



2005: First episode of the revived era of "Doctor Who" was aired (UK)

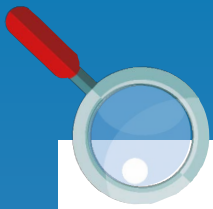


Doctor Who

Doctor Who is the longest science-fiction TV series ever created as it premiered in 1963 and is still aired today on the BBC. It depicts the adventures of a Time Lord called "The Doctor" through space and time in his ship called the TARDIS. The specificity of the show is that The Doctor has the ability to "regenerate" and get a new face and a new body when he/she is on the verge of dying. It explains why the show is still aired; 13 actors have played The Doctor so far! The regeneration concept was created when William Hartnell, who played the first Doctor, had health issues, in order to ensure that the show could go on. However, the show disappeared for a few years in the 1990s until its triumphant return in 2005.

In 2018, the British actress Jodie Whittaker was cast as the 13th incarnation of the Doctor. The casting of a woman for this role unfortunately led to several sexist comments. But critics were overwhelmingly positive and a second series with her as the Doctor started in 2020.

Fun fact: David Tennant, who played the 10th Doctor (and one of the most popular actors to embody the famous character), actually decided to become an actor because he desperately wanted to play in the show!



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Teaching ideas

☆☆☆ **CYCLE 4** - Have your students create the scenario of a *Doctor Who* episode. Each group will have to focus on different characters: the Doctor's companions (their appearance, their links, their professions...), the villains (their appearance, their planet, their motivation and their abilities) and the setting (the planet, its atmosphere...). Have members of the different groups share their work with their classmates to create a short scenario.

☆☆☆ **LYCÉE** - Students want to go to a casting organised by the BBC to embody the new Doctor or one of his/her companions. Ask them to prepare their interview by explaining why they think the show is important in British culture and by playing a few scenes from the show, like one of the regeneration scenes.