

Session 02

FREE (AND PAID) ENTERTAINMENT ONLINE

What sort of things can you do?

- Watch TV and listen to the radio for free
- Watch and download films
- Read free books, newspapers and magazines
- Play games online

Free live and catch-up TV

- Most UK TV channels offer a free live and catch-up service
- Registration is usually needed
- There may be some web page adverts
- Programmes are not there forever – BBC for example has 28 day retention period
- BBC regional services can be useful for certain sports events for example
- ⓘ Be careful using ‘unofficial’ live TV streaming sites – they often have really intrusive pop-ups and dodgy links and many of them are illegal



www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer

www.itv.com

www.channel4.com

www.channel5.com

Also check out:

www.tvplayer.com

85 channels free live,
pay for premium
channels and catch-up

Paid-for online TV and films

- Most internet service providers (Sky, BT, Virgin Media, TalkTalk etc.) offer internet TV to their broadband customers
- Sky also has NowTV which allows non-Sky customers access to their live programmes on a pay-as-you-view basis
- You can get paid TV films and shows from:
 - [Blinkbox](#)
 - [Netflix](#)
 - [Amazon Video](#) (formerly LoveFilm)
- They have different pricing models; see this comparison from [Trusted Reviews](#)
- 🕒 See the Digital Unite guide “[How to watch films online](#)”
- There are a couple of options for ‘casting’ media from your PC to a smart TV:
 - Chromecast is an inexpensive ‘dongle’ – check which apps are supported here: <http://thenextweb.com/apps/2014/06/13/34-best-chromecast-apps/>
 - The Microsoft Edge browser in Windows 10 has a “Cast media to device” feature that will cast any media in a browser to a connected smart TV ; more info: <http://www.pcworld.com/article/3013055/windows/how-to-use-microsoft-edges-casting-feature-to-beam-media-to-your-tv.html>



If you're unable to find a particular movie, you can look for it on [FindAnyFilm.com](#), which will search all the legal film sites and suggest the cheapest options.

Practice Session

TV ONLINE



- See if you can find a previous episode of a TV programme on any of the channels we have spoken about
- Can you watch it?
- Can you pause/rewind/fast-forward?
- Can you change the audio level, see it in full-screen?
- What was the quality like?

Internet radio

- An audio service transmitted via the Internet often called webcasting
- Gives listeners a continuous stream of audio that typically cannot be paused or replayed, much like traditional broadcast media
- Internet radio services offer news, sports, talk, and various genres of music—every format that is available on traditional broadcast radio
- Many Internet radio services are associated with a corresponding traditional (terrestrial) radio station or radio network
- There are thousands – one of the sites below has 48,000!
- Here are some places to start:
 - www.internetradiouk.com
 - www.internet-radio.com
 - www.live365.com – has good filtering options
- Worth also looking at last.fm

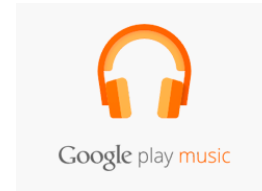
Music streaming services

- Offer unlimited access for a flat charge (and partly for free – but with adverts)
- Offer a library with millions of song titles, which you can browse and listen to
- Access via browser or a desktop application
- You can search for your tunes by artist, titles or albums
- Often you can create your own ‘station’ by choosing a song or artist and the service suggests similar
- Skipping and pausing is usually allowed
- All have social functions - share your playlists and songs with your friends

Some to try:



Download needed - free & paid



No download - £9.99 per month



No download – free and paid

And my personal favourite:



No download – and free

Practice Session

STREAMING MUSIC



- Think of an artist or music genre you like
- Go to one of the streaming music sites we discussed – Jango or Deezer don't need download so they may be easier
- See if you can find a music track to play
- How easy was it?
- What was the quality like?

Video sharing services



- YouTube is the world's largest video-sharing website - created by three former PayPal employees in February 2005. In November 2006, it was bought by Google for US\$1.65Bn
- Quality of music (and other entertainment material) on YouTube can be variable
- You don't need a Google account to use it – if you do you can save favourites and playlists
- I usually just Google something like “Dixie Chicks Wide Open Spaces YouTube” and see what I get

Some others to try:



An example ...

The screenshot shows a YouTube video player with the following details:

- Video Title:** Rumer Aretha-Later with Jools Holland Live HD
- Channel:** Real Bans (3,520 subscribers)
- Views:** 21,861
- Engagement:** 141 likes, 3 dislikes
- Upload Date:** May 24, 2011
- Thumbnail:** A live performance of Rumer singing on stage with a band.

On the right side of the page, there is an advertisement for Argos with the text "SHOP OUR LATEST DEALS" and two product offers: one for £14.99 and another for £18.99, with a "Shop now!" button. Below the ad is an "Up next" section with an "Autoplay" toggle, listing several related videos:

- Rumer - Slow Rumer Performs Slow Live On Later With Jools Holland HQ Full Version (4:11, 165,332 views)
- Mix - Rumer Aretha-Later with Jools Holland Live HD (50+ videos)
- Rumer - Dangerous - Later... with Jools Holland - BBC Two (3:55, 60,004 views)
- Rumer - Goodbye Girl / On My Way Home at the Roundhouse (8:52, 17,318 views)
- Rumer - Am I Forgiveness Rumer Sings Am I Forgiveness Live On Later With Jools Holland (3:16, 19,996 views)

My Google search was:
“Rumer Aretha youtube live”

Practice Session

VIDEO STREAMING



- Think of an artist or entertainer you like
- Can you find a video on YouTube?
- How easy was it to locate?
- What was the quality like?
- Did you try adding 'live' to the search? (I find that really good for music)

Newspapers & Magazines online

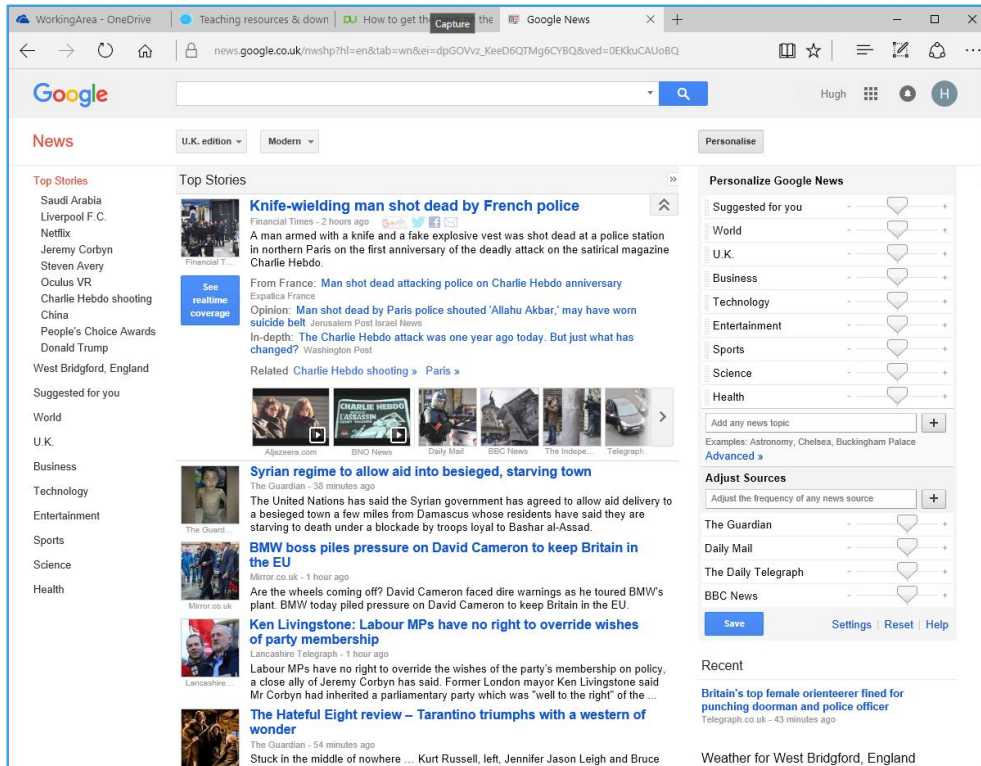



- Most traditionally print news titles now have online services
- Huge directory of news outlets:
 - www.thebigproject.co.uk/news
 - www.wrx.zen.co.uk/britnews.htm
- Most are free – some (like “The Times”) need a subscription for full access
- News sites, without a print equivalent also exist, e.g.:
 - www.uk.news.yahoo.com/uk
 - www.msn.com/en-gb/news/uknews
 - www.news.sky.com/uk
 - www.edition.cnn.com
 - www.notts.tv
- Many traditionally print magazines also now online, e.g.:
 - www.hellomagazine.com
 - www.ok.co.uk
 - www.womanmagazine.co.uk
 - www.womansown.co.uk
 - www.cosmopolitan.co.uk
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 - www.nature.com
 - www.newscientist.com
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- Click the Apps icon 
- Choose the News app
- Type a particular search for news into the search box and Google will search news websites or the entire internet for stories related to that subject
- You can personalise extensively!

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Games online

- Many websites offer a collection of fun games and puzzles for you to play
- Whether you like card games like solitaire, jigsaw puzzles, old-style arcade games, skill games such as driving, shooting or ball games, against-the-clock games, adventure games, word games, or different kinds of puzzles – you’ll find them all online
- If you have Windows 8 or later, there are many games (free and paid) available from the Windows App Store
- 🔌 See the Digital Unite “[Best ... games and puzzles](#)” page
- If you have a Facebook account, you can play hundreds of games – and they can be very addictive!
- Here are a few other free sites I have checked out:
 - www.games.com
 - www.crossword-puzzles.co.uk
 - www.sudokulinks.com/sudoku.html
 - <http://www.bigfishgames.com/>
- The best-known site for paid gaming is probably [Steam](#) – it does require you to install their game-playing ‘engine’. As of September 2015 over 6,400 games are available through Steam.



In your own time ...

SPEND SOME TIME EXPLORING SOME OF THE TOPICS WE COVERED TODAY – ONLINE NEWS SOURCES, MAYBE EVEN ONLINE GAMES; DROP ME AN E-MAIL WITH YOUR EXPERIENCES ... DID YOU FIND ANY NEW SITES?