

*V. Mykolaichuk, student*  
*S. Kobzar, Senior Lecturer, research and language advisor*  
*Zhytomyr State Technological University*

## **LEARNING ENGLISH USING VIDEO**

Knowledge of foreign languages is very important nowadays and it is well known that English is the most universal language. There is a wide range of language learning methods. Among the most popular the following ones can be named: speaking English every day, listening English radio or podcasts, reading English books, newspapers or magazines, keeping a diary in English, finding an English-speaking pen-pal, expanding vocabulary and using idiomatic phrases, watching English movies and TV shows, etc [1]. Every method helps to improve specific English skill. Some of the ways may be effective but boring, some may be less effective but very interesting and exciting.

Learning English through movies, films, cartoons or TV shows is an interesting and effective method. But how to watch them to get the best result? When you watch some video in English for the first time, the sound may seem very quiet and some words and phrases are thick, so beginners try to make sound louder. And it is OK, because native English speech is hard to understand due to specific actors' pronunciation. That is why it is highly recommended to watch movies, shows etc. with headphones.

It is good for understanding to start watching English movies with your mother tongue subtitles to get used to English speech. It doesn't mean that you will perfectly understand English speech after watching 10 series of *Breaking Bad* every day. Actually, it will not improve English skills pretty much. It is necessary to watch and understand, and also memorize some words and phrases step by step. In other case without subtitles you will just be getting bored and even angry because you do not understand what the movie is about. After watching movie with mother tongue subtitles the next step will be watching it again with English subtitles and making notes to memorize interesting words and phrases and also to find the meaning of some unknown collocations or slang. To improve your speaking skills and to get your speaking experience you should try to repeat the phrase of specific character with similar intonation emphasizing some words or to role play the dialogues with a friend. It is a good speaking practice not only for beginners but also for advanced learners.

You are not supposed to watch the whole movie. It would be more useful to find an interesting part of a movie full of typical English speech phrases which are very easy to understand, try to learn them and then to use in your own speech.

English teachers who use movies, films, TV shows, cartoons or serials in their practice can advise the best video to every student depending on their learners' English levels.

Dmytriy Petrov, a famous linguist and teacher, tries to awake feelings conducted with specified language which is based on his own experience from books and movies. If you learn Italian — remember movies of Fellini, English — Disney cartoons. This

category is highly recommended for learning English. Cartoons are made for kids and family auditory that are always notable for great diction and the vocabulary of their characters is easy to understand.

The films “Forest Gump”, “Highlander”, “The King's Speech”, “The Big Lebowski” also can be recommended. Films by Tarantino are well known for their dialogues that help to fall into English speaking environment. If we are talking about genres we have to admit that usually dramas are more understandable than action movies [2].

Olga Bocharova recommends for beginners to watch thrillers, because there are not so many dialogues there. Then learners can try to watch dramas and only at the higher level they should try comedies. Make up the tradition to watch one movie per week with subtitles if you really want to master your English [2].

Learning English using American sitcoms is one of the best ways. There are well written dialogues with a little slang and good pronunciation of actors. It is the best to watch sitcoms on mobile devices with mother tongue subtitles and doing pauses to note some phrases. Serial “Friends” is recommended for the beginners because of simple vocabulary used there and lack of slang, and “Sex in the city” for large vocabulary. Also serials like “How I Met Your Mother”, “Desperate Housewives”, “The Big Bang Theory” can be effectively used.

For upper-elementary and pre-intermediate learners it would be nice to watch “Modern Family” because of short series, funny characters, emotional dialogues. First season may seem to be difficult for learners; but do not despair, go ahead. “Mozart in the Jungle”, a great serial with lisping actors and Mexican accent of Garcia Bernal, will help to discover New York Symphony Orchestra.

Pre-intermediate learners should grow up and start watching a great serial “Girls”. It is full of modern English language which young Americans use in their conversations. There are a lot of small talks, so you have to get used to speed of conversations and slang.

Serials like “Sherlock”, “Luther”, “Misfits” are good for intermediate and upper-intermediate. Specific pronunciation and Scotland accent can be found in “Outlander”. The serial with Birmingham pronunciation “Peaky Blinders” may be difficult for learners but very informative [2].

Considering all above mentioned we can state that learning English using movies, films, TV shows, serials, etc is very useful and interesting. But people should consider their English level before choosing the movie, serial, etc. Using this method people may develop their listening comprehension skills, expand their vocabulary, memorize common speaking constructions and use them in their speech.

## REFERENCES

1. Website [www.wikihow.com](http://www.wikihow.com), [Virtual Resource] // 2016 — Access Mode: URL: <http://www.wikihow.com/Learn-English> — Date of Access: 28 March 2016.
2. Website <https://daily.afisha.ru> [Virtual Resource] // 2016 — Access Mode : URL <https://daily.afisha.ru/brain/448-kak-uchit-anglijskij-s-pomoshy-filmov-i-serialov> — Date of Access: 31 March 2016.