

An Insight into Britain

Listening to and discussion of BBC
Radio Podcasts with Alastair Clark

Lesson Aims

- Course Overview & Assessment
- Introduction to BBC
 - Background
 - UK TV Channels
 - UK Radio Stations
- Example Exercise
 - I haven't Seen Star Wars – Markus Brigstocke
 - Just a Minute – Nicholas Parsons

Course + Assessment Overview

Course Break Down	Lessons
Introduction and Overview	1
News and informative programs	6
Mid-term Exam	1
Entertainment Programs	6
Summary	1
Final Exam	1

Assessment	Marks
200 word essay (weeks 4-6)	20%
Mid-Term Exam	30%
Final Exam	50%

Exam Format (1 lesson)

- Vocab Matching Exercise (20%, 15 Min Total)
 - 15 Words/Phrases
 - Match to their meaning
- 6 Minute Listening (40%, 30 Min Total)
 - Played 4 times
 - 1 minute break in between
 - Answer all 6 Questions
- Essay Question (40%, 30 Min Total)
 - Approx 300 Words, Choice of 3 Topics

Each Lesson The Lesson Will..

- Introduce one BBC Radio Show
 - Background information
- Have some activities
 - Vocabulary Exercise
 - Listening Exercise
 - Discussion

BRING PEN & PAPER!

Achievements

- You will get:
 - Listening experience
 - New English study method
- You will learn about:
 - Britain and current affairs
 - British humor and entertainment



Course Blog

- <http://aninsightintobritain.blogspot.com/>
- Transcripts
- Answers
- Extra Resources
- LEAVE ME COMMENTS
 - Let me know how I'm doing!
 - If you want to study something
 - Ask for more information

“The BBC” **BBC**

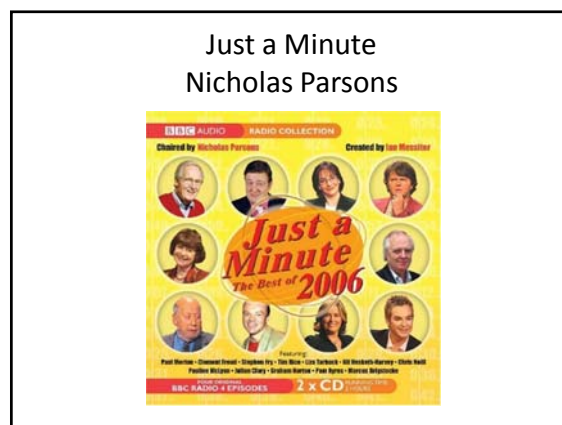
The British Broadcasting Corporation

- “To inform, educate and entertain”
- The BBC is the world's largest broadcaster!
- The first national broadcasting organisation
 - Founded in October 1922
- Paid for by a TV owner license
 - Sells Books/DVDs/Toys etc.
 - No Commercial Adverts

BBC's Aim

“to be free from both political and commercial influence and answer only to its viewers and listeners”





Match the Meanings

Words	Definition
1. Comedian (m) a) Comedienne (f)	A. The repeating of a word, a phrase, or an idea
2. Broadcaster	B. somebody who makes radio and TV programmes
3. Presenter	C. a professional performer who tells jokes and performs funny acts
4. "Losing your marbles"	D. Different from normal
5. Repetition	E. a person who introduces or hosts TV/Radio programmes
6. Deviation	F. Pausing, being uncertain, doubt
7. Hesitation	G. Going mad, insane

Match the Meanings

1. Comedian (m) Comedienne (f)
c) a professional performer who tells jokes and performs funny acts
2. Broadcaster
b) somebody who makes radio and TV programmes
3. Presenter
e) a person who introduces or hosts TV/Radio programmes
4. "Losing your marbles"
g) Going mad, insane
5. Repetition a) The repeating of a word, a phrase, or an idea
6. Deviation d) Different from normal
7. Hesitation f) Pausing, being uncertain, doubt

Rules of "Just A Minute"

- Speak for one minute on a given topic
- Without:
 - Repetition:
 - Repeat words (doesn't include and, or etc)
 - Hesitation:
 - Pausing, or saying "err, umm" etc
 - Deviation:
 - Speak about some other topic
 - Use bad/wrong English

How to play?

- The leader
 - Gives a topic to a player (for example player 1)
 - Tells the player to start.
 - Using a clock, measures 60 seconds
- A Player starts speaking (for example player 1)
- If the other players (2,3,4) find a mistake
 - The leader stops timing
 - The leader decides if it is correct or not
 - If it is wrong, Player 1 gets a point and continues speaking
 - If it is right, the player who found it gets a point and starts to speak and the time continues.
- The person speaking as the time finishes gets a point

Questions

1. Who are the 4 players and their professions?
2. What does Sarah Sharp do?
3. Where is the show being recorded?
4. What is the first topic?
5. Who started the first topic?
6. What is the mistake he made?
7. How long does the next player have to speak for?

Answers

1. Who are the 4 players/professions?
 1. Paul Merton, Comedian
 2. Charles Collingwood, Broadcaster + Actor
 3. Graham Norton, Comedian + Presenter
 4. Shappi Khorsandi, Comedienne
2. Sarah Sharp: Blows the whistle, keeps the score
3. Where: Broadcasting House, London
4. First Topic: "Losing your marbles"
5. First Person: Paul Merton
6. Mistake: Repetition of Lost
7. How Long: 39 Seconds

Questions

1. Why did Graham think it was "foolish to spend money on posting marbles"?
2. Who challenged Graham?
3. What mistake did Graham make?
4. How long did the next person have left?
5. Who spoke as the whistle blew?
6. What are the scores of the 4 players?
7. What is the next topic?

Answers

1. Why Foolish:

Because they're heavy and it'd be expensive to post
2. Challenger: Charles Collingwood
3. Mistake: Repetition of Lose
4. Long Left: 10 Seconds
5. Spoke at end: Charles
6. Scores: Charles 2, others 1
7. Next Topic: "My pain threshold"

Let's Have a Go! - Relaxed Rules

- Can repeat words (3 times) but not ideas.
 - "The latest Harry Potter film was boring. In my opinion, it wasn't an interesting movie."
- Can't repeat phrases to get more time
 - "Cats are my favourite animal. Cats are my favourite animal because. . ."
- Can't pause/hesitate for longer than 3 seconds
- Can't slow down words to longer than 3 seconds

Groups of 5

- 1 is the Leader
 - Writes down player's names on a piece of paper
 - Keeps the scores
 - Has to measure 60 seconds.
- 4 Players
 - 1 will be speaking
 - 3 others will listen for mistakes to get points

Topics

- The Beijing Olympics
- My favorite film
- The best musician in the world
- My secret love

More Topics

- My best friend
- Why I study English?
- Dalian University of Foreign Languages
- My favorite animal

I've Never Seen Star Wars Marcus Brigstocke



Match the Meanings

Words

1. Aerosmith
2. Star Wars
3. Impersonator
4. Panto/pantomime
5. Milkfloat
6. Initial
7. Audience

Meanings

- A. A type of play on stage that is quite silly and suitable for children.
- B. Somebody who pretends to be somebody else.
- C. A famous science-fiction film, that many people have seen.
- D. A famous hard-rock band.
- E. The people that watch an event/show
- F. First, starting, at the beginning
- G. A vehicle that a man drives to deliver milk to people's houses

Match the Meanings - Answers

1. Aerosmith
d) A famous hard-rock band.
2. Star Wars
c) A famous science-fiction film, that many people have seen.
3. Impersonator
b) Somebody who pretends to be somebody else.
4. Panto/pantomime
a) A type of play on stage that is quite silly and suitable for children.
5. Milkfloat
g) A vehicle that a man drives to deliver milk to people's houses
6. Initial
f) First, starting, at the beginning
7. Audience
e) The people that watch an event/show

Questions

1. What is the idea for the show?
2. Who is the guest on the show?
3. Why does the guest mention Aerosmith?
4. The guest can't drive, why is that important for the show?
5. What's the first activity the guest is asked to do?
6. Did ... like the activity or not?
 - a) The guest
 - b) The presenter
 - c) The audience

0-3.30
-6.40

Answers

1. Happens:
 - The guest is asked to do things he/she has never done before.
2. Guest: Arthur Smith
3. Aerosmith: Reads like Arthur Smith.
4. Can't Drive:
 - Made Marcus think of watching Top Gear
5. Activity: Watch an episode of Top Gear
6. Like it: a) no b) Yes c) Yes

Who was Marcus?

Who was Marcus?

The Presenter