



# 5 hours in Media Studies

Research shows that the most successful students (i.e. those that make the most progress and get the highest grades) are doing between 20 and 25 hours of independent study per week by the end of Year 13. That may seem a lot, but it's something that you would build up to over the course of your A-Levels. In Year 12, we're talking something more like 15 hours per week. This equates to roughly 5 hours of independent study per A-Level per subject.

Remember that your independent study is divided into three types – **Consolidation, Reactive and Proactive**. How this is divided may vary from week to week or between subjects but one approach could be:

## Consolidation - 45mins

Straight after a lesson, or that evening / the following day you should reread your notes, talk a topic through with somebody, write summaries, mindmaps, flashcards e.g. for equations, definitions, facts you need to recall etc.

*e.g*

*Disney (Snow White and Shang-Chi): make notes and summaries on how Disney has evolved as a company from 1937 to 2020s; the role of Walt as the driving creative force and the range of his influence; the film process as it moves between production, distribution and consumption/exhibition; the differences in this process between SWATSD and SCATLOTTR.*

*Music Video: make notes and summaries on the videos you have studied considering: the representation of the artist in terms of gender, ethnicity, genre of music and artist identity; meaning constructed through film language of cinematography, editing, mise en scene; the social context of the video; how the video communicates viewpoints and ideologies.*

*Theory: makes notes on summaries on the different theorists that come up and think about they can be applied to any of the products you have looked at in class and beyond.*

*e.g How does the Curran and Seaton theory on media ownership and power relate to the record labels behind Guetta and Sande?*

*How does Baudrillard's theory on post-modernism relate to SWATSD and SCATLOTTR?*

## Reactive – 3hrs

This is your 'homework'. Each of your teachers should give you at least 1 hours' worth of homework each week. This could be linked to upcoming exams, preparation work for coursework or coursework that is currently being completed. *In Media Studies this could include work such as writing up an analytical paragraph on one aspect of the unit; doing background research on a specific topic; learning key facts and details for a knowledge quiz; preparing a presentation on a theory and how it applies to a media product.*

If you find this takes more than 1 hour, that's fine, you can take this from the proactive phase (not from the consolidation phase though). Equally, if you find you finish your reactive work quickly, spend more time on your proactive work.

## Proactive – 1hr 15mins

This is the section that will broaden and deepen your overall understanding of the subject you are studying. It will not necessarily involve work that has been set by your teacher, but instead it is about you doing the extra practice questions, reading articles, watching videos, TED talks etc. In Media Studies this might contain some of the following:

- Complete a set of practice past paper questions – available in the [ALWAYS SOMETHING TO DO FOLDER](#) on Teams
- Use the resources on theorists in the above folder to produce flashcards and resources- even if you have not yet covered them in class
- Produce revision resources for topics- experiment with Cornell notes method
- Creation of knowledge organisers (1 hour)
- “Read, Cover, Write and Check” sections of Knowledge organisers (30 mins)
- Watch a TED talk and other providers on a relevant topic (20 mins)

### Useful links

OCR Subject Page

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/media-studies-h009-h409-from-2023/assessment/>

Media Studies Resources and Revision

<https://mediastudieswlp.wordpress.com/>

Sheldon Teams Revision

Revision Materials

[Revision Materials](#)

Miss Fisher Theorist Playlist

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLm6BhMZgdGbBGcK-GI2lGeXXVS8n4g4b6>



MRS FISHER'S  
A-LEVEL MEDIA  
STUDIES  
GUIDE TO...

**Daily Mail**  
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**DAILY MAIL**  
Industry

The graphic is enclosed in a blue border. It features the Daily Mail logo on the left, a circular portrait of a woman with long brown hair on the right, and a large orange arrow pointing from the portrait to the logo. Below the portrait is a cyan rounded rectangle containing the text 'DAILY MAIL Industry'. The background is white.