

## **Reality Television**

Reality television is a genre of television programming which, it is claimed, presents unscripted dramatic or humorous situations, documents actual events, and features ordinary people rather than professional actors. It could be described as a form of artificial or "heightened" documentary. Although the genre has existed in some form or another since the early years of television, the current explosion of popularity dates from around 2000.

Reality television covers a wide range of television programming formats, from game or quiz shows which resemble the frantic, often demeaning programmes produced in Japan in the 1980s and 1990s (a modern example is Gaki no tsukai), to surveillance- or voyeurism- focused productions such as Big Brother.

Critics say that the term "reality television" is somewhat of a misnomer and that such shows frequently portray a modified and highly influenced form of reality, with participants put in exotic locations or abnormal situations, sometimes coached to act in certain ways by off-screen handlers, and with events on screen manipulated through editing and other post-production techniques.

Part of reality television's appeal is due to its ability to place ordinary people in extraordinary situations. For example, on the ABC show, The Bachelor, an eligible male dates a dozen women simultaneously, travelling on extraordinary dates to scenic locales. Reality television also has the potential to turn its participants into national celebrities, outwardly in talent and performance programs such as Pop Idol, though frequently Survivor and Big Brother participants also reach some degree of celebrity.

Some commentators have said that the name "reality television" is an inaccurate description for several styles of program included in the genre. In competition-based programs such as Big Brother and Survivor, and other special-living-environment shows like The Real World, the producers design the format of the show and control the day-to-day activities and the environment, creating a completely fabricated world in which the competition plays out. Producers specifically select the participants, and use carefully designed scenarios, challenges, events, and settings to encourage particular behaviours and conflicts. Mark Burnett, creator of Survivor and other reality shows, has agreed with this assessment, and avoids the word "reality" to describe his shows; he has said, "I tell good stories. It really is not reality TV. It really is unscripted drama."

### **Questions**

#### **Q1 - In the first line, the writer says 'it is claimed' because**

- a. they agree with the statement.
- b. everyone agrees with the statement.
- c. no one agrees with the statement.
- d. they want to distance themselves from the statement.

#### **Q2 - Reality television has**

- a. always been this popular.
- b. has been popular since well before 2000.
- c. has only been popular since 2000.
- d. has been popular since approximately 2000.

#### **Q3 - Japan**

- a. is the only place to produce demeaning TV shows.
- b. has produced demeaning TV shows copied elsewhere.
- c. produced Big Brother.
- d. invented surveillance focused productions.

#### **Q4 - People have criticised reality television because**

- a. it is demeaning.
- b. it uses exotic locations.
- c. the name is inaccurate.
- d. it shows reality.

**Q5 - Reality TV appeals to some because**

- a. it shows eligible males dating women.
- b. it uses exotic locations.
- c. it shows average people in exceptional circumstances.
- d. it can turn ordinary people into celebrities.

**Q6 - Pop Idol**

- a. turns all its participants into celebrities.
- b. is more likely to turn its participants into celebrities than Big Brother.
- c. is less likely to turn its participants into celebrities than Big Brother.
- d. is a dating show.

**Q7 - The term 'reality television' is inaccurate**

- a. for all programs.
- b. just for Big Brother and Survivor.
- c. for talent and performance programs.
- d. for special-living-environment programs.

**Q8 - Producers choose the participants**

- a. on the ground of talent.
- b. only for special-living-environment shows.
- c. to create conflict among other things.
- d. to make a fabricated world.

**Q9 - Paul Burnett**

- a. was a participant on Survivor.
- b. is a critic of reality TV.
- c. thinks the term 'reality television' is inaccurate.
- d. writes the script for Survivor.

**Q10 - Shows like Survivor**

- a. are definitely reality TV.
- b. are scripted.
- c. have good narratives.
- d. are theatre.

**Tense formation**

Put the verbs in brackets in the most suitable forms.

While I (1leave) the pub, I (2see) a familiar face in the car park. It (3be) an old friend of mine, who I (4not see) since we (5be) at school together. It (6not be) long before we both (7sit) inside at the bar, catching up on our news. 'What you (8do) since we (9leave) school', I (10ask) Clive, 'you (11seem) to be very prosperous.' He just (12light) a cigar, and at that moment (13drink) a double whisky. 'Well, you never (14believe) this. You (15remember) what I (16be) like at school? At maths specially? I (17get) a job in a local bank, and for a year or two I (18sit) in front of a computer. Then one day I (19have) a brilliant idea; I (20start) using the bank's money to gamble with!' 'You (21joke), of course,' I (22reply), 'or you just (23come) out of jail?' 'Now you (24be) silly,' Clive (25go on). I just (26borrow) the money, and (27do) some deals in stocks and shares. All by computer. In fact, I (28grow) richer and richer ever since simply by pressing buttons. Another drink?'

**Reported speech**

- 1- 'Please hold the ladder for me,' he said to me.
- 2- 'Keep quiet!' the teacher said to the students.
- 3- 'Don't lose it! His mother said to him.
- 4- 'Don't be silly!' she said to him.
- 5- 'Please don't leave me alone!' he said to his friend.  
He asked his\_\_\_\_\_.
- 6- 'Be careful when you cross the road!' their mother told them.  
Their mother told them\_\_\_\_\_.

**Relative Pronouns**

1. The pipeline has been severed. It carries the town's water supply.
2. The exhibition was not very interesting. My friend took me to see it.
3. I know the very person. He will do the job quickly.

4. Only by exporting enough can we pay for the goods. We buy these goods abroad.
5. His latest play has been a great success. It was well reviewed by the critics.
6. The new guide to Ireland contains a wealth of information. It will appear next week.
7. Queen Elizabeth is a descendant of the Saxon King, Egbert. He united all England in 829.
8. Three acres of land go with this estate. The estate is located in rural Ireland.
9. His first speech was better than his second. The first one was broadcasted. He gave the second before an audience.
10. The manufacturers stopped marketing the drug. The drug had serious side-effects.

### Sentence transformation

31. I was going to drive there but I changed my mind and went by taxi.  
I went by taxi \_\_\_\_\_ there. **Instead**
  32. It's best to protect wounds from infection by covering them.  
It's best to cover wounds \_\_\_\_\_ from infection. (order)
  33. I'll speak to my solicitor and then you'll be hearing from me.  
You'll be hearing from me as \_\_\_\_\_ to my solicitor. (soon)
  34. People said he had stolen the wallet.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ the wallet. (accused)
  35. How did you manage to avoid a parking fine?  
How did you manage to \_\_\_\_\_ a parking fine? (get)
  36. There's nothing you can force me to do, however hard you try.  
You cannot \_\_\_\_\_, however hard you try. (make)
  37. He'll only be able to come if he finishes on time.  
Only \_\_\_\_\_ to come. (if)
  38. We checked the oil and water first and then set off on our journey.  
We set off on our journey \_\_\_\_\_ the oil and water. (after)
  39. It was the first time that she had seen such beauty.  
Never \_\_\_\_\_ such beauty. (before)
  40. He had enough money to buy a car but he spent it on a computer.  
Although he \_\_\_\_\_ a car, he spent his money on a computer. (could)
  41. I think we've run out of milk in the flat.  
I don't think \_\_\_\_\_ in the flat. (left)
  42. He looks just like someone I know.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ someone I know. (remind)
  43. Nobody will ever find the murder weapon in that deep water.  
The murder weapon \_\_\_\_\_ in that deep water. (never)
  44. Someone should change the light bulb in the bathroom before the guests arrive.  
The light bulb in the bathroom \_\_\_\_\_ before the guests arrive. (needs)
  45. I don't like the way he shouts at the children.  
I dislike \_\_\_\_\_ at the children. (his)

## **Word formation**

21. Our  are elaborated only with the best ingredients. (PRODUCE)
22. He answered the questions . (MECHANIC)
23. I hadn't  they were brother and sister until I saw them together. (REAL)
24. I've no  to students using a dictionary in class. (OBJECT)
25. Few people believe  when they make promises. (POLITICAL)
26. Stephen Hawkins is one of the best  in the world. (SCIENCE)
27. I'm really  with computers. I always do something wrong. (HOPE)
28. I'm trying to be  but he isn't making things easy for us. (REASON)
29. You always have to fasten your  belt when you travel by plane. (SAFE)
30. I'm afraid the rate of  has increased in the last two months. (EMPLOY)

## **Question tags**

- Q21 - Nobody's got to leave early, .....? ☐ has he ☐ have they
- Q22 - That dog's very noisy, .....? ☐ isn't that ☐ isn't it
- Q23 - You have got to arrive before half past eight, .....? ☐ haven't you ☐ don't you
- Q24 - They took it, .....? ☐ didn't they ☐ did they
- Q25 - That's the shop where you used to work, .....? ☐ isn't that ☐ isn't it
- Q26 - The book's a best-seller, .....? ☐ isn't it ☐ isn't the book
- Q27 - You haven't got a sister, .....? ☐ do you ☐ have you
- Q28 - I'm in trouble, .....? ☐ aren't I ☐ am I
- Q29 - You would tell me if you knew, .....? ☐ didn't you ☐ wouldn't you
- Q30 - You'd rather not tell me, .....? ☐ hadn't you ☐ wouldn't you
- Q31 - Lima is the capital of Peru, .....? ☐ isn't it ☐ isn't Lima
- Q32 - He'd better try harder, .....? ☐ wouldn't he ☐ hadn't he
- Q33 - There's nothing on TV tonight, .....? ☐ is there ☐ is it
- Q34 - That's the guy who was on TV the other night, .....? ☐ isn't that ☐ isn't it
- Q35 - That's the guy that won the pools, .....? ☐ isn't it ☐ isn't he

## **So/such**

- Q21 - So far ..... good                      a. so    b. such
- Q22 - They told him not to be ..... an idiot                      a. so    b. such
- Q23 - It cost ..... a lot of money                      a. so    b. such
- Q24 - He's ..... an unfriendly guy                      a. so    b. such



## **Make or Do**

Translate all the expressions

<b>MAKE</b>		<b>DO</b>	
an appointment		better	
arrangements		business	
the best/most of		the cleaning / cooking ...	
a cake/ cup of tea		an exercise	
the bed		good	
a change		well	
a complaint		the homework	
a decision		the housework	
an effort		harm	
enquires		an injury	
a fool of		a job	
fun of		your duty	
a fuss about		an operation	
a journey / trip		right	
a mistake		the shopping	
money		wonders	
a noise		your best	
an offer		a favour	
peace / war		a service	
a phonecall		damage	
a profit		justice to	
trouble		repairs	
a speech		right	
progress		your worst	
a suggestion		wrong	
a loss		an experiment	
a point		your bit	
an excuse		a test	
breakfast ...			
a hole			
love			
a guess		<b>MAKE</b>	
sure / certain		friends with	
plans		haste	
an attack		a report	
a difference		a request	
a discovery		room for	
an escape		a search for	
faces at		a success of	
way for		use of	