

The Simpson's media coursework.

Task 1: Here is a list of all the sitcoms I know of which contains a family:

The Cosby Show- American show with an ideal family.

Roseanne- American show with a non-ideal family

Malcolm in the middle- American show with a non-ideal family

Leave it to Beaver- American show with an ideal family

Royle Family- British show with a non-ideal family

1. **Leave it to Beaver** is described as a “Happy family sitcom”, this is because the sitcom was about an always-happy couple and their two children. The children would do the occasional mischievous thing and the family would then sort the problem out in a matter of minutes and revert to being the ideal family again. The husband, Ward Cleaver and the wife, June, never fought or got angry at each other, which is very unrealistic and this made them the “happy family”.
2. **The honeymooner's** was different from the other sitcoms with the ideal families. The honeymooner showed a couple that got angry and often shouted at each other, showing how real life couples act. This made the show a step different from the others.
- 3.

Happy Family Sitcom	Realistic Family Sitcom
Middle class family	Working class family
Live in a big house in the suburbs	Live in an apartment in the city
Wife is a housewife	Wife is a working women
Husband always works in a steady job	Husband might not have a job or is struggling with his current job
The children never break the law in anyway	The children often try things like smoking, drugs, driving etc

Modern animated sitcoms task:

1. South Park:

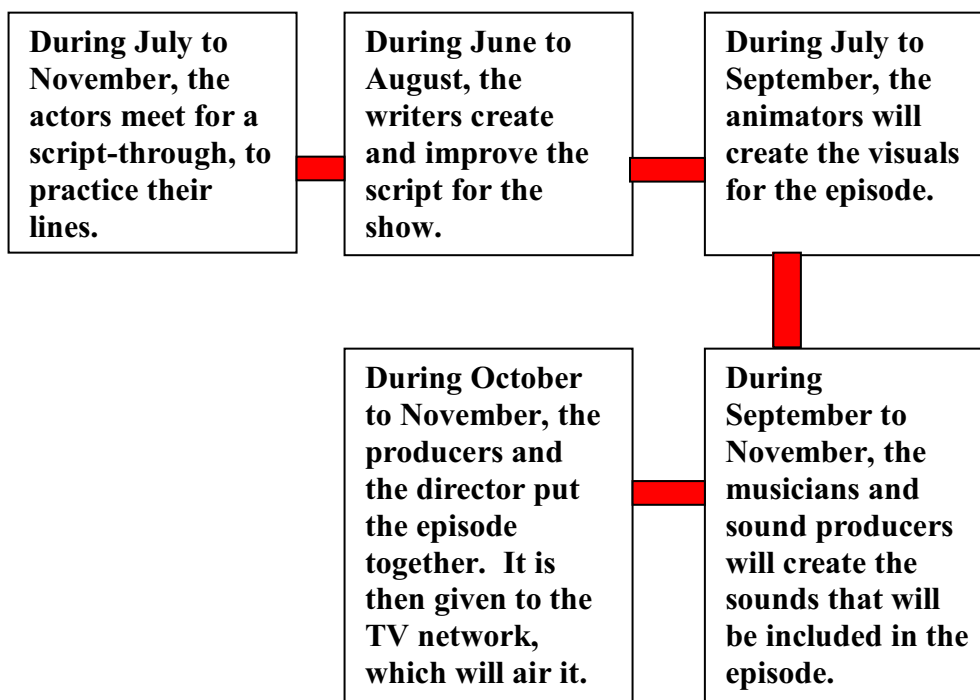
This is one of the controversial animated sitcoms that is shown on TV . This sitcom is about a group of young boys who get into all sorts of adventures and trouble. The show has a slightly adult orientated, and the strong language and humour makes the show mainly aimed at the teenager or adult, not children. This show often refers to subjects like sex, violence, killing Kenny, killing alien, a chef and his women, beating up a little british kid and so on.

King of Hill:

This is also an animated sitcom, which is aimed at more adolescent audience. This series looks at a more realistic family with problems and regular life. The show contains adult-based humour and subjects. Even though the language isn't as strong as South Park, the show contains more realistic problems and what family life is like for the Hill's.

2. **Homer and Marge have a very strange relationship as in they have very little in common, live very different lives and yet they still want and love each other. When these two are around each other, they act as if they were mother and son, Homer being silly most of the time and Marge telling him what he can and can't do. They do try and set an example for their children by behaving around them, but this never seems to work out causing Bart and Lisa to see Homer as an ignorant buffoon and Marge as a stress filled housewife.**
- In their relationship, Marge is the dominant character. She tells Homer what to do, when he can do it, how long he can do it and with who he can do it. Even though this is true, Marge still loves Homer and will sometimes let him do what he wants, sometimes she might even join in.**
- Homer and Marge Simpson are very happily married and they've never regretted getting married. The fact that they haven't divorced yet after all that's happened clearly shows that they love each other too much to separate, as shown by the episode with Homer trying to find his soul mate.**
- Their children know that both Homer and Marge truly love each other, but they think of it as "sick". The children just think of their relationship as "mum and dad", not Homer and Marge.**
- When Homer and Marge have a fight, it's usually about what Homer has done wrong, or maybe a disagreement about something, but mainly Homer and his wrong doings.**
- Homer and Marge has quiet a few activites which they like doing together, the main one is sex (of course). They like going to the cinema, going on wacky adventures and watching TV.**
- Both of these two characters do something for the Simpson's family. Homer works and makes the money for everything they need, and Marge keeps everything from falling apart, like the house, the children and Homer.**

Making the Simpson's task:



Making the Simpson's task 2:

The camera enters Springfield Elementary. Bart is writing sentences on the board.

Bart skate boards out of the school and rides off.

The camera changes to Homer at the Nuclear power plant, he drops a piece of plutonium on the table and sticks to his back.

The camera changes to Marge and Maggie at the super market. Marge mistakes Maggie for a shopping item and puts her onto the conveyor belt and the checkout. Marge then notices Maggie missing, and finds her in the shopping bag.

The camera then shows Lisa at her Saxophone lesson and she walks out while playing a different tune to the rest of the class (the teacher doesn't approve)

The camera goes back to Homer, who is driving his car and notices the piece of plutonium on his back, he grabs it and throws it out of the car window.

Bart is right near Homers car and Bart hits the plutonium with his skateboard. He passes a few people who are waiting for the bus and passes by Police chief Wigum.

Homer arrives at the house and parks his car outside the garage. Bart arrives and lands on Homers car and goes into the house. Homer gets out of the car and Lisa almost runs over Homer with her bike (Homer goes "AAGGHH") Then Marge and Maggie arrive in the car and Homer runs from the car (because it could just run him over). Homer enters the garage door and then the camera shows the whole family run for the couch (something different happens with the family and the couch every episode).

As Bart passes Wigum, Marge and Maggie pass them in the car and drive past the corners of the road (Maggie pretending she's driving) and they both honk their horn in the car.

Merchandise.

The product I've decided to design is called the "Simpson's Voice change-iffier".

The product is aimed at a younger audience, not too young though, probably around 15 to 20 year olds and people who love silly gadgets.

This item will be sold in all good shops, like HMV, Virgin megastores, Toyshops, Gadget shops and any other shop, which sells electronically entertaining things.

The product will be advertised on TV, during 3:30pm and 6:00pm, when most of the aimed audience is watching TV. There will also be a few billboards and posters around the place to tell people when it's on sale, what it does, how much it is etc etc. The TV adverts will show a person (probably a 16 year old) holding a "Simpson's Voice Change-iffier" and talking into it. When he finishes saying his sentence, he or she (probably a female, better chance of attracting males and females to the product) will press the play button, and the gadget will repeat the same thing the person said, except in a Simpson's character voice. The Billboards and posters will show a picture of a Boy talking into the change-iffier and a speech bubble saying "Its me, Homer", with a picture of Homer on the gadget.

Depending on which version you buy, you can imitate your favourite character. If the toy has a picture of Homer on it, your sentence will be in Homers voice.

This product would cost about £10 to £15. It would cost quite a lot to make, so that's why it cost a bit more than the usual Simpson's product.

Merchandising.

There are a few ideas I have on Simpson products. The ideas I have thought up will be put just below with illustrations and information on the product I have created.

My second idea is of a Simpson's video game for the Dreamcast. The game involves all the Simpson family in a quest to defeat the evil maniac, Sideshow Bob from detonating a nuclear warhead in the middle of Springfield. It will be a side scrolling game, which will be like the old Streets of Rage games (except it will have Simpson characters).

You can pick up many weapons in game, like chainsaws, shotguns, Santa's little helper, the Krusty Mallet, Snakes car, Kent Brockman's gold chains and much much more.

The Game will start off with the Simpson's watching and their favourite show, Springfields Most Wanted...when all of a sudden, the program is cut off and an the emergency system is put on with a message from Sideshow Bob threatening to detonate a nuclear warhead in the middle of Springfield if his demands are not met. The Simpson's won't stand for this, so they decide to stop Sideshow Bob and save America!!! (And their favourite show).

Krusty the clown

Krusty Task:

Krusty the Clown plays a TV kids show presenter. Even though he looks like a jolly guy on TV, he's completely different off TV. Krusty is very happy on his TV show, but off screen, he's grumpy and demanding. He mainly only interested in his products and the show ratings. Krusty behaves with a non-caring attitude towards pretty much everything (apart from his products, TV ratings and money). Krusty doesn't have a very close relationship with any other character apart from side-show Mel. Krusty knows a lot of the people in Springfield, but not all of them. Krusty has met Bart on quite a few occasions. Krusty spends most of time off set with side-show Mel, who is probably his best friend in the show.

All of the equipment used in the Krusty show, are Krusty products. The cameras, the cannon that shot side-show Mel out, the fire extinguisher (which was used on Mel, most of the stuff on Krusty's show are used on poor side-show Mel). Every time Krusty gets a new product, he uses it on his show, smiles and faces the camera with the product in his hand. The kids, loving Krusty and all that he does, they go and buy it with the help of their parents (Bart especially, who has EVERY Krusty product).

I, personally, think Krusty's products are useless and not worth anything. Even though I think that's true, the products are funny and very silly, stuff kids in Springfield would absolutely love.

I personally like Krusty, he's crazy, funny, a childrens role model and a very realistic character out of his TV show. Krusty has his problems, family issues, financial issues and friends, just like a normal person. I think that Krusty is an important character in the Simpson's. He portrays everything that involves celebrities, money and lots (tons) of products. If I had the chance, I think I wouldn't change Krusty for someone else. Krusty shows TV presenters as they really are, real people with real lives off screen.

Conclusion – Krusty is a realistic character as I have stated above. He shows what its really like to be a celebrity TV presenter. He's kind, funny and joyful on TV, but off the set, he's serious, money-hungry and couldn't care less for the children or anybody else for that matter.

Krusty, in the Simpson's, is aimed at the children, someone the kids can grow up to watch and admire. The children view Krusty as a rolemodel, someone who they want to be when they grow up. All the kids love Krusty and buy virtually everything he releases on the market.

A new character for the Simpson's:

The character I have decided to create will be 17 years old, and his name will be Dogs. The character will be male and he goes to the Springfield High school, brilliantly called "Springfield High". The character will be one of Bart's best friends. He is friendly to Bart, but acts tough to everyone else, he is the toughest kid in Springfield.

1. The character I have created will be Bart's rolemodel. He'll be someone Barts wants to be when he grows up. Dogs pretty much rules Springfield High and has the respect of every kid in Springfield.

He is a rough and tough 17-year-old, but he has a softer side, which only Bart ever gets to see.

He also is a pretty good friend of Homer. Dogs and Homer would usually end up talking in the kitchen while drinking beers (well...Dogs drinks Cherry Pop as he's too young to drink in America).

Dogs wears a white shirt, with White jeans and white suede shoes. He also has a black belt and a white jacket (Along with his red shades). Dogs is well known for is all white ensemble. Dogs is also a handsome guy with a lot of girls wanting him for his looks, fiery passion for poetry and his love for the female of the species. Lisa and Marge both fancy him, even though they never show this directly, just with an occasional sigh. Bart doesn't understand the love that the girls feel for him or the the love Dogs feels for the girls.

An Analysis of one episode.

Simpson's episode: Homer the Beer Baron

Introduction to the plot of the episode-This episode is about Bart getting drunk on St. Patrick's day and because of that, a prohibition law is passed in Springfield. Homer decides to get beer from the site from which the beers where dumped and give the remaining beer to Moe in his so called "Pet shop" (under the fancy disguise, its actually a speak-easy where beer is served along with other tasty alcoholic drinks).

The story in full - When Homer decides to take his whole family to the St.Patrick's day parade, things goes horribly wrong when a parade float gives out free beer through hose pipes and happen to fly straight into the funnel that Bart is holding in his mouth. After getting many litres of beer thrown down his throat, Bart starts feeling very dizzy and sick...He's drunk!!! Bart then proceeds in going to the nearest TV camera and say "What the hell are you looking at?". These words are then repeated on the evening news reported by Kent Brockman.

After seeing the horrible news on the TV, all the mothers of Springfield go to the Mayor and ask him if anything will be done about the situation. Just as that's been said, a law is found that was passed many

years ago in Springfield, but never reinforced...that law is prohibition. This means no beer for the population of Springfield and Homer does not take the new lying down.

While Homer is thinking of a plan, Fat Tony's group of thugs are importing beer into the city illegally and bribe Chief Wigum's men to let them pass. After this event is found out, Wigum is fired as the chief of police and hard man Rex Banner is sent in to reinforce the prohibition law even further.

Homer decides to go to the place where all the beer was buried and digs up some of it then takes it to his cellar. The Beer Baron is born.

Homer tries to keep this a secret from his family except for Bart, who is also in on it. They both fill bowling balls up with beer, up a cork in the holes and go to the bowling alley. There, they shoot the balls down the lanes and make sure to miss each one, because all the missed shots go through and elaborate system of pipes and shoots which lead the balls to Moe's "Pet Shop". Here Moe would serve the drinks until Rex Banner came knocking on his door. At this point, Moe would pull the "change" lever which would change the speak-easy into an innocent looking pet shop which fooled Rex Banner for the time being.

As Homer goes to get more beer, he comes back and sees his wife looking at him with barrels of beer. She is surprised at first, but realises what a clever idea it is and how much money he's making with it. The only who doesn't approve of this business is Lisa, who is told to go to her room by all the family for speaking her mind (Poor Lisa).

Chief Wigum is now out of a job and goes to Homer for help. Homer, feeling very sorry for him (and Marge forcing him to) decides to turn himself in to the police and give credit to Chief Wigum for the arrest.

Rex Banner is furious with the idea of Wigum getting the credit for the bust and the idea of Wigum becoming police chief again. The punishment used for breaking the prohibition law is the "Catapult". The offender is then launched into the sunset with it, in this case...Homer j. Simpson.

As Rex Banner is complaining and whining, he accidentally steps on the catapult and is launched off into another city where he is never heard from again. Just as Wigum is about to launch Homer as well, the City Hall records keeper find more writing on the scroll with the prohibition law...it seems that the law was then scrapped one year later and that meant that Homer would not have to be sentenced to the "Catapult". The episode ends with a massive street party with LOTS of beer and alcohol.

Each character had a different role, but Homer was the main character in this episode.

Homer played the Beer Baron, supplying illegal beer to masses of Springfield.

Bart is the Beer Barons side kick, he helps Homer get the beer and distribute it. He also got the prohibition law started again in Springfield (D'oh)

Marge just supports her husband with his moneymaking scheme.

Lisa just disapproves of the whole idea (Go to your room Lisa!!!)

Chief Wigum is the clueless chief who gets fired and receives help from Homer, who helps him get his job back.

Rex Banner becomes the new chief of Police and tries to crack down on booze drinking in Springfield.

Moe was the distributor of the illegal alcohol in Springfield. He sold people beer at ridiculously high prices.

These were the main characters in this particular episode, the others might have made appearances but had nothing to do with the episode.

The things that made this episode really enjoyable was how it was made to be like an old 50's mobster movie with the strange voiced narrator, the type of clothing, the name of the bar (speak-easy) etc.

Homer really put the icing on the cake though with his funny yet crazy scheme of bringing the beer to the people of Springfield. What I really liked was how for once, Marge approved of this idea and they all told Lisa to "go to her room" for not liking the plan. Another enjoyable part of the episode was the seriousness of new chief of police, Rex Banner. He never cracked a smile, never made a joke, just always trying to accomplish his job and doing anything he could to do it. The episode had many

hilarious moments, like when Homer tried to make his own beer (in some bath tubs with his own distillery and some barley/oak...in his cellar), this was funny, especially when the distillery blew up and created a big uproar amongst the neighbours and the family.

To make a successful Simpson's episode, some things always have to stay the same.

Homer always has to be funny, stupid and ignorant. Bart has to be funny and he has to get in to some sort of mischief. Moe always has to be a bitter barman. Lisa has to be on the side of morality and anything that's wrong, she has to be against it. Apart from these, the humour has to be fresh and entertaining. There's always some sort of crazy plan that's cooked up by either one of the Simpson family members which ends up backfiring in their faces. One of the things that has made the Simpson's really great is...the Couch scene. Its different every time, wetherr its funny or strange, its always different and adds a touch of humour before you even start watching the main part of the show.