

B2–C1 Worksheet: What People Are Watching This February

Article

February has become a strange kind of viewing season. After the January slump, platforms pile on new releases and people tune in as if they are catching a live event. Friends catch up on trailers, scroll through recommendations and swap notes on what might steal the show. For many, it is less about prestige and more about routine: a familiar series can hit the spot when the evenings are dark and motivation is running low.

The habits around watching have changed too. Some viewers kick off the month with a carefully chosen list, then put off everything else to binge-watch a short drama in a weekend. Others get hooked by accident, because an algorithm keeps serving the same clip until curiosity wins. The result is a new kind of shared culture: colleagues talk it through the next day, even if they watched at different times and on different devices.

Still, there is a downside to the constant rush. When every week brings another launch, it is easy to feel overwhelmed and overlook something excellent. People complain about predictable plots, frantic pacing and spoilers that travel faster than reviews. A more sustainable approach is to pick out one or two shows, leave space for rest, and accept that you will not see everything. The point is not to keep up perfectly, but to enjoy the stories that feel worth your time.

True/False

Decide if each statement is True (T) or False (F).

1. The article presents February as a more active viewing month than the post-holiday January slump.
2. The writer suggests that routine often matters more than prestige when people choose what to watch.
3. The article says most viewers avoid binge-watching and prefer single episodes spread over weeks.
4. The writer implies that algorithms can nudge viewers towards certain shows by repeating clips.
5. The article argues that a constant flow of launches can make viewers feel overwhelmed.
6. The writer says spoilers travel more slowly than reviews, so they are rarely a problem.
7. The article recommends picking one or two shows rather than trying to see everything.
8. The writer claims colleagues never discuss TV programmes at work.

Phrase Match

Match the phrases (1-10) to the correct definitions (A-J).

Phrases (1-10)	Definitions (A-J)
1. tune in	A. move down a screen to browse content
2. catch up on	B. be the best or most attention-grabbing part of something
3. scroll through	C. delay doing something
4. steal the show	D. start watching or listening to a programme
5. hit the spot	E. watch many episodes in one sitting or over a short time
6. kick off	F. watch or read something you missed earlier
7. put off	G. begin something, especially an event or period
8. binge-watch	H. become strongly interested and want more
9. get hooked	I. discuss something carefully to understand it
10. talk it through	J. be exactly what you want or need at that moment

Synonym Match

Match the words (1-10) to the correct synonyms (A-J).

Words (1-10)	Synonyms (A-J)
1. slump	A. maintainable
2. prestige	B. frenzied
3. routine	C. overloaded
4. algorithm	D. expected
5. curiosity	E. miss
6. overwhelmed	F. habit
7. overlook	G. interest
8. predictable	H. decline
9. frantic	I. rule-based system
10. sustainable	J. status

Discussion Questions

Student A

1. What do you usually tune in to after work: a series, YouTube, or something else?
2. Do you ever catch up on shows late at night? Why?
3. When you scroll through options, what makes you choose one programme?
4. What kind of show hits the spot when you feel tired?
5. Do you prefer to kick off a new series alone or with someone?
6. What do you tend to put off when you binge-watch?
7. Have you ever got hooked on a show by accident? What was it?
8. Who do you talk it through with when you finish a good series?

Student B

1. Is binge-watching mostly harmless, or does it damage routine and sleep? Explain.
2. How much should algorithms influence what we watch, if at all?
3. Does shared viewing culture help people connect, or does it create pressure to keep up?
4. Why do some shows steal the show even when critics are unimpressed?
5. Are predictable plots comforting or lazy writing? Defend your view.
6. Do new releases arrive too fast now, making viewers feel overwhelmed?
7. How can people avoid overlooking excellent programmes that are not trending?
8. What would a sustainable media diet look like for you?

Answer Key

True/False: 1=T, 2=T, 3=F, 4=T, 5=T, 6=F, 7=T, 8=F

Phrase Match: 1=D, 2=F, 3=A, 4=B, 5=J, 6=G, 7=C, 8=E, 9=H, 10=I

Synonym Match: 1=H, 2=J, 3=F, 4=I, 5=G, 6=C, 7=E, 8=D, 9=B, 10=A