



TV SHOWS OF THE 1990S

During the 1990s, the number of cable TV networks expanded as improved technology multiplied the number of channels available to viewers. Viewers could watch specialized channels for food, vintage cartoons, DIY, and classic films. For the first time, cable TV shows beat the traditional network TV shows in the ratings. The murder trial of former football star O.J. Simpson dominated the airwaves in 1995. At the end of the decade, the game-show format enjoyed a revival with "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?" The television industry began to display ratings (TV-G, TV-14, and TV-MA) to indicate the age groups. The 1990s was also the dawn of the Internet era with the launch of Amazon, the search engines Yahoo and Google, the Internet Explorer browser, and the eBay auction site. Can you match descriptions of 20 popular TV shows of the decade with its title? Good luck!

- ___1. Young girl attempts to transform her life from a "mathlete" to a rebellious teenager who hangs out with the school's "slackers."
___2. Twins experience culture shock when they move from the Midwest to an upscale neighborhood.
___3. Talk show draws its comedy and satire from recent news stories, political figures, and media organizations.
___4. Soap opera focuses on the lives, loves, and conflicts of young adults living in a trendy apartment complex.
___5. Sitcom follows the everyday lives of a successful sports writer and his dysfunctional family.
___6. Sitcom focuses on the lives, romantic adventures, and career issues of a social circle of singles living in the city.
___7. Sitcom focuses on teenage friends and their coming of age during the "Me Decade."
___8. Show focuses on the lives and loves of a young lawyer and her eccentric colleagues.
___9. Mobster has difficulties balancing the requirements of his home life and his criminal organization.
___10. Medical drama follows the lives of physicians and staff at a city hospital.
___11. A group of young women fight against demons and other forms of darkness.
___12. Following the end of his marriage, a successful psychiatrist returns to his hometown to build a new life.
___13. FBI agents investigate cases involving paranormal phenomena.
___14. "Dramedy" follows the exploits and cases of defense attorneys at a city law firm.
___15. Dramatic series tells the stories of the members of a fictional Presidential administration.
___16. Dramatic series focuses on social issues of the times and depicts the teenage years as being difficult and confusing instead of carefree.
___17. Drama series follows a two-part approach: (1) the investigation of a crime and naming a suspect, and (2) prosecution of the defendant by the city's District Attorney.
___18. Comedy series focuses on the bizarre adventures of four small-town boys and their surrounding neighborhood.
___19. Comedian and his group of friends focus on the mundane aspects of everyday life.
___20. A clique of four women with different personalities and ever-changing love lives remain inseparable and confide in each other.
- Name: _____
Total Correct: _____

- A. "Ally McBeal"
B. "Beverly Hills, 90210"
C. "Buffy the Vampire Slayer"
D. "The Daily Show"
E. "ER"
F. "Everybody Loves Raymond"
G. "Frazier"

- H. "Freaks and Geeks"
I. "Friends"
J. "Law & Order"
K. "Melrose Place"
L. "My So-Called Life"
M. "The Practice"
N. "Seinfeld"

- O. "Sex and the City"
P. "South Park"
Q. "The Sopranos"
R. "That '70s Show"
S. "The West Wing"
T. "The X-Files"