
Downton Abbey Activities



Listening activities

Activity A - I.D

Watch the trailer and fill the information.

1. Name of the place:

2. Location of the place (guess from the characters' accents):

3. Time when the story takes place:

4. Number of main characters:

5. Number of social hierarchy categories:

6. Name for these social hierarchy categories:

Activity B - Context and formal words used

Watch the beginning of the trailer again (to 1'16", "Don't you worry.") Answer the following questions.

1. What are the three characteristics that define the "modern folk"?

2. Who is coming to visit this aristocratic family?

3. What needs to be done before they arrive?

4. What events are organised for the visit?

5. What issue arises from the organisation?

Activity C - Fishing for the plotline

Watch the second part of the trailer (From 1'17.)

1. Can you determine what question Mary asks that prompts Anna's response "Downton Abbey is the heart of the community and you're keeping it beating"?

Mary says, " _____ "

2. At first Anna rephrases Mary's question into another question before she gives her answer. Can you determine that question?

Anna rephrases, " _____ "

3. Now rewrite Anna's answer in your own words, according to what you understand of the metaphor she is using.

Step 3 - English expressions!

Match the expressions from the trailer with definitions.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. modern folk | <input type="checkbox"/> a. wait for a person to come/to visit |
| 2. Blimey! | <input type="checkbox"/> b. only just, nor really |
| 3. expect someone | <input type="checkbox"/> c. to say something in support of a person |
| 4. get everything under control | <input type="checkbox"/> d. manage a situation so that all is going well and O.K. |
| 5. Hardly! | <input type="checkbox"/> e. expression used to calm an anxious person and tell him/her that everything is going to be alright or O.K. |
| 6. Don't you worry. | <input type="checkbox"/> f. people of present time |
| 7. I'll put in a word. | <input type="checkbox"/> g. survive a situation |
| 8. get someone/oneself through something | <input type="checkbox"/> h. a slang expression for surprise or shock |