

Rants and Raves - Reality TV

Activities

You are going to hear a person talk about reality TV. Does the speaker like reality TV?

After listening

Put the text in the correct order then listen and check.

If you ask me, there are far too many so-called reality shows on TV. First of

all, there are the sort of shows with ten people in a house doing stupid or

boring things – and, and being thrown out one by one. Then, there are the

outdoor versions of those, in the jungle or in a forest or whatever. Those ones

usually have some very minor celebrities in them, who've agreed to take part

to get some publicity for themselves. And, some of the disgusting things they

make them do! Ugh! But there are also so many programmes about people

who are different from the majority in some way – very fat people, very small

people, people who have strange physical differences. They say they're

showing them to 'increase our awareness' or to get our sympathy for people

who are somehow extraordinary. But, if you ask me, they are just like the old

freak shows they used to have back in the 19th century.

Decide whether the statements are true or false or not given.

1. The speaker would like to see less reality TV.
2. The people who take part in the jungle shows are not that well known.
3. The speaker likes looking at people that look strange.
4. The speaker disagrees with shows that look for sympathy.

Extension

Discuss reality shows in other countries.

Design a reality TV show.

Contributed by

Derek Spafford