoying.

When speaking about a person who talks for a long time, you can also say simply **to go**

on, as in, “She can really go on about knitting for a long time.”

### Speaking of...

If you’ve taken English classes or read English textbooks, you may have already seen this transitional expression. It’s really natural and easy to use! When you want to change the topic a little bit, from the current topic to a related topic, you can use this expression. You just say, “**speaking of** [the current topic],” and then bring up the new topic. The two topics must be related in some way for this to make sense.

In this episode, Maura and Harp are talking about watching television shows online. Then Maura says, “**Speaking of** watching TV online, now there are even shows that are only available online.” Maura changes the topic a little bit from watching shows online to shows that are only available online.

When changing the topic using **speaking of**, the topics must be related in some way. For example, one person could be talking about their trip to China, and someone else could say, “**Speaking of** travelling...” and then talk about their own trip somewhere else. Or someone could say, “**Speaking of** China...” and then start talking about Chinese politics.

Here are a couple more examples:

Barbara: Nancy’s party last night was so fun. There were so many people there and the music was great. I ran into so many friends I haven’t seen in ages.

Jackie: Sounds great! **Speaking of** Nancy, how’s she doing?

Ivan: How was your date last night?

Gordon: It was all right, actually. We went for a walk in the park. It was really nice. We even saw a couple of shooting stars. Then afterward we went for a drink.

Ivan: I’m glad you had a nice time. **Speaking of** shooting stars, there’s a meteor shower coming up next week.



To hold up

The verb **to hold up** has more than one meaning. In this episode, when Harp says **to hold up**, she means to continue to be in good condition after time passes. Harp was talking about her favourite show, The Wonder Years. She says that this show still **holds up** after many years, meaning that the show is still good more than ten years later. Some things that seem good at the time, especially when you're a kid, might seem silly or boring to you once you're older, but things that hold up over time are still good.

Here are a couple more examples with this meaning of the phrase **to hold up**:

Joy: I just got a new HD TV!

Ken: Oh yeah? I've thought about getting one, but my old TV still works fine. It's **held up** pretty well over the years.

Helen: How's your roof **holding up**?

Myriam: Not very well. We need to replace it soon.

**Quiz**

1. *The flicker* and *the clicker* are slang terms for which of the following?

- a) the TV
- b) the channel
- c) the remote control
- d) the couch

2. Which expression means to relax and do nothing?

- a) to channel surf
- b) to veg out
- c) to grow rabbit ears
- d) to go on and on

3. Colin: What movie do you want to watch? What strikes your fancy?  
Wilma: Twilight!

Which of the following is definitely true?

- a) Wilma likes Twilight.
- b) Colin likes Twilight.
- c) They both like Twilight.
- d) Neither of them like Twilight.

**4. Jenna: The TV reception is bad. Can you move the bunny ears?**

**What does the term *bunny ears* mean in this example?**

- a) the ears of a bunny
- b) the television antenna
- c) the channel
- d) the TV

**5. What kind of television show is a synonym for a *rerun*?**

- a) an original broadcast
- b) a repeat broadcast
- c) a sitcom
- d) a drama

**6. What does *ER* stand for?**

- a) excellent rerun
- b) emergency radio
- c) emergency room
- d) exit room

**7. If a person is said to go on and on, what does that mean?**

- a) The person talks for a long time.
- b) The person can run really far.
- c) The person is crazy.
- d) The person likes walking.

**8. Bob: My car is pretty old but it's still in good condition.  
Adam: Oh, nice. Mine hasn't held up very well.**

**What is Adam saying about his car?**

- a) It's in good condition.
- b) It's not in good condition.
- c) It was never in good condition.
- d) He doesn't have a car.

**Answers:**

1.c    2.b    3.a    4.b    5.b    6.c    7.a    8.b