

- a Read an article for a student magazine about the advantages and disadvantages of living without a TV. The computer has found ten mistakes (grammar, punctuation, or spelling). Can you correct them?

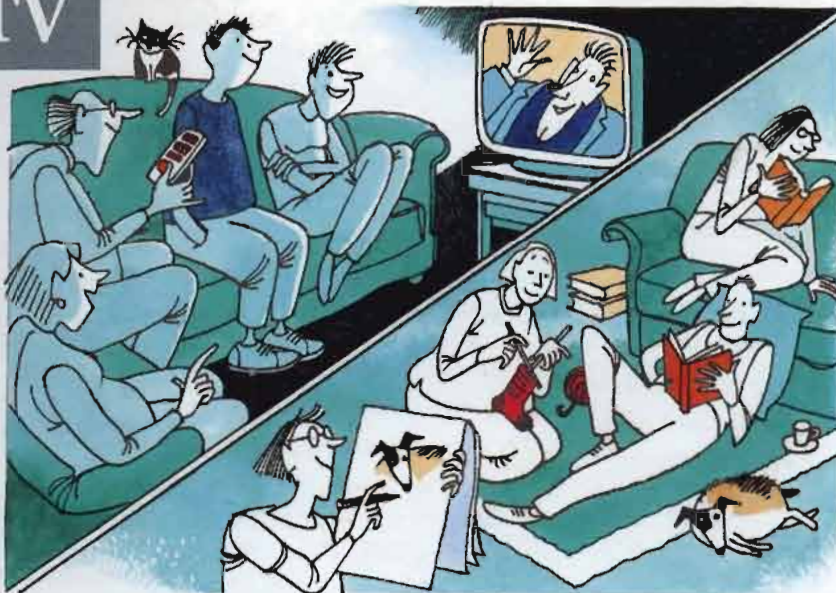
## Living without a TV

**A**LMOST every family today <sup>1</sup>have a TV, in fact probably more than one, and people everywhere spend hours watching it. But a few families choose to live without a TV because they think there are advantages.

The first advantage is that families spend more time <sup>2</sup>talk to each other. Secondly, they spend more time doing more creative things like reading or painting. Thirdly, they spend more time outdoors, and are usually <sup>3</sup>more fit.

On the other hand, there are also disadvantages. For example, children who don't have a TV may feel <sup>4</sup>different from <sup>5</sup>there school friends, and often won't know what they are talking about. Also it is not true that all TV <sup>6</sup>programes are bad. There are also good ones, like <sup>7</sup>documentarivs, and people who live without a TV may know less about <sup>8</sup>whats happening in the world.

In conclusion, <sup>9</sup>althought living without a TV has some advantages, I think today it's unrealistic and that we should just try to turn the TV <sup>10</sup>out when there's nothing good on.



### Useful language: writing about advantages and disadvantages

#### Listing advantages

First, / Firstly,... Secondly,... Thirdly,...

#### Listing disadvantages

On the other hand, there are also (some) disadvantages.

For instance,... / For example,...

Also,...

#### Conclusion

In conclusion / To sum up, I think...

- b Read the article again. Then cover it and in pairs answer the questions from memory.

- 1 What are the three advantages of life without a TV?
- 2 What are the two disadvantages?
- 3 Is the writer for or against having a TV?

- c You are going to write a similar article about mobile phones. First, with a partner, make a list of the advantages and disadvantages.

- d Now decide which are the three biggest advantages and number them 1–3 (1 = the biggest). Do the same with the disadvantages.

**WRITE** an article called *Mobile phones – a great invention?*

Begin the article with this introduction:

*Almost everybody has a mobile phone. But is it a great invention?  
I think there are both advantages and disadvantages.*

Write three more paragraphs.

**PLAN** what you're going to write. Use the paragraph summaries below and the **Useful language** box to help you.

**Paragraph 2** Write two or three advantages.

**Paragraph 3** Write two or three disadvantages.

**Paragraph 4** Conclusion – decide if you think mobiles are a great invention or not.

**CHECK** the article for mistakes ( grammar , punctuation , and spelling ).