

TOP Websites for Watching Series to Learn Languages



Would you like to start watching series in a foreign language but you have no idea where to find them? The best thing about our information age is that the **INTERNET HAS IT ALL**. You don't have to buy or download anything; there are numerous websites where you can watch series online for free. I created a brief summary of some of them for you. Enjoy!

English

Ororo.tv – An excellent website for learning languages with the help of TV-shows. It requires a free registration and then it allows you to watch for an hour a day for free. If you want to watch longer, you can get a paid monthly subscription. Every series contains subtitles in several languages and there's a great function that all language learners will appreciate: if you don't understand a word, pause the video, point the cursor on the word in the subtitles and a translation or a dictionary definition will appear. Smart, isn't it?

solarmovie.sc – This website boasts a huge selection of series and movies with English subtitles. Better be careful! This site is full of annoying ads and I recommend you to install a good antivirus program before you use it. More on that later.

German

zdf.de – Follow the link and you'll get right to the part where you can choose from original German movies and series.

bs.to (Burning Series) – A huge database of series with German audio where you can look up your favorites such as Friends and The Simpsons. If you don't know what to choose, click on "Alle Serien" in the menu and pick one from the most-popular list. Or you can click on "Mehr Serien" and hundreds of other series will appear, ready to be binge-watched :) What's interesting, you can add a file with subtitles you've downloaded somewhere else (e.g. for free from opensubtitles.org). But there's a catch – if the series is dubbed, it's not very likely you'll find subtitles with the same text as the dubbing script.

French

French is a tough one but we found two sites: **voirfilms.ws** and **streamay.ws**. Again, be sure to read the guide for using this type of websites that I provide below before visiting them. Otherwise you'll get snowballed by ads.

Spanish

RTVE.es – I highly recommend the website of the Spanish public service broadcaster RTVE where you can find a live stream of all its TV stations as well as a wonderful archive of movies, documentaries and series – all available online and for free. You can even select Spanish subtitles for the latest series.

 Russian

hdrezka.ag – a great source of series and movies in the highest quality. If you watch series with voice over, you'll have to get used to hearing the original voices of actors but once you're two or three episodes in, you'll find out it's not such a big deal. If you click on "Сериалы" in the upper menu, you can easily choose from the available genres – comedy, thriller and others. When you've made your pick from the series, scroll down to a black screen with "Начать просмотр" written across it. An ad will pop up for about 8 seconds that you just have to wait through and then click on the lower right corner to proceed to the series itself. The series will load and you're good to go!

 Italian

Dailymotion.com – finding a website for Italian is another hard nut to crack if you live outside of Italy but we've found one with series and movies with Italian dubbing, although searching there is a bit clumsy. If you follow the link, you'll get to a specific series (*La Dama Velata*). Use arrows above the streaming window to browse through dozens of other series. Or use the search bar in the upper right corner.

 Polish

Vod.tvp.pl – the polish public service broadcaster offers a wide selection of Polish series and movies. I simply have to mention my all-time favorite [Czas honoru](#) – a historical series about WWII with outstanding actors and costumes. It's a blockbuster on Polish TV; millions of people have seen and loved it.

A series for beginners (EN, DE, FR, ES)

Series @Extra on YouTube

This is a great series created specifically for beginner language learners. It's aimed more at teenagers but adults will appreciate it as well. It's a sitcom similar to *Friends* – funny stories about the lives of three flatmates. **Each language features different (native-speaker) actors** so every version has original audio but the plot stays the same (it could be interesting for learners of multiple languages to watch the different versions). I highly recommend @Extra to those of you who still struggle with the usual series. Follow these links to get to the whole season in chronological order and with subtitles:

[Extra French](#), [Extra Español](#), [Extra Deutsch](#), [Extra English](#)

Watch out for dangerous websites with free series!

Be careful, some websites claim they have thousands of series for free and they do, but do you know why they're "for free"? Because the sites get money from ads. Those ads are often hidden, pretty annoying and sometimes even dangerous: It looks like you're going to play the video and a new window pops up with loud music informing you that you've just won a million. Sadly, that's the risk of the internet.



Make sure you have a proper antivirus program installed before you visit these websites. NEVER click on anything else than the Play button – certainly not the sidebar ads.

If a new window pops up, it's usually sufficient to close it, return to the original window and hit Play again. **Most websites with**

“free” series apply this strategy but if the user doesn’t get distracted, they show them the series in the end. I’ve watched many series like this and I’ve always had to click the Play button repeatedly. It’s annoying but it’s a way to watch series without paying. All in all, use the unpaid websites that you find on Google with extreme caution – safety first!

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This e-book is about FREE resources to watch TV series and movies, but to be honest, I believe it’s much better to pay for a service and watch it without any trouble, annoying ads, or the risk of computer viruses. I have written another 24-page e-book with very detailed tips on how to learn languages systematically using TV series. It’ll be available in English soon so make sure you [follow my emails](#) from Language Mentoring and I’ll let you know when it’s ready :-)

Best regards,

Lýdia Machová

Lýdia Machová, PhD. is a professional interpreter and language mentor who has learned 7 foreign languages (English, German, Spanish, French, Polish, Russian, Esperanto) by herself without ever having lived abroad and usually takes on a new language every two years. **She’s helped thousands of Slovaks and Czechs** learn foreign languages in a way that’s different from the methods used at schools or language courses and with much better results. She’s also **one of the main organizers of the biggest polyglot event in the world called Polyglot Gathering** and has held talks at conferences all over the world. Watching series is one of her favorite language learning activities. Get more information about Lýdia and her methods [on her website](#) and [Facebook](#).

