

BBC LEARNING PRESENTS

English: BBC 5 live Young Commentator – Live Lesson

Date: Tuesday, 3rd October, 2017

Time: 2pm

Duration: 30 minutes (approx.) live programme and 30 mins EXTRA programme (this will be published on the website a day or two after the broadcast.

Location: bbc.co.uk/livelessons

(Note: if you can't watch the webcast live, you will be able to watch the recording on the Live Lessons website – this is uploaded a day or two after the live broadcast)

Curriculum links

This Live Lesson and Live Lesson Extra are both aimed at 11-15 year olds. During the programmes, students will be encouraged to:

- Write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences
- Skim and scan text to find and summarise key information
- Know and understand the difference between spoken and written language
- Develop their knowledge of how language works and the conventions of language, including spelling, punctuation and grammar
- Speak confidently and effectively with appropriate content and vocabulary for purpose and audience
- Consider use of different techniques to influence an audience including word choice, emphasis, tone and/or rhetorical questions
- See and hear different people talk, including successful speakers and people with different dialects, and respond to dynamic stimuli
- Plan and deliver short speeches, communicating clearly, improvising and expressing their own ideas and keeping to the point

Setup

How much space and equipment is needed?

The lesson can be screened in a classroom with a large screen linked to a reliable broadband connection. Good audio equipment is not essential but will make the event more enjoyable.

How many students can participate?

It's completely up to you how many students you have participating in the session. We want to get as many students as possible engaged in this Live Lesson. Space might be a consideration if you have a very large group.

How to prepare for the lesson

This Live Lesson, and follow-up EXTRA programme, marks the launch of [BBC Radio 5 live's Young Commentator of the Year Competition](#) for 11-15 year olds. This Live Lesson is all about sports commentary and its relationship to English language and the spoken word.

Some of the activities involve writing so students may need something to lean on to write. Your students will also require copies of the following activity sheets for the live programme:

- **Activity Sheet 1 – Comprehension and summary**
- **Activity Sheet 2 – Metaphors and similes**
- **Activity Sheet 3 – Synonyms part 1**
- **Activity Sheet 4 – Synonyms part 2**

For the Extra programme they will need:

- **Extra Activity 1 – Language registers**

Live programme

The first part of our live programme will look at how to prepare and research to obtain the necessary knowledge for a successful commentary. Students are tasked with finding key information from a news report.

We then cover use of imagery in language, with students asked to create their own metaphors and similes.

The final part of the live programme looks at how to avoid repetition in commentary through use of synonyms.

Live Lessons EXTRA

The Live Lesson features a follow up programme called Live Lessons EXTRA. This will not be broadcast live but will be published on our website bbc.co.uk/livelessons a day or two after the live broadcast. This Extra Live Lesson builds on the outcomes of the live programme, and will focus on spoken word and delivery.

The first section of the programme looks at language registers, including formal and informal language. Students are asked to examine texts and choose the most appropriate language style for the BBC Radio 5 live audience.

The second part of the programme covers vocal techniques used for a good delivery, including volume, pitch and pace.

The Extra programme concludes with some practical demonstrations of commentary. Students are encouraged to gain experience by practising their commentary on some everyday scenarios.

Contact us

You can email any questions or comments before and during the Live Lesson to live.lessons@bbc.co.uk, or by using the hashtag **#bbclivelessons**. We'll aim to answer as many of your questions as possible.

We'd also love to see examples of your students' work. If your classes have created any work or carried out any activities using the resources on our website, please do send it in to live.lessons@bbc.co.uk, and they could be showcased on the programme and on our website.

If you let us know if your school is planning to tune in on the day, your school name could also be featured on the programme.

Thank you for your interest in the BBC 5 live Young Commentator – Live Lesson, and we hope you'll join us at 2pm on 3rd October.

The BBC Radio 5 live Young Commentator of the Year competition for 11-15 year olds launches on 3rd October and closes at midnight on Friday 27th October, 2017. Full terms and conditions at: bbc.co.uk/youngcommentator