



Media Studies

Y13 Revision Guide January – May 2026

Exam Specification	OCR A Level Media Studies H409		
and Exam Board	<u>Specification</u>		
Past Paper Questions	<u>Past Papers</u>		
Useful Revision Websites	Media Attic A Level Media Media KnowItAII		
Exam Info	PAPER 1: H409/01 Media Messages 2 h Mon 14th May Thursdapm PAPER 2: H409/02 Evolving Media 2 h Thu 4th June pm		





Week

Activity 1

Activity 2

05.01.25

Media Messages

Music Videos- Guetta and Sande

Emile Sande's Heaven

Produce mindmaps/notes/flashcards on the following:

- Background of artist
- Narrative of video
- Use of film language in video
- Religious imagery, urban life
- Representation of artist, society, social groups

Fisher on Sande

Evolving Media

Animal Crossing New Horizons

Overview and Industry Context

Task 1: Create a mind map on Animal Crossing: New Horizons (ACNH), covering:

- Release date and platform (Nintendo Switch).
- The role of Nintendo in the video game industry.
- Key features of ACNH.

Task 2: Write notes on the global gaming market and ACNH's success. Include sales figures, critical reception, and its appeal during the pandemic.

Task 3: Develop flashcards for key terms, such as intellectual property, franchise, and audience segmentation.

Media Theory: produce mindmaps/notes/flashcards on the theorists below by watching the relevant Miss Fisher Youtube video, reading and making notes on the relevant LFTD drama theory page and consider their usefulness for assessing news and online news.

Media Language Academic Ideas: Barthes and Todorov

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Media Messages

Evolving Media





12.01.25

Music Videos- Guetta and Sande

Guetta's Titanium

Produce

mindmaps/notes/flashcards on the following:

- Background of artist
- Narrative of video
- Use of film language in video
- Depiction of suburban life, intertextuality to Spielberg etc
- Representation of artist, society, social groups

Fisher on Guetta

ACNH- Representation and Audience Appeal

Task 1: Create a mind map detailing how ACNH represents gender, race, and culture inclusively. Focus on customizability, community-building, and player choice.

Task 2: Write notes on why ACNH became popular with diverse audiences, particularly during the COVID-19 lockdowns. Highlight its themes of escapism and social connectivity.

Task 3: Make flashcards summarizing audience theories, such as Uses and Gratifications and how they apply to ACNH.

Media Theory: produce mindmaps/notes/flashcards on the theorists below by watching the relevant Miss Fisher Youtube video, reading and making notes on the relevant LFTD drama theory page and consider their usefulness for assessing news and online news.

Media Language Academic Ideas: **Neale, Levi-Strauss,**

3 19.01.25 **Media Messages**

Music Videos-Representation

Task 1: Create mind maps comparing how representation is constructed:

Titanium: Representation of youth and vulnerability.

Evolving Media

ACNH

Marketing and Cross-Platform Synergy

Task 1: Create a mind map of ACNH's marketing strategies, including:





Heaven: Representation of morality, faith, and urban life.

Task 2: Write notes linking the representations to wider social and cultural contexts:

Titanium: Perception of young people in media post-2010s.

Heaven: Reflection of societal struggles and hope.

Task 3: Prepare flashcards summarizing representation theories (e.g., Stuart Hall, hooks).

Extra: Explore the use of stereotypes or challenges to them in both videos.

- Trailers and teasers.
- Social media campaigns.
- Collaborations with brands (e.g., fashion, furniture).

Task 2: Write notes on how ACNH leverages cross-platform interest, including memes, YouTube streams, and social media fan engagement.

Task 3: Prepare flashcards on key marketing terms (e.g., viral marketing, convergence, brand partnerships).

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Media Messages

Music Video-Synthesis and Exam Practice

Task 1: Use mind maps to summarize key comparisons between the videos (e.g., themes, representations, audience appeal).

Task 2: Write notes synthesizing all sections (media language, representation, audience, industry). Focus on using examples from both case studies in tandem.

Evolving Media

ACNH Social and Cultural Context

Task 1: Create a mind map linking ACNH to its social context, including its significance during the pandemic and themes of community and self-expression.

Task 2: Write notes analyzing how ACNH reflects broader trends in gaming, such as the shift toward relaxing, non-competitive gameplay.

Task 3: Develop flashcards on theorists like Gauntlett (identity)





Task 3: Test yourself with flashcards on theory, context, and examples.

Extra: Attempt a timed exam-style question or essay based on past papers.

and Jenkins (participatory culture) and their relevance to ACNH.

Media Theory: produce mindmaps/notes/flashcards on the theorists below by watching the relevant Miss Fisher Youtube video, reading and making notes on the relevant LFTD drama theory page and consider their usefulness for assessing news and online news.

Media Language Academic Ideas: **Baudrillard**

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Media Messages

Music Video-Synthesis and Exam Practice 2

Task 1: Attempt 1 or 2 timed exam-style question or essay based on past papers either as full responses or plans only.

Evolving Media

ACNH-Revision and Exam Practice:

Task 1: Use your mind maps to write a concise overview of ACNH, linking it to the exam themes (industry, audience, representation).

Task 2: Write answers to past paper questions or create your own essay prompts.

Task 3: Review all flashcards from previous weeks. Test yourself or a peer on definitions and case study details.

Media Theory: produce mindmaps/notes/flashcards on the theorists below by watching the relevant Miss Fisher Youtube video, reading and making notes on the relevant LFTD drama theory page





and consider their usefulness for assessing news and online news. Media Representation Academic Ideas: Hall, Gauntlett, van Zoonen 6 **Media Messages Evolving Media** 09.02.25 Adverts-Overview and Media Disney- SWATSD & SCATLOTTR-Language **Production Processes** Task 1: Create mind maps for each Task 1: Create mind maps for each advert focusing on: film's production processes: Visual codes (e.g., color, Snow White: Hand-drawn composition, and imagery). animation, multiplane camera, Walt Textual codes (e.g., slogans, Disney's creative control, influence taglines, and font style). of German Expressionism. Techniques (e.g., direct gaze, Shang-Chi: CGI-heavy production, emotional appeal). collaboration with martial arts choreographers, influence of kung fu films and Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon, and modern producer-Task 2: Write notes on how media driven decision-making. language constructs meaning: Dove's celebration of motherhood and inclusivity. Task 2: Write notes on how technology shaped both films: River Island's rejection of stereotypes. Innovation in animation for Snow White. Shelter's urgency and personal narratives. Advanced CGI and action choreography for Shang-Chi. Task 3: Develop flashcards for key media language terms, including Task 3: Create flashcards for key anchorage, connotation, and

signifier.

production terms (e.g., multiplane





Extra: Annotate copies of the print adverts, identifying key elements of media language.

camera, CGI, mise-en-scène, genre influences).

Extra: Watch scenes from both films, focusing on their visual style and production innovations

February Half Term

Media Messages

Adverts-Social and Cultural Context

Task 1: Create mind maps linking the adverts to their social and cultural contexts:

Dove: Body positivity and the backlash against unrealistic beauty standards.

River Island: Shifting cultural attitudes towards identity and labels.

Shelter: Rising awareness of homelessness in 2011 UK.

Task 2: Write notes analyzing how the adverts reflect or challenge dominant ideologies:

Dove's empowerment narrative.

River Island's celebration of diversity.

Shelter's critique of systemic issues.

Task 3: Develop flashcards on key contextual points and

Evolving Media

Disney- SWATSD & SCATLOTTR Distribution Strategies

Task 1: Create mind maps comparing distribution methods:

Snow White: Vaulting strategy, theatrical re-releases, and VHS/DVD sales.

Shang-Chi: Simultaneous global theatrical and Disney+ release.

Task 2: Write notes on how Disney's approach to distribution has evolved:

Snow White: Limited access to audiences in 1937, focus on cinematic events.

Shang-Chi: Accessibility via streaming platforms, impact of the pandemic.

Task 3: Prepare flashcards for key terms like "vaulting," "franchises," and "synergy."

Extra: Research Disney's reliance on franchises and sequels, noting how





relevant media theories (e.g., Barthes' myths, cultural hegemony).

Extra: Write a brief paragraph for each advert connecting its context to its media language and audience appeal. it influences modern distribution.

Media Theory: produce mindmaps/notes/flashcards on the theorists below by watching the relevant Miss Fisher Youtube video, reading and making notes on the relevant LFTD drama theory page and consider their usefulness for assessing news and online news.

Media Representation Academic Ideas: hooks, Butler, Gilroy

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Media Messages

Adverts- Representation

Task 1: Create mind maps on how representation is constructed:

Dove: Representation of real, diverse mothers.

River Island: Representation of individuality and inclusivity.

Shelter: Representation of vulnerability and empowerment.

Task 2: Write notes linking the adverts to societal values and debates:

Dove's challenge to traditional beauty standards.

River Island's response to conversations on identity.

Evolving Media

Disney- SWATSD & SCATLOTTR Consumption and Exhibition

Task 1: Create mind maps on the changing nature of audience engagement:

Snow White: Cinema as a communal experience, novelty of animated feature films.

Shang-Chi: Home streaming, Marvel fan culture, and international box office appeal.

Task 2: Write notes analyzing merchandising and brand loyalty:

Snow White: Early Disney merchandise (e.g., figurines, books).





Shelter's focus on the housing crisis and stigmas.

Task 3: Create flashcards summarizing key theories, such as Hall's theory of representation and Van Zoonen's feminist theory.

Extra: Compare the three adverts, identifying similarities and differences in their approaches to representation.

Shang-Chi: Expansion into toys, apparel, and collectibles tied to Marvel branding.

Task 3: Develop flashcards summarizing audience theories relevant to consumption (e.g., Uses and Gratifications, Reception Theory).

Extra: Compare the advent of Disney+ to the role of cinema in 1937, exploring accessibility and audience experience.

Media Theory: produce mindmaps/notes/flashcards on the theorists below by watching the relevant Miss Fisher Youtube video, reading and making notes on the relevant LFTD drama theory page and consider their usefulness for assessing news and online news.

Media Industries Academic Ideas: Curran & Seaton, Livingstone & Lunt

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Media Messages

Adverts Industry and Audience

Task 1: Create mind maps analyzing industry context:

Dove's connection to Unilever and ethical marketing.

Evolving Media

Disney- SWATSD & SCATLOTTR
Stylistic and Cultural Influences

Task 1: Create mind maps on visual and cultural influences:





River Island's fashion branding and appeal to millennials/Gen Z.

Shelter's charity sector funding and mission-driven advertising.

Task 2: Write notes on how each advert targets its audience:

Dove's use of relatable scenarios for mothers.

River Island's use of diverse casting to reach younger, progressive audiences.

Shelter's direct appeal to those at risk of homelessness.

Task 3: Prepare flashcards for key industry terms, such as ethical branding, niche marketing, and third-sector advertising.

Extra: Research the initial public reception of each campaign and include findings in your notes.

Snow White: German Expressionism, fairy-tale roots, Walt Disney's direct input.

Shang-Chi: Influence of kung fu films, Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon, Chinese mythology, and modern Marvel style.

Task 2: Write notes on the evolving Disney style:

How Walt Disney's vision shaped Snow White.

How Shang-Chi reflects Marvel's formula while incorporating cultural specificity.

Task 3: Create flashcards summarizing key stylistic influences (e.g., Expressionism, kung fu choreography).

Extra: Watch clips from Snow White and Shang-Chi, identifying stylistic similarities and differences.

Media Theory: produce mindmaps/notes/flashcards on the theorists below by watching the relevant Miss Fisher Youtube video, reading and making notes on the relevant LFTD drama theory page and consider their usefulness for assessing news and online news.

Media Industries Academic Ideas: **Hesmondhalgh**





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Media Messages

Adverts-Revision and Exam Practice

Task 1: Use your mind maps to create comparison grids for the three adverts, focusing on:

Media language.

Representation.

Audience targeting.

Industry context.

Task 2: Write notes synthesizing key points from all weeks. Focus on integrating theory, examples, and context.

Task 3: Test yourself with flashcards on terminology, case studies, and theories.

Extra: Attempt a timed essay question or plan answers for past exam questions.

Evolving Media

Disney- SWATSD & SCATLOTTR Exam Preparation and Integration

Task 1: Use mind maps to compare the two films across production, distribution, and consumption:

Highlight key similarities and differences.

Connect these comparisons to changes in technology, audience expectations, and global reach.

Task 2: Write notes synthesizing all key areas, focusing on integrating theory and examples:

The role of legacy characters and franchises.

How merchandise and streaming reinforce brand identity.

Task 3: Test yourself with flashcards on theories, contexts, and case study examples.

Extra: Attempt a timed examstyle question, such as:

"Compare how Disney's production and distribution strategies reflect technological and cultural changes





between Snow White and Shang-Chi."

Media Theory: produce mindmaps/notes/flashcards on the theorists below by watching the relevant Miss Fisher Youtube video, reading and making notes on the relevant LFTD drama theory page and consider their usefulness for assessing news and online news.

Media Audiences Academic Ideas: **Bandura, Gerbner, Hall**

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Media Messages

Magazines- The Big Issue

Overview and Industry Context

Task 1: Create a mind map summarizing:

The purpose and ethos of The Big Issue as a social enterprise.

Its target audience and unique selling points (USP).

How it operates as part of the UK magazine industry.

Task 2: Write notes on the founding of The Big Issue and its mission to support homelessness. Include the magazine's relationship with its vendors.

Task 3: Develop flashcards for key terms such as social enterprise, alternative media, and niche audience.

Evolving Media

R1BS and BBC: Mission and Values

Create a mind map detailing:

The BBC's overall mission: inform, educate, and entertain—how it impacts Radio 1's programming choices.

Radio 1's remit: specifically targets the 15–29 age group, promoting new and British music, and serving as a key part of the BBC's Public Service Broadcasting (PSB) obligations. Radio 1's commitment to "entertainment, youth culture, and innovation" should be emphasized.

The differences between BBC radio and commercial radio, focusing on how Radio 1 serves the public good through non-profit-driven content.





	Extra: Research how The Big Issue compares to mainstream publications in its structure and goals.	Task 2: Write notes on how Radio 1's programming choices (e.g., the inclusion of new artists, live sessions, and national events like BBC Radio 1's Big Weekend) align with its remit. Include references to BBC Trust guidelines on public service broadcasting and its distinct role compared to commercial stations.
		Task 3: Prepare flashcards on essential terms such as:
		Remit (specific obligations outlined by the BBC).
		Public Service Broadcasting (PSB).
		RAJAR (Radio Joint Audience Research) and its significance in measuring audience data.
		Media Theory: produce mindmaps/notes/flashcards on the theorists below by watching the relevant Miss Fisher Youtube video, reading and making notes on the relevant LFTD drama theory page and consider their usefulness for assessing news and online news.
		Media Audiences Academic Ideas: Jenkins, Shirky
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Magazines- The Big Issue Representation and Ideology

Task 1: Create mind maps on how The Big Issue represents:

Social issues (e.g., homelessness, inequality).

Positive narratives about marginalised groups.

Cultural and political topics through its cover designs and features.

Task 2: Write notes linking the magazine's ideology to media theories, such as:

Stuart Hall's representation theory.

Hooks' intersectionality.

Gauntlett's identity theory.

Task 3: Prepare flashcards summarizing the application of these theories to specific Big Issue covers or articles.

Extra: Analyze a specific cover or feature article, annotating how representation and ideology are constructed.

R1BS and BBC: Reaching a Youth Audience and Competition from Music Streaming

Task 1: Create a mind map that outlines:

The unique challenges of reaching the youth demographic (15–29 years), especially with rising competition from streaming services like Spotify and Apple Music.

The role of social media platforms (e.g., Instagram, TikTok) in competing for attention, and how Radio 1 uses these platforms to maintain its relevance.

Specific challenges around digital listening habits—how younger audiences are increasingly turning to ondemand streaming instead of live radio.

Task 2: Write notes on Radio 1's initiatives to reach its target audience, such as the use of podcasts, on-demand content (BBC Sounds), and livestreamed performances. Discuss how these strategies differ from traditional broadcast radio, specifically focusing on youth-targeted shows (e.g., "Greg James" breakfast show).





Task 3: Develop flashcards on the following theories:

Uses and Gratifications: How Radio 1 satisfies its audience's desire for entertainment, information, and identity-building.

Reception Theory: How different audiences interpret Radio 1's programming based on socio-cultural backgrounds.

Extra: Analyze RAJAR data on Radio 1's youth audience engagement versus competitors, particularly focusing on the shift from linear listening to on-demand listening.

Media Theory: produce mindmaps/notes/flashcards on all Media theorists- focussing on those you feel there is room for improvement on.

Easter Break

Media Messages

Magazines- The Big Issue Media Language and Codes

Task 1: Create a mind map exploring the use of media language in The Big Issue:

Layout, typography, color schemes, and cover images.

How these elements challenge or conform to conventions of magazine design.

Evolving Media

R1BS and BBC: Music Programming and Curated Playlists

Task 1: Create a mind map exploring:

How Radio 1's playlist curation reflects its mission to promote new and British music, while balancing mainstream hits with emerging talent.

The difference between Radio 1's curated playlists and the





Task 2: Write notes on the narrative construction of The Big Issue, including the use of intertextuality, symbolism, and anchorage.

Task 3: Develop flashcards on key media language terms (e.g., semiotics, enigma codes, polysemy).

Extra: Compare The Big Issue with a mainstream magazine (e.g GQ) to highlight its alternative media approach.

algorithmic recommendations used by streaming platforms like Spotify.

The impact of playlisting on music consumption, especially in relation to music genres (e.g., the importance of Radio 1 for indie/alternative artists).

Task 2: Write notes on the significance of the Radio 1 playlist structure:

How the playlist is split into categories (A-list, B-list, C-list) and the process behind selecting songs.

The role of live sessions and exclusive content in driving audience engagement.

How Radio 1's curation supports its remit of promoting British music (e.g., the focus on UK-based artists).

Task 3: Create flashcards on terms like:

Curated Playlist (a carefully selected list of tracks, with purpose behind the choices).

Algorithmic Playlist (suggestions based on user data).

Cultural Capital (how cultural references influence the selection of music).





Extra: Listen to a week of Radio 1's playlist to identify emerging artists and trends, comparing them to playlists on streaming services.

Final adjustments to coursework:

- Research and Planning
- Product 1
- Product 2- Website
- Statement of Intent

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Media Messages

Magazines- The Big Issue Media
Audience and Distribution

Task 1: Create mind maps exploring The Big Issue's relationship with its audience:

How it uses direct sales via vendors to build connections.

Its appeal to socially conscious readers.

Task 2: Write notes on The Big Issue's digital presence, including its website and social media strategies.

Task 3: Make flashcards summarizing audience theories (e.g., Uses and Gratifications, Reception theory) and apply them to The Big Issue.

Extra: Explore case studies or interviews with vendors to

Evolving Media

R1BS and BBC: Digital
Convergence and BBC Sounds
Task 1: Create a mind map on
the BBC Sounds app and its role
in Radio 1's digital strategy:
How the app supports the BBC's
mission to offer a 24/7, ondemand experience, providing
access to live radio, podcasts,
and exclusive shows.

The importance of BBC Sounds in retaining younger audiences, who often prefer on-demand content over traditional live radio.

Challenges and opportunities of integrating BBC Sounds with other platforms like YouTube, TikTok, and podcast streaming services.

Task 2: Write notes on digital convergence, including:
How the combination of different media formats (radio, podcast, video, and social media) expands Radio 1's reach. The role of cross-platform promotion in keeping Radio 1





understand how distribution shapes audience perception.

relevant to younger, tech-savvy listeners.

The rise of podcast culture and how Radio 1 is adapting (e.g., The Radio 1 Podcast).

Task 3: Prepare flashcards on: Digital Convergence (how media platforms integrate and crosspromote).

BBC Sounds (BBC's audio-on-demand service).
Multi-platform Strategy (the use of various platforms like radio, online, podcasts, and social media).

Extra: Compare the BBC Sounds app's user experience with that of commercial radio streaming platforms (e.g., Global Player).

Final adjustments to coursework:

- Research and Planning
- Product 1
- Product 2- Website
- Statement of Intent

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Media Messages

Magazines- The Big Issue- Revision and Exam Practice

Task 1: Use mind maps to synthesize key themes across all weeks, focusing on:

Industry context, representation, media language, and audience engagement.

Task 2: Write notes on potential exam questions, e.g., How does The

Evolving Media

R1BS and BBC: Presenter Changes, Legacy, and Market Adaptation

Task 1: Create a mind map analyzing:

Key presenter shifts over the years, from Chris Moyles to Nick Grimshaw to Greg James. How have their presenting styles evolved in response to audience needs and broader media trends?





Big Issue reflect its role as a social enterprise in its media production?

Task 3: Review all flashcards, testing yourself on theory, context, and examples.

Extra: Attempt a timed exam question comparing The Big Issue with another publication, emphasizing its unique approach to representation and ideology

The role of presenters in audience retention and shaping the identity of the show. How does Radio 1 adapt to changes in audience tastes with new presenter appointments?

The impact of presenter-driven content on the show's branding and audience loyalty.

Task 2: Write notes on how presenters like Greg James balance music, celebrity interviews, and audience interaction while adhering to Radio 1's remit. Consider how their shows cater to both older and younger audience segments.

Task 3: Create flashcards summarizing the impact of presenters:

How presenters contribute to station branding.

Presenter-driven content vs. music-led programming.

Extra: Research how changes in presenters (e.g., Greg James replacing Nick Grimshaw) are marketed to the audience. Look into how this impacts RAJAR ratings and audience feedback. and annotate addressing AO2

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Media Messages *Newspapers and Online News*

Evolving Media





Foundation and Terminology

Task 1: Mind Map of Key Terms Create a mind map outlining key terms related to news production, distribution, and consumption. Include terms like:

Production: news gathering, journalism, editing, layout, design Distribution: print, online, social media

Consumption: audience, readership, engagement, click-through rates Economic Factors: ownership, advertising, subscriptions, paywalls

Task 2: Front Page Analysis Analyze the front pages of the Daily Mail and The Guardian from different dates. Identify key features like:

Headline size and font Image placement and size Use of color and layout Story selection and placement Use of language and tone Masthead and branding

Task 3: Online News Analysis Compare and contrast the homepages of the Daily Mail and The Guardian websites. Consider:

Navigation and user interface Story presentation and layout Use of multimedia (video, audio, interactive graphics) Advertising and sponsorship Social media integration LFTD- Introduction to Long Form Television Drama & Contextual Framework

Task 1: Create a mind map outlining the general characteristics of Long Form Television Drama (LFTVD), including:

Narrative complexity and multiepisode arcs.

Character development over time.

The role of production value and series continuity.

The influence of streaming platforms and binge-watching culture.

Task 2: Write notes on the key historical, political, and cultural factors influencing TV drama production today, including:

The rise of streaming platforms (e.g., Netflix, Amazon Prime) and their impact on traditional TV.

The shift from episodic TV to serialized formats and its economic implications for production companies.

The evolving role of global audiences in shaping TV drama content.





Task 3: Prepare flashcards on key terms:

Long Form Television Drama (LFTVD).

Narrative Structure (multiepisode, non-linear storytelling).

Binge-Watching Culture (how streaming platforms alter viewing habits).

Cross-National Production (e.g., the international coproductions seen in both Stranger Things and Deutschland 83).

Extra: Research the historical rise of LFTVDs, focusing on shows that have influenced this genre (e.g., The Sopranos, Breaking Bad).

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Media Messages

Newspapers and Online News

Technological Impact and Audience

Task 1: Technological Impact Research the impact of digital technology on the newspaper industry. Consider:

Production: computer-aided design, digital editing
Distribution: online platforms, social media, mobile apps
Consumption: user-generated content, interactive features

Evolving Media

LFTD Economic Context & Production Values

Task 1: Create a mind map comparing the economic factors influencing the production of Stranger Things and Deutschland 83, focusing on: The budget and production scale of each show, including how Netflix's financial model influences its content decisions. The role of international coproduction in funding and distributing Deutschland 83.





Task 2: Audience Analysis-analyse the target audiences of the Daily Mail and The Guardian. Consider:

Demographics: age, gender, socioeconomic status

Psychographics: interests, values, lifestyle

Media consumption habits: print, online, social media

Task 3: Audience Interpretation Discuss how different audiences might interpret the same news story. Consider factors like:

Pre-existing beliefs and attitudes Cultural background Level of media literacy The economic impact of the global streaming market on the financial strategies of both shows.

Task 2: Write notes on how production values (e.g., cinematography, special effects, and sound design) are impacted by budget and the streaming platform.

Consider how Stranger Things (with its high budget) features more elaborate special effects and '80s nostalgia aesthetics compared to Deutschland 83 (which uses a more understated visual style reflective of the historical setting).

Task 3: Prepare flashcards on terms like:

Co-Production (international funding and distribution model).

Budget Allocation (how funds are distributed for different production elements).
Streaming Model (how platforms like Netflix impact content creation).

Extra: Watch Stranger Things and Deutschland 83 episodes 1, and compare their production qualities. Take note of how production values are impacted by the platform and context of each show.

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Media Messages

Newspapers and Online News Ownership, Economics, and Regulation

Evolving Media

LFTD Social Context & Audience Reception





Task 1: Ownership and Economic Factors

Research the ownership structures of the Daily Mail and The Guardian. Consider:

Impact on editorial independence Influence on news coverage Use of online monetization strategies

Task 2: Regulatory Framework Explore the regulatory framework for the UK newspaper industry. Consider:

Press Complaints Commission (PCC)
Impress
Ofcom
Impact of online news and social
media on regulation
Task 3: Case Study Analysis
Analyze a specific news event
covered by both the Daily Mail and
The Guardian. Compare and
contrast:

News values and selection Journalistic style and tone Use of language and imagery Audience appeal Task 1: Create a mind map focusing on the social contexts influencing the reception of Stranger Things and Deutschland 83, including: The 1980s cultural and social landscape depicted in Stranger Things (nostalgia, suburban America, youth rebellion). The post-Cold War context of Deutschland 83 (the fall of the Berlin Wall, reunification of Germany, tensions of the 1980s).

How both shows reflect generational differences in societal values (youth culture in Stranger Things vs. the political tensions in Deutschland 83). Task 2: Write notes on how these social contexts influence audience reception: How Stranger Things appeals to both the nostalgia of '80s culture and current trends in sci-fi and horror. How Deutschland 83 offers a historical narrative that resonates with viewers familiar with European political history. Task 3: Create flashcards on terms related to audience reception, such as: Nostalgia TV (how shows capitalize on past cultural references). Historical Accuracy (how factual depictions influence reception).

Target Demographics (how social context shapes the intended audience).





premieres of Stranger Things and Deutschland 83. **Media Messages Evolving Media** 18.05.25 **Newspapers and Online News** LFTD Political Context & Audience Targeting, Reach, and Narrative Themes Interpretation Tasks: Task 1: Create a mind map Mind Map: examining the political context of both Stranger Things and Map out audience demographics for Deutschland 83, with particular The Guardian and Daily Mail: emphasis on: The Guardian: Younger, left-leaning, The Cold War backdrop of politically engaged, higher Deutschland 83—its political socioeconomic status. themes around espionage, Daily Mail: Older, right-leaning, loyalty, and East-West German middle-class, interested in celebrity relations. and lifestyle content. The underlying political themes Add branches for how each in Stranger Things—such as newspaper uses tone, language, government secrecy, military and visuals to appeal to their experiments, and the fear of the unknown (linked to the political audience. Notes: climate of the 1980s). Task 2: Write notes on how Explore how personalization and algorithms are used by both outlets these political contexts to engage specific audiences. influence the narrative Analyze the differences in audience structure and themes in both interpretation of the same news shows: event, e.g., political reporting. **How Stranger Things uses** Flashcards: conspiracy theories and government mistrust to shape Terms: Audience segmentation, its plot. personalization, engagement **How Deutschland 83** metrics, target demographics. intertwines personal stories Other Task: with larger political conflicts between East and West

Compare how The Guardian and

Daily Mail frame the same news story on their homepages. Use the

Visual presentation (e.g., image

following structure:

Language used.

choice, layout).

Task 3: Create flashcards on key political terms such as:
Cold War (the geopolitical tension between the Soviet Union and Western powers).

Germany during the Cold War.





Placement of the story on the homepage.

Practice Question:

"Discuss how The Guardian and Daily Mail address their respective audiences through their print and online platforms."

Media Messages

Newspapers and Online News

Practice Exam Questions 1

Task 1: Past Paper Analysis Review past exam papers to identify common question types and themes.

Task 2: Practice Essay Writing
Write practice essays on topics like:

- The impact of digital technology on the newspaper industry
- The role of ownership and economics in shaping news content
- The impact of regulation on the newspaper industry
- The significance of audience in shaping news production and consumption

Political Allegory (how TV shows often reflect contemporary political issues).
Espionage (spying and intelligence gathering as key elements in both shows).

Extra: Compare the political context of Stranger Things and Deutschland 83 with real-world events from the 1980s.
Research the political climate of the U.S. during the Reagan era and the situation in Germany before reunification.

May Half Term

Media Messages

Newspapers and Online News

Practice Exam Questions 2

Task 1: Past Paper Analysis Review past exam papers to identify common question types and themes.

Task 2: Practice Essay Writing

Evolving Media

LFTD Historical Context & Impact on Narrative and Representation

Task 1: Create a mind map analyzing the historical context that shapes the narratives in Stranger Things and Deutschland 83, focusing on: The 1980s as a historical period in both shows: In Stranger





Write practice essays on topics like:

- The impact of digital technology on the newspaper industry
- The role of ownership and economics in shaping news content
- The impact of regulation on the newspaper industry
- The significance of audience in shaping news production and consumption

Things, this includes the '80s cultural markers (fashion, music, tech), and in Deutschland 83, it focuses on the political divide in Germany. How historical accuracy and cultural references influence the storylines (e.g., Stranger Things' '80s tech and fashion vs. Deutschland 83' Cold War setting).

Task 2: Write notes on how both shows balance historical authenticity with fictional elements:
Stranger Things uses real historical events like the Cold War and government experiments but includes supernatural elements to create a fictional narrative.
Deutschland 83 presents historical facts, focusing on the espionage of the era, while maintaining dramatic tension.

Task 3: Create flashcards on terms like:
Historical Drama (shows set in or inspired by real-world events).
Cultural Representation (how a show portrays a particular culture or period).
Historical Revisionism (altering or reinterpreting historical events for narrative purposes).

Extra: Write a short essay comparing how historical contexts influence the narrative direction in both shows. Discuss their representation of the 1980s and how historical events





	shape the viewer's experience
	of the narrative.