

The psychology of Game of Thrones | StarTalk - Listening comprehension

Vocabulary

Warrior: a person who fights in battle or war., known for having courage, a great vigour and skills.

To cope with something: to manage, to deal successfully with or handle a situation.

Ex. *The book is about coping with stress.*

To shut down: to cause (an opponent) to be unsuccessful, unable to score; to close temporarily; to stop operating.

Ex. *There's no way to shut down the simulation.*

Injury: harm or damage.

Ex. *John couldn't compete in the race because he had an injury.*

Revenge: the act of doing something to hurt someone because that person did something that hurt you; to take vengeance for.

Ex. *Nothing good ever came from seeking revenge.*

Recurring: happening many times, or happening again.

Ex. *This has been my recurring dream for the last 50 years.*

To restore: to bring back a situation or feeling that existed before.

Ex. *Order was restored after the riots.*

Fill in the gaps in the following sentences

1. **Travis:** *I am a psychology professor, a big _____, and I love using fiction to talk about real psychology.*
2. **Neil:** *So what's the takeaway from all this violence in the minds of who's _____ audience?*
3. **Travis:** *We know that in experiments that watching violence produces short-term effects on someone's _____.*
4. **Travis:** *That's interesting, because if you could _____, that would be an amazing advance in our understanding of the psychological state of _____.*
5. **Travis:** *There are people who, as a form of _____ with horrible situations, do shut _____ parts of themselves.*
6. **Neil:** *Tell me about the psychology of _____.*
7. **Travis:** *And when we feel _____, when something horrible has happened that made us feel helpless, it's hard to maintain a sense of _____ strong.*
8. **Travis:** *And I always said I really think "Game of Thrones" is so popular because of the psychology of the _____. It's not about the dragons, the White _____, or the magic. It's about the human _____.*
9. **Travis:** *They hadn't _____ dragons in a long time. For most of them, they're _____ about dragons--the _____ of dragons.*
10. **Neil:** *Thank you for sharing your psychological _____.*

ANSWERS

1. **Travis:** *I am a psychology professor, a big nerd, and I love using fiction to talk about real psychology.*
2. **Neil:** *So what's the takeaway from all this violence in the minds of who's portrayed, in their time and in their day, and what effect it might have on the audience?*
3. **Travis:** *We know that in experiments that watching violence produces short-term effects on someone's behavior.*
4. **Travis:** *That's interesting, because if you could predict, that would be an amazing advance in our understanding of the psychological state of warriors.*
5. **Travis:** *There are people who, as a form of coping with horrible situations, do shut down parts of themselves.*
6. **Neil:** *Tell me about the psychology of revenge.*
7. **Travis:** *And when we feel mistreated, when something horrible has happened that made us feel helpless, it's hard to maintain a sense of feeling strong.*
8. **Travis:** *And I always said I really think "Game of Thrones" is so popular because of the psychology of the characters. It's not about the dragons, the White Walkers, or the magic. It's about the human beings.*
9. **Travis:** *They hadn't had dragons in a long time. For most of them, they're concerned about dragons--the idea of dragons.*
10. **Neil:** *Thank you for sharing your psychological insights.*