

# Television is Educational

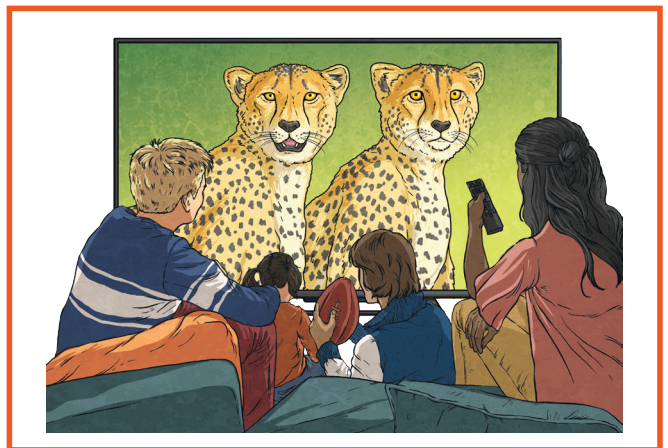
Everyone now agrees that television has many educational benefits because there is an excellent range of quality children's programs available to watch. Children are able to learn many skills that they would in school, like reading, writing and counting, as well as learning about the world around them because of the great coverage we get from news reporters and television broadcasts.

Firstly, I believe that children can develop a variety of skills often learnt at school from television. Play School and Sesame Street are just some of the popular children's shows that teach numeracy and literacy skills. In addition to this, children are able to watch programmes, which dramatise classic children's fiction, bringing the stories to life. 'Misery Guts', by Morris Gleitzman, is currently being viewed by children throughout Australia. Not only do they learn about the world around them, but children are also exposed to some great authors and literature.

Secondly, it is without a doubt that television allows children to learn about the world around them. Some children are fortunate enough to travel with their families; however, not all have the opportunity to see these places. Without television, we would have to rely heavily on pictures, newspaper

articles and radio broadcasts, which of course would take a lot longer to reach us and wouldn't be as thorough. Documentaries are a great way to teach children about the world around them. For example, a documentary on the most dangerous African animals can be enjoyed by children even though they may not actually be able to travel to Africa. The teacher can show these animals in their habitat, without being there in person. The children, therefore, have a clearer idea of how the animal lives and survives.

To sum up, I most certainly feel that television provides a range of educational opportunities for children.



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## Questions

1. What is the topic of this text? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Is the author for or against this topic? How do you know?

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3. What reasons does the author give to support their opinion?

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4. Who could the author be writing this text to?

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5. What emotive words or phrases does the author use to persuade the reader?

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6. What connectives (words or phrases) has the author used to sequence the text?

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7. List two reasons that support the author's argument that television allows children to learn about the world around them.

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8. Do you think television is educational? Why or why not?

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## Answers

**1. What is the topic of this text?**

The topic of this text is 'Television is Educational'.

**2. Is the author for or against this topic? How do you know?**

The title and first sentence show that the author believes that television is educational. This lets the reader know that the text is a persuasive text, in which the author will give reasons for their opinion.

**3. What reasons does the author give to support their opinion?**

- Children are able to develop many skills often learnt at school from television.
- Television allows children to learn about the world around them.

**4. Who could the author be writing this text to?**

Answers will vary, but may include:

- To convince parents to let their children watch television
- To convince teachers to use television in their teaching

**5. What emotive words or phrases does the author use to persuade the reader?**

- ...everyone now agrees... (Paragraph 1)
- ... I believe... (Paragraph 2)
- ... it is without a doubt that... (Paragraph 3)
- ...wouldn't be as thorough... (Paragraph 3)
- ...I most certainly feel... (Paragraph 4)

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**6. What connectives (words or phrases) has the author used to sequence the text?**

- Firstly...
- In addition to this...
- Secondly...
- To sum up...

**7. List two reasons that support the author's argument that television allows children to learn about the world around them.**

- Not all children have the opportunity to travel the world.
- They would have to rely on pictures, newspaper articles and radio broadcasts that would take a lot longer to reach them.
- Documentaries are a great way to teach children about the world around them.
- The child is able to watch animals at close range without actually being there in person.

**8. Do you think television is educational? Why or why not?**

Answers will vary.