



Strictly Come Dancing

This reality show has it all: show-stopping dances, celebrities, glamorous dresses, big band music, a popular host and **plenty** of viewer participation. Sixteen famous contestants with **little** or **no** experience of dancing pair up with internationally renowned professional dancers. They learn everything from the traditional ballroom waltz to Latin dances such as the tango or salsa. The couples then perform in front of a live audience **every** Saturday night to impress the viewers and judges and keep their places in the competition. Each week, after the viewers' vote, the bottom two couples face each other in a dance-off where the judges decide who will leave the show. The show, which regularly attracts audience figures of over ten million in the UK, has been exported to thirty other countries.

Newsnight

Newsnight is a current affairs programme famous for its in-depth reporting, hard-hitting interviews and intelligent analysis. Its main presenter, Jeremy Paxman, has won **several** journalistic awards and is regularly praised for being tough, but he has also come under fire for being aggressive with interviewees. **Very few** politicians enjoy the experience of being 'Paxoed' – on one famous occasion, he asked a senior politician the same question an astonishing twelve times. *Newsnight* is on daily at 10.30p.m.

Doctor Who

There are **few** fictional characters who are as well known as Robin Hood or Sherlock Holmes, but 'The Doctor' is one. He is a mysterious alien who travels through space and time, righting wrongs and fighting monsters such as his ongoing enemies, the robotic Daleks, all with a **little** help from various companions. Equally famous is his time-ship, the 'Tardis', which looks from the outside like an old-fashioned police box but has **lots of** room on the inside. Twelve actors have played the Doctor over the lifetime of the series, which has been running off and on since 1963. *Doctor Who* has cross-generational appeal and millions of fans worldwide. One not to miss.

GRAMMAR quantifiers

5A Check what you know. Which of the quantifiers in bold in the article refer to: all; a lot; a moderate or a small number/amount; zero?

B Underline the correct alternative to complete the rules. Use the article to help.

Rules:

- 1 Use *a good deal of, little, a little + countable/uncountable noun*
- 2 Use *each, every + singular/plural countable noun*
- 3 Use *a few, quite a few, several + singular/plural countable noun*
- 4 Use *plenty of, lots of, most, no + plural/plural or uncountable noun*

C In sentences 1–4 below, do the quantifiers *few* and *little* mean *some* or *not many/not much*?

- 1 Check out a few must-see shows.
- 2 Very few politicians enjoy the experience.
- 3 Sixteen celebrities with little or no experience of dancing.
- 4 I always try to spend a little time watching the news each day.

6A 7.1 Listen and write sentences 1–4 in your notebooks.

B Draw links between final consonants and initial vowels in the quantifiers in connected speech.

1 All of us are from Spain.

C Listen and check. Then listen again and repeat.

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PRACTICE

7A Find and correct one mistake in each sentence.

- 1 I watch very little sports programmes.
- 2 Every programmes have a commercial break every ten minutes.
- 3 The weekend schedules usually include few talent shows, at least three or four.
- 4 You can watch a good deal of popular programmes online.
- 5 I like each programmes about hospitals or emergencies.
- 6 I once spent quite few days watching a box set of the series *Lost*.
- 7 I think a large number of TV has been dumbed down.
- 8 We have plenty detective shows; we don't need more.
- 9 Lots the best shows are US imports, such as *The Wire*.
- 10 I think little news is OK but not 24-hour news non-stop.

B Make the sentences true for you/your country.

C Work in pairs and compare your answers.