

# 3

## TV programme



### Let's Think

1. How often do you watch TV?
2. Have you ever watched TV programmes with inappropriate content?

You are Valerie. You are reading a letter of complaint about a TV programme.

*TVC Broadcast Company  
1 Tai Lam Road  
Tsuen Wan, New Territories  
Hong Kong*

5 *Dear Sir / Madam,*

*I am writing to you regarding the cooking show 'Beauties by the Stove', which was aired on Sundays from 8 pm to 10 pm.*

10 *I am a fan of many of your cooking shows but this one is really disappointing to me. Female celebrities who barely know how to cook were invited to the show, and they were asked to cook complicated dishes. How they handled the ingredients was no different from committing acts of cruelty to animals and wasting food.*

15 *The episode on 25<sup>th</sup> July 20XX (Sunday) was a nasty comedy. Actress Janice Woo was asked to slaughter a tiger grouper, but out of fear, she tossed it on the floor. Later, she threw it alive into a hot saucepan, causing it extreme pain that could have been avoided. I'm not a vegetarian, but I also find it inappropriate to playfully slaughter animals just for attention or entertainment.*

20 *What also concerns me is that the judging panel called most of the dishes 'disgusting' or 'trash' and had them thrown right away into rubbish bins. There was a lot of food wasted due to the inappropriate treatment of ingredients and the large amount of undercooked or overcooked food.*

25 *Besides, the clothing of the female celebrities was too revealing and the language used throughout the show was inappropriate. The judging panel even made sexist jokes and rude remarks about the female celebrities. I expected wholesome family entertainment on a weekend night. Ratings should not be an excuse for broadcasting a show with disturbing scenes to children and adolescents.*

*There have been similar comments on social networking sites that criticised much*

of the content of 'Beauties by the Stove' as unacceptable. Many netizens even switched to other channels during the two hours to boycott your cooking show. I sincerely hope that prompt actions will be taken to ensure that the upcoming series, if any, would not contain the undesirable content mentioned.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

**Cecilia Fong**

Cecilia Fong

(339 words)

## Part A

Answer the following questions using the information from the letter. Choose the **BEST** answer and blacken **ONE** circle only.

- The writer complained about \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. the female celebrities invited to the show  
 B. how animals were exploited and treated cruelly  
 C. how unprepared the judging panel and the celebrities were  
 D. how children and adolescents were excluded from the ratings
- Which of the following best replaces the word 'concerns' in line 17?  
 A. worries  
 B. irritates  
 C. surprises  
 D. offends
- The female celebrities on the show \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. knew how to cook well  
 B. did not intend to waste food  
 C. dressed revealingly on purpose  
 D. were beautiful
- Which of the following is **TRUE**?  
 A. The writer expects netizens to boycott the programme together.  
 B. 'Beauties by the Stove' targets adult viewers.  
 C. Vegetarians are more likely to find the content of the show inappropriate.  
 D. The writer thinks TVC should promise that unsuitable content will be absent in the upcoming series.

## Grammar Corner

A **transitive verb** is followed by a **direct object**.

**e.g.** She tossed it on the floor. Later, she threw it alive into a hot saucepan.  
(Lines 13-14)

**e.g.** The judging panel even made sexist jokes and rude remarks about the female celebrities.  
(Lines 22-23)

Eliminate options which are not mentioned or contain subjective ideas.

## Part B

Answer the following questions using the information from the letter of complaint. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

1. What were guests and the judging panel supposed to do on *Beauties by the Stove*?

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2. Look for words or phrases in the letter of complaint to match the definitions below.

- (a) \_\_\_\_\_ (para. 1)                      (*prep.*) about
- (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (para. 2)                      (*adv.*) hardly
- (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (para. 3)                      (*prep.*) because of
- (d) \_\_\_\_\_ (para. 4)                      (*adj.*) not cooked enough
- (e) \_\_\_\_\_ (para. 5)                      (*adj.*) referring to another sex's bodies, behaviour, or feelings negatively

3. How did the public perceive the cooking show? Explain your answer based on the letter of complaint.

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4. What did netizens do to boycott the cooking show?

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5. Why did the writer say the episode on the 25<sup>th</sup> July was a nasty comedy? Explain your answer.

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Read paragraph 5. What did the writer expect from the cooking show?





# Vocabulary Bank

The following are some types of TV programmes. Match them with the comments. One of the words is not used.

sitcom    cookery    makeover show    weather forecast  
documentary    drama    quiz show    talk show    news

*The actors and actresses perform so well! The plot is captivating and I couldn't spare a second for the washroom.*

1.

*Each time a celebrity is invited to the show, on which they would talk about their careers, family and hobbies.*

2.

*The prizes are all attractive. It is thrilling to watch the contestants compete in the games!*

3.

*I love seeing the same characters dealing with different light-hearted situations!*

4.

*I'm not very interested in animals, but I'm curious about how they survive in their habitats.*

5.

*I watch this programme every day to know if it is sunny or rainy, cold or hot, because I work outdoors.*

6.

*It is wonderfully impressive that one can become unrecognisable simply with clothing and makeup.*

7.

*Despite looking unlovely, the fusion dishes were highly praised for being innovative and super tasty!*

8.



## Let's Discuss

1. What can people do if they find that certain programmes contain inappropriate content?
2. Do you think that the label 'parental guidance' for TV programmes may not be able to achieve its intended purpose?