



'Malcolm in the Middle' Revival Honours Daniel von Barga and Kenneth Mars

Description

Not everyone returned for the revival of *Malcolm in the Middle*, titled *Life's Still Unfair*. This show has generated a lot of discussions since its announcement, especially about Erik Per Sullivan's absence. His character, Dewey, is missed, but viewers also overlook some other missing characters.

While many original cast members are back, some characters like Cynthia and Jessica do not appear at all. However, there are two important characters that fans knew would not be included, yet the show still pays tribute to them.

In Episode 4, fans see familiar faces celebrating Hal and Lois' 40th anniversary. Unfortunately, not everyone is there, but the show remembers characters who have died since the original series ended. One of these is Commandant Edwin Spangler, a villainous character played by Daniel von Barga, who died in 2015. During the party, Francis' friends raise a toast to Spangler, reminding everyone of his influence.

Another character missing is Otto, played by Kenneth Mars, who died in 2011. Otto was significant in Francis' life, helping him grow. At the party, audiences learn about Otto's wife, Gretchen, who now has a unique job as a cow doula.

Even though Spangler and Otto do not attend, their influence on Francis and the warmth of the show's references capture their legacy, making the revival feel complete.

Vocabulary List:

1. **revival** //rɪ'vaɪvəl// (noun): a new version of an old show
2. **absence** //ˈæbsəns// (noun): someone not being there when expected
3. **tribute** //ˈtrɪbjʊ:t// (noun): something said or done to show respect
4. **villainous** //ˈvɪlənəs// (adjective): very bad or evil, like in stories
5. **influence** //ˈɪnfluəns// (noun): the power to change how someone thinks
6. **legacy** //ˈlɛɡəsi// (noun): what people remember about someone after they die

Comprehension Questions



Multiple Choice

1. What is the title of the revival of Malcolm in the Middle?

- Option: Life's Still Unfair
- Option: Malcolm in the Middle: The Return
- Option: Life Goes On
- Option: Malcolm's Return

2. Which character is notably absent in the revival?

- Option: Hal
- Option: Lois
- Option: Dewey
- Option: Francis

3. Who played the character Commandant Edwin Spangler?

- Option: Kenneth Mars
- Option: Daniel von Barga
- Option: Erik Per Sullivan
- Option: None of the above

4. What noteworthy event is celebrated in Episode 4?

- Option: Hal and Lois' 30th anniversary
- Option: Francis' graduation
- Option: Hal and Lois' 40th anniversary
- Option: A family reunion

5. What unique job does Otto's wife, Gretchen, have?

- Option: Cow doula
- Option: Pet psychologist
- Option: Veterinarian
- Option: Dog trainer

6. Which character died in 2011?

- Option: Francis
- Option: Daniel von Barga
- Option: Otto
- Option: Gretchen



True-False

7. Erik Per Sullivan returned for the revival of Malcolm in the Middle.
8. The show pays tribute to deceased characters.
9. Cynthia and Jessica are present in the revival.
10. Francis' friends toast to Commandant Edwin Spangler during the party.
11. The revival includes all original cast members.
12. Otto helped Francis grow when he was alive.

Gap-Fill

13. The revival of Malcolm in the Middle is titled _____.
14. Dewey's absence is particularly noticed by the _____ of the show.
15. Commandant Edwin Spangler was played by _____ von Bargaen.
16. The anniversary celebrated in Episode 4 is Hal and Lois' _____ anniversary.
17. Gretchen's unique job as _____ doula reflects a modern role.
18. Otto passed away in _____ and is remembered in the revival.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Life's Still Unfair 2. Dewey 3. Daniel von Bargaen 4. Hal and Lois' 40th anniversary 5. Cow doula 6. Otto

True-False: 7. False 8. True 9. False 10. True 11. False 12. True

Gap-Fill: 13. Life's Still Unfair 14. viewers 15. Daniel 16. 40th 17. cow 18. 2011

Vocabulary quizzes



Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What term refers to the deliberate killing of a prominent person?
Option: Murder
Option: Assassination
Option: Terrorism
Option: Dismemberment
2. What type of operation involves investigating or gathering information secretly?
Option: Undercover
Option: Public
Option: Visible
Option: Declared
3. What term is used to describe the unlawful use of violence and intimidation, especially against civilians?
Option: Terrorism
Option: War
Option: Conflict
Option: Aggression
4. Which word describes the act of delaying an event or action?
Option: Advancement
Option: Postponement
Option: Acceleration
Option: Continuance
5. What term refers to claims or accusations made without proof?
Option: Facts
Option: Allegations
Option: Evidence
Option: Truth
6. What procedure examines a body after death to determine the cause?
Option: Biopsy
Option: Autopsy
Option: Vaccine
Option: Surgery
7. Which term refers to the act of influencing someone cleverly or unscrupulously?
Option: Negotiation
Option: Manipulation
Option: Discussion



Option: Compromise

8. What term describes the act of damaging someone's reputation through false statements?

Option: Libel

Option: Defamation

Option: Slander

Option: Accusation

9. What term refers to something handed down by a predecessor?

Option: Heritage

Option: Inheritance

Option: Legacy

Option: Tradition

10. What term describes the beliefs or opinions that are generally held about someone or something?

Option: Reputation

Option: Notoriety

Option: Fame

Option: Visibility

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. There was a sudden _____ in the number of visitors to the museum last weekend.

12. Her actions raised _____ among her peers, causing them to question her intentions.

13. The vehicle was _____ by the police due to a parking violation.

14. The crime scene revealed that the victim had been _____ in a gruesome manner.

15. The remains were found to be _____ beyond recognition due to the length of time they had been buried.

16. The board of _____ is responsible for managing the organization's assets and decisions.

17. Good _____ ensures that an organization operates fairly and effectively.

18. The city experienced a cultural _____ with new art galleries and theaters opening.



19. They reached a _____ understanding after discussing their goals and concerns.
20. The ceremony was a _____ to the heroism of the firefighters during the disaster.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. His constant aggression made it difficult for colleagues to work with him.
22. He decided to appropriately respond to the criticism raised against him.
23. The character in the movie was depicted as a villainous mastermind behind the chaos.
24. Her ability to influence others is what made her a great leader.
25. Despite the challenges, she maintained her integrity and moral values.
26. The book explores several themes including love, betrayal, and redemption.
27. Their disagreement over the project led to a heated discussion.
28. The detective found crucial evidence that could solve the case.
29. The allegations against the politician sparked a nationwide debate.
30. The lawsuit was filed on the grounds of defamation, claiming the statements were false.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Assassination 2. Undercover 3. Terrorism 4. Postponement 5. Allegations 6. Autopsy 7. Manipulation 8. Defamation 9. Legacy 10. Reputation

Gap-Fill: 11. surge 12. suspicion 13. impounded 14. dismembered 15. decomposed 16. trustees 17. governance 18. revival 19. mutual 20. tribute

Matching sentence: 1. aggression 2. respond 3. villainous 4. influence 5. integrity 6. themes 7. disagreement 8. evidence 9. allegations 10. defamation

CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL3

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1. B1



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