

Ten TV shows Teacher Tappers recommend

Finally - a break from the daily grind and some time to catch up on your TV viewing. But how to know what to watch? This time is precious - we can't waste it on shows that go nowhere! Last month more than 2,700 Tappers wrote in with their favourite recent watches - here are the results!

■■ 1Slow Horses

The runaway favourite! This Apple TV spy thriller – starring Gary Oldman as the gloriously grumpy Jackson Lamb – was the most-named show among teachers. One Tapper called it “the best thing on TV in a long, long time”, and several said they were eagerly bingeing the new season.

■■ 2Wednesday

Nearly as many teachers confessed to being hooked on Wednesday. Maybe it's the nostalgia for the old TV show, or the cliff-hanger "who-is-it" mystery that runs through the season, this comes Teacher-recommended.

■■■■■ 3The Guest

BBC One's twisty thriller The Guest grabbed attention for its “just-one-more-episode” storytelling. Several teachers called it “fantastic” and “gripping to the end.” Perfect for anyone who loves a good mystery without having to commit to a full box set.

■■ 4The Summer I Turned Pretty

This show is based on the YA novel of the same name, and for pure escapism, this coming-of-age drama won hearts. Teachers described it as “sweet”, “nostalgic”, and “ideal for a rainy Sunday.”

■■ 5Only Murders in the Building

Steve Martin, Martin Short, and Selena Gomez star in this whodunnit comedy, a firm teacher favourite. One Teacher Tapper said it was “the best show”, and it appeared multiple times on the list.

■ ■ 6Department Q

“Brilliant!” and “Best thing on TV right now” were just two of the glowing reviews for this Danish-inspired crime series on Netflix. If you liked *The Killing* or *Broadchurch*, this one’s for you.

■ ■ 7The Girlfriend

Teachers described this dark relationship drama (on Prime Video and Netflix) as “addictive” and “perfect for winding down after a long day.” One to watch and then dissect when you are back in the staffroom.

■ ■ 8Hostage

This show is taut, fast-paced, and lots of teachers told us they “loved it!”, *Hostage* on Netflix scratched the itch for those who prefer high-stakes drama.

■ ■ 9Yellowstone

Kevin Costner’s epic Western saga continues to rope in fans, with many teachers also diving into its prequels *1883* and *1923*. Several said it’s “perfect long-form storytelling for the holidays.”

■ ■ 10Downton Abbey

An eternal favourite – with many teachers rewatching the series or catching up on *A New Era* and *The Grande Finale*. There’s comfort in those Yorkshire landscapes and well-timed quips from the Dowager Countess.

■ ■ The Bigger Picture

Across all responses, teachers’ viewing tastes split roughly three ways:

- Thrillers and mysteries (*Slow Horses*, *The Guest*, *Department Q*)
- Feel-good nostalgia (*Downton Abbey*, *Gilmore Girls*, *Educating Yorkshire*)
- Reality and escapism (*Married at First Sight*, *Race Across the World*)

So, whether you’re after a twisty crime series or something lighter for a tired brain, the Teacher Tapp community has you covered.

Happy half-term viewing!

And if you discover a new favourite show, don’t forget to share it in the next Teacher Tapp question – because teachers really do have the best recommendations. ■ ■