

English from Entertainment Media: TV/ Streaming media series

Activity I: Study the following definitions and benefits of leaning English from TV series.



TV/ Streaming media series is a set of episodes of a television program broadcast at regular intervals. Streaming media, such as Netflix, is usually delivered over the Internet. There is usually a long pause between each group of episodes. The episode group includes a common story. The following are benefits of learning English from series.

1. **You can pick your genres of interest.** The good thing about this is a series can involve normal people lives and you can learn everyday English from it, or it can be about a specific industry, and you can gain loads of vocabulary and insight from that field.
2. **Your sentences become natural.** Scripts are written as if they were spoken by real people in real situations. That means you know new words, expressions, and how to get your message across just like native speakers.
3. **Curiosity is the motivation.** Sometimes watching a series can be difficult because you get confused when Thai subtitles are not available. That's fine because once you watch the subtitled once again, you automatically remember which parts need more explanation and your brain instantly connects both languages together without you noticing.
4. **You gain both listening and speaking skills.** You might know a lot of English vocabulary but you have trouble understanding and articulating it. Watching TV series helps you hear how many words are actually pronounced, without any effort. Once you are familiar with these new words, listening becomes easier and your speaking is more confident.
5. **You become more familiar with different accents.** Characters usually speak English in different ways. Some characters come from different countries and have accents you might find hard to understand. Though you might prefer listening to standard English since it's easier, you can't deny that English is spoken as an international language by many people around the globe. This means there are more chances you speak it with non-native speakers. That's why understanding accents are extremely beneficial.

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Activity II: Study the following expressions that are normally used in discussing TV series.

- In this scene there is...
- We can see...
- The main character / (name of character) is +ing
- He/she is about to....
- Before, he/she was +ing

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Activity III: You are going to watch a scene from a TV series Modern Family. Look at some pictures below and guess what this series is about.



Activity IV: You are going to watch 2 different video clips from a series *Modern Family*. First, study the introduction and the characters.

The series *Modern Family* involves three different but related families that face trials and tribulations in their own uniquely comedic ways. As for the first family, Cameron and Mitchel are partners. They live together and decide to adopt a Vietnamese girl, Lily, who happens to be a troublemaker every once in a while. In each scene, there is an issue to be discussed. As for the second family, Phil, Claire, and their three children have fallen into a hilarious situation. After watching each video clip, discuss the following questions:

- What are some issues that appear from each scene?
- How do the characters feel?
- How do they solve each problem?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WHwGJWOqET0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kfpqty8JleF>

Activity V: Match the following adjectives used in the video clips with their synonyms.

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| f 1. funny | a. approving |
| d 2. rude | b. considerate |
| e 3. sullen | c. distant |
| c 4. aloof | d. impolite |
| g 5. traumatized | e. gloomy |
| a 6. consenting | f. hilarious |
| b 7. sweet | g. upset |



Activity VI: Match the following verbs used in the video clips with their meanings.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| e 1. To ground someone | a. To be sad |
| d 2. To fake | b. To emphasize |
| f 3. To relate to | c. To manage |
| 4. To take off | d. To pretend |
| 5. To take that back | e. To restrict to a certain place |
| 6. To feel down | f. To understand |
| 7. To walk in on | g. To lower and raise head |
| 8. To handle | h. To retract a statement |
| 9. To stress | i. To come upon suddenly |
| 10. To nod | j. To leave |

Activity VII: Find some other expressions that have similar meaning to the following ones.

1. Are you guys cool? Are you guys okay?
2. I don't know what I'm supposed to do. I don't know what to do
3. What is going on with you? What happened (to you)? What's wrong?
4. You could barely crack a smile. You almost never smile
5. I'm not the same kind of tween girls you guys are. I'm not like you guys! I'm not a girl like you.
6. I'm adopted. I'm not their biological daughter / I'm an orphan

ຕີເພື່ອ ບອກຮາບຂອງ ບົດ ມາກຈຶນ

A Compare so and such:

We use **so** + adjective/adverb:

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| so stupid | so quick |
| so nice | so quickly |

- I didn't like the book. The story was **so stupid**.
- Everything happened **so quickly**.

So + ຕຳຫຍາຍ

We use **such** + noun:

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| such a story | such people |
|---------------------|--------------------|

We also use **such** + adjective + noun:

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| such a stupid story | such nice people |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|

- I didn't like the book. It was **such a stupid story**. (*not a so stupid story*)
- I like Liz and Joe. They are **such nice people**. (*not so nice people*)

such + ຕ່າງໆ/ກໍ່າງໆ ດ້ວຍກໍ່າງໆ
ທີ່ຈະສ້າງadj

We say **such a ... (not a such):**
such a big dog

B So and such make the meaning stronger:

- I've had a busy day. I'm **so tired**. (= really tired)
- It's difficult to understand him. He talks **so quietly**. ພູມຫຼີ້ຫົວ ພາກ້ອນ —.

You can use **so ... that**:

- I was **so tired that** I fell asleep in the armchair. ເວັບຕົກຫຼິກ ອຸກຫຼິກ

We usually leave out **that**:

- I was **so tired** I fell asleep.

- We had a great trip. We had **such a good time**. (= a really good time)
- You always think good things are going to happen. You're **such an optimist**. ປັກທີ່ໄດ້ຄົກລົງຫວັງຫຼັງການ —

You can use **such ... that**:

- It was **such nice weather that** we spent the whole day on the beach. ຜັກທີ່ອັນດັບກົດນີ້ ຖົບ

We usually leave out **that**:

- It was **such nice weather** we spent ...

C So and such also mean 'like this':

- Somebody told me the house was built 100 years ago. I didn't realise it was **so old**. (= as old as it is)
- I'm tired because I got up at six. I don't usually get up **so early**. ພັນຍາຫຼື
- I expected the weather to be cooler. I'm surprised it is **so warm**. ຖົບກຳຈົດ

- I didn't realise it was **such an old house**.
- You know it's not true. How can you say **such a thing**? (= a thing like this)

Note the expression **no such ...**:

- You won't find the word 'blid' in the dictionary. There's **no such word**. ໃນໄສດ້າຫຼັບຫຼັກຊາວວົວ

D Compare:

so long

- I haven't seen her for **so long** I've forgotten what she looks like. ລາຍກືນຫຼັກ ຂ່າຍໃຈ

such a long time

- I haven't seen her for **such a long time**. (= not so long time)

so far

- I didn't know it was **so far**.

such a long way

- I didn't know it was **such a long way**.

so much, so many

- I'm sorry I'm late – there was **so much traffic**.

such a lot (of)

- I'm sorry I'm late – there was **such a lot** of traffic.



Put in so, such or such a.

- 1 It was a great holiday. We had such a good time.
- 2 Everything is so expensive these days, isn't it?
- 3 He always looks good. He wears such nice clothes.
- 4 I couldn't believe the news. It was such a shock (ຫຼາຍ ໂອນ ພົມວິນ)
- 5 What a nice garden! These are such lovely flowers.
- 6 The party was great. It was such a shame (ຫຼັງຈາກ you couldn't come.
- 7 I was glad to see that he looked so well after his recent illness.
- 8 I have to go. I didn't realise it was so late.
- 9 Why does it always take you such a long time to get ready?
- 10 Everything went wrong. We had such a bad luck. (ຫຼວມຫຼັງດີ(ຫຼັງຈາກ))

That's such a shame
ເນື່ອເສີ່ງໃຈ ຈັງຂອຍ

Make one sentence from two. Choose from the box, and then complete the sentences using so or such.

~~The music was loud.~~

~~I had a big breakfast.~~

~~The bag was heavy.~~

~~It was horrible weather.~~

~~It was a beautiful day.~~

~~I was surprised.~~

~~I've got a lot to do.~~

~~Her English is good.~~

~~The hotel was a long way.~~

- 1 It was such a beautiful day, we decided to go to the beach.
- 2 The bag was so heavy, she couldn't lift it.
- 3 I've got such a lot to do also so many things to do, I don't know where to begin.
- 4 I was so surprised, I didn't know what to say.
- 5 The music was so loud, it could be heard from miles away.
- 6 It was such a horrible weather, we spent the whole day indoors.
- 7 Her English is so good, you would think it was her native language.
- 8 The hotel was such a long way I was so far ຢູ່ລູກ, it took us ages to get there.
- 9 I had such a big breakfast, I didn't eat anything for the rest of the day.

Use your own ideas to complete these sentences.

- 1 We enjoyed our holiday. We had such a good time.
- 2 I like Kate. She's so beautiful / nice / cute / smart / friendly.
- 3 I like Kate. She's such a elegant woman / a nice person / a good student.
- 4 It's good to see you again! I haven't seen you for so long.
- 5 I thought the airport was near the city. I didn't realise it was such a long way.
- 6 The streets were crowded. There were so many people / many car / much traffic.