



Topic Tests for GCSE Eduqas

Component 2A: Crime Dramas

Second Edition, April 2025

zigzageducation.co.uk

**POD
10277**

Publish your own work... Write to a brief...
Register at publishmenow.co.uk

Follow us on Twitter [@ZigZagMediaFilm](https://twitter.com/ZigZagMediaFilm)

Contents

Product Support from ZigZag Education.....	ii
Terms and Conditions of Use.....	iii
Teacher’s Introduction.....	1
Student Progress Grid.....	2
Write-On Topic Tests.....	3
Topic Test 1: Crime Drama – Genre.....	3
Topic Test 2: Crime Drama – Media Language.....	6
Topic Test 3: Crime Drama – Representation.....	10
Topic Test 4: Crime Drama – Industries.....	14
Topic Test 5: Crime Drama – Audiences.....	17
Topic Test 6: Crime Drama – Contexts.....	21
Non-Write-On Topic Tests.....	24
Topic Test 1: Crime Drama – Genre.....	24
Topic Test 2: Crime Drama – Media Language.....	25
Topic Test 3: Crime Drama – Representation.....	27
Topic Test 4: Crime Drama – Industries.....	29
Topic Test 5: Crime Drama – Audiences.....	30
Topic Test 6: Crime Drama – Contexts.....	32
Answers.....	34
Topic Test 1: Crime Drama – Genre.....	34
Topic Test 2: Crime Drama – Media Language.....	36
Topic Test 3: Crime Drama – Representation.....	38
Topic Test 4: Crime Drama – Industries.....	41
Topic Test 5: Crime Drama – Audiences.....	43
Topic Test 6: Crime Drama – Contexts.....	45
Appendix: 2025/2026 Exam Content: <i>Luther</i>.....	2
Student Progress Grid.....	2
Write-On Topic Tests.....	3
Non-Write-On Topic Tests.....	24
Answers.....	34

Teacher's Introduction

This resource is for use with Eduqas (C680QS) GCSE Media Studies Component 2A Crime Drama and relates specifically to the set products for this course:

- *Trigger Point*, Series 2, Episode 1
- *The Sweeney*, Series 1, Episode 1

A second version of this resource which is relevant to the set product for assessment in **2025** and **2026** (*Luther*) can be found in the appendix at the end of the resource.

The tests can be used for monitoring the progress of students throughout the course and will help to provide regular informed feedback on progress and learning for the teacher and students, and for reporting to parents/carers. The tests can be used as end-of-topic texts, revision quizzes, exam preparation or homework.

The tests are engaging and help consolidate learning, giving students the opportunity to practise applying their knowledge. A range of question styles has been used to expose students to different question types and to give variety in the activities, including practice questions in an exam-style format.

Remember!

Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment material.

Each topic test uses a range of question styles:

- Each topic test starts with factual multiple-choice, tick-box and **short-answer questions**, testing **factual knowledge** and **key vocabulary**. This ensures that core fundamental ideas for each topic are understood by the student. These questions allow weaker students and students who don't enjoy extended writing tasks to test and show their knowledge.
- Questions then increase in difficulty, including **medium-length knowledge, explanation and analysis** questions. These are not in exam style, and the purpose of these is to test different elements, knowledge and skills from the specification in a variety of styles.
- At the end of each topic test there are **exam-style questions**, requiring longer answers. This helps to prepare students for what they might meet in the exam, and to test exam skills.

Mark allocations and answers are provided, which are useful for peer- and self-assessment as well as providing you, as the teacher, an opportunity to assess students' strengths and weaknesses in order to inform the teaching and learning process.

Specification overview table

This table can be used to identify which areas you are teaching and select the appropriate topic test to suit your needs.

Each tests is worth 45 marks in total and should take approximately 45 minutes to complete. However, some tests may take slightly longer, depending on the content covered by the test.

Topic test	Topic test title	Set Products	Total marks
1	Crime Drama – Genre	<i>Trigger Point, The Sweeney</i>	45
2	Crime Drama – Media Language	<i>Trigger Point, The Sweeney</i>	45
3	Crime Drama – Representation	<i>Trigger Point, The Sweeney</i>	45
4	Crime Drama – Industries	<i>Trigger Point, The Sweeney</i>	45
5	Crime Drama – Audiences	<i>Trigger Point, The Sweeney</i>	45
6	Crime Drama – Contexts	<i>Trigger Point, The Sweeney</i>	45

April 2025

Second Edition, April 2025

Minor amendments have been made to the resource so that it is relevant to the set products for exams from 2027.

Student Progress Grid

Students should complete the relevant sections of this grid before and after every progress and identify any areas for further study.

Test number	Topic 	Subject Contexts	Before completing the test			After completing the test			Score out of 45
			Not very confident	Average confidence	Very confident	Not very confident	Average confidence	Very confident	
1	Crime Drama – Genre	<i>Trigger Point The Sweeney</i>							
2	Crime Drama – Media Language	<i>Trigger Point The Sweeney</i>							
3	Crime Drama – Representation	<i>Trigger Point The Sweeney</i>							
4	Crime Drama – Industries	<i>Trigger Point The Sweeney</i>							
5	Crime Drama – Audiences 	<i>Trigger Point The Sweeney</i>							
6	Crime Drama – Contexts	<i>Trigger Point The Sweeney</i>							

INSPECTION COPY

**COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED**



INSPECTION COPY



Topic Test 3: Crime Drama – Representation

Q1. Draw lines to match the words with the definitions.

Term
a) Stereotype
b) Countertype
c) Patriarchy
d) Misrepresentation
e) Under-representation

1. A representation of different people
2. Where the police are in positions of authority
3. Where the police are in positions of authority
4. A fixed idea of people
5. How many different versions of a character

Q2. Fill in the blanks in these sentences with either *The Sweeney* or *Trigger Point*.

- _____ has been criticised for under-representation, as it features very few women.
- _____ may be seen as feminist, as it features a strong female presence and challenges the positions of authority.
- _____ could be seen as patriarchal, as there are very few female characters.
- _____ uses countertype for both police and villains, challenging the idea of the police as perfect heroes.
- _____ has a diverse range of characters, including characters from different backgrounds.

Q3. Circle 'True' or 'False' for each sentence.

- Representations in the media are important as many people believe what they see on television is true. **True or false?**
- Representations in the media always reflect reality. **True or false?**

Q4. Use the words in the box to complete the paragraph. Use each word once.

protagonists
binary oppositions
verisimilitude

Episode 1 of *The Sweeney* was more realistic and had more a) _____ than most of the police dramas that came before it. Before *The Sweeney*, the police were always b) _____ perfect heroes. In *The Sweeney*, the police are c) _____ heroes. The d) _____ between the hero and villain are not as clear-cut as in other police dramas.

INSPECTION COPY

**COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED**



Q5. Look at the image of the London skyline. For each aspect below, briefly explain the setting it constructs.



Trigger Point © HTM Television / ITV, 2024

a) Choice of lighting:

.....

b) Choice of location:

.....

c) Choice of colour palette:

.....

d) Composition:

.....

e) Use of iconography:

.....

f) Absence of characters:

.....

Q6. Select the most accurate definition of the term 'patriarchal'.

- a) Where society is organised for the benefit of men rather than women
- b) A sexist society
- c) A society where men are objectified



INSPECTION COPY

**COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED**



Q7. Look at the image from *Trigger Point* below. For each aspect, briefly explain what is portrayed through the characters. [4]



Trigger Point © HTM Television / ITV, 2024

a) Body language and facial expressions:

.....

b) Positioning:

.....

c) Costume and props:

.....

d) Role in narrative:

.....

Q8. What values are represented by the representations in *Trigger Point*? Briefly explain.

Representations of men (e.g. Commander John Hudson, DCI Thom Youngblood):

.....

.....

Representations of women (e.g. Lana Washington, DSU Hamilton, DI Helen M...):

.....

.....

Representations of people of colour (e.g. Danny, Hassan Rahim):

.....

.....

Representations of the police (e.g. bomb disposal unit EXPO, Metropolitan Police):

.....

.....

INSPECTION COPY

**COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED**



Topic Test 3: Crime Drama – Representation

Q1. Match the words with the definitions.

Term	Definition
a) Stereotype	1. A representation which is very different
b) Countertype	2. Where certain social groups are represented
c) Representation	3. Where certain social groups are not represented
d) Misrepresentation	4. A fixed and sometimes oversimplified image of people
e) Verisimilitude	5. How media language is used to convey

Q2. Copy and complete these sentences with either 'The Sweeney' or 'Trigger Point'.

- _____ has been criticised for under-representation, as it features only white men.
- _____ may be seen as feminist, as it features a strong female presence and challenges traditional positions of authority.
- _____ could be seen as patriarchal, as there are very few female characters.
- _____ uses countertypes of both police and villains, challenging traditional representations.
- _____ is more diverse, including characters from different ethnicities and social classes.

Q3. True or false?

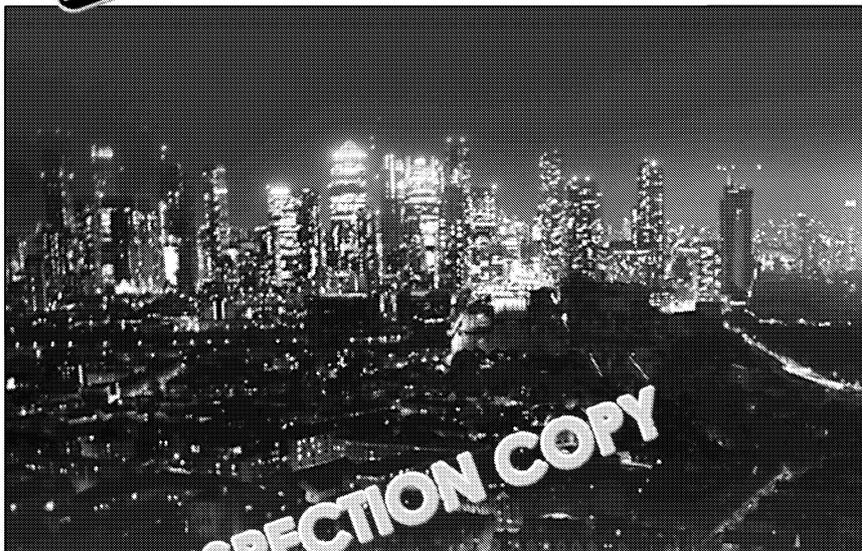
- Representations in the media are important as many people believe what they see on TV.
- Representations in the media always reflect reality.

Q4. Use the words in the box to copy and complete the paragraph below. Use each word only once.

protagonists
 binary oppositions
 verisimilitude

Episode 1 of *The Sweeney* was more realistic and had more **a)** than many crime dramas. Before *The Sweeney*, the police were seen as **b)** as perfect heroes. In *The Sweeney*, the police are also anti-heroes. The difference between hero and villain are not as clear-cut as in *The Sweeney*.

Q5. Look at the image of the London skyline. For each aspect below, briefly explain how the setting is used to create atmosphere and mood.



Trigger Point © HTM Television / ITV, 2024

- Lighting
- Location
- Colour palette
- Composition
- Iconography
- Absence of characters

INSPECTION COPY

**COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED**



- Q6. Select the most accurate definition of the term 'patriarchal'.
- Where society is organised for the benefit of men rather than women
 - A sexist society
 - A society where women are objectified
- Q7. Look at the image from *Trigger Point* below. For each aspect, briefly explain how it is portrayed through the characters.



Trigger Point © HTM Television / ITV, 2024

- Body language and facial expressions
 - Positioning
 - Costume and props
 - Role in narrative
- Q8. What values are conveyed by the representations in *Trigger Point*? Briefly explain.
- Representations of men (e.g. Commanders Johnson and Hudson, DCI Thom Young and his team members)
 - Representations of women (e.g. Lana Washington, DSU Hamilton, DI Helen)
 - Representations of people of colour (e.g. Danny, Hassan Rahim)
 - Representations of the police (e.g. bomb disposal unit EXPO, Metropolitan Police)
- Q9. How far are representations influenced by contexts? In your answer, refer to *Trigger Point* and to *The Sweeney*.

**COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED**

INSPECTION COPY



Preview of Questions Ends Here

This is a limited inspection copy. Sample of questions ends here to avoid students previewing questions before they are set. See contents page for details of the rest of the resource.

Answers

Topic Test 1: Crime Drama – Genre

Q1. The type or style of media product [1]

Q2. [10]

- The lead character is brilliant but corrupt or flawed
- Linear narrative
- Filmed on location
- Iconic signifiers such as police cars, sirens, uniforms, signs of violence
- Realistic locations such as a police station
- Narratives deal with unusual and dramatic events
- Episodes include action sequences
- Episodes usually last for about an hour
- A lot of enigmas
- One main lead character

Q3. [8]

Example	Which
Lana is highly trained in explosives and able to make quick decisions under pressure.	The lead character is flawed
The murder/crime is solved by the end of the episode.	Mainly linear narrative
At the start of the episode, it's unclear who planted the device, or why.	A lot of enigmas
Lana is still emotionally affected by past trauma and struggles with her mental state.	The lead character is flawed
<i>Trigger Point</i> and <i>The Sweeney</i> are filmed in and around London.	Filmed on location
Each episode centres on the discovery of a suspect or explosive device, creating intense danger and suspense.	Narratives deal with unusual and dramatic events
There is usually a high-speed car chase in <i>The Sweeney</i> .	Episodes include action sequences
In <i>Trigger Point</i> , the opening scene includes police tape, vehicles, uniforms, forensic equipment and evidence markers.	Iconic signifiers such as police cars, sirens, uniforms, signs of violence

Q4. [5]

- a) subgenre
- b) procedural
- c) how police solve a crime
- d) psychological
- e) hybrid genre

Q5. [7]

- a) cultural
- b) contexts
- c) repetition
- d) recognise
- e) variation
- f) codes and conventions
- g) interested

Q6. Answers such as: [4]

Trigger Point

- Featured a female lead in a bomb disposal role (Lana Washington), which is rare in traditional gender roles
- Focused on counterterrorism and the EXPO unit, offering a fresh perspective beyond the usual police procedural

The Sweeney:

- A lot of action sequences, such as car chases
- Showed the police as flawed
- Showed the police as corrupt
- Showed the police realistically

INSPECTION COPY

**COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED**



Q7. [10]

Each bullet point below may be worth 2 or 3 marks if there is enough explanation / a *Trigger Point* and *The Sweeney*. Answers should also include some justified conclusion or has not stayed the same. Answers may include points such as:

Stayed the same:

- Crime dramas continue to use familiar conventions so audiences can easily recognise investigations, tense chases, and police characters
- This repetition makes the shows easier to market and ensures they meet audience expectations
- In *Trigger Point* and *The Sweeney*, key crime drama features are used, such as
 - Urban London settings
 - A focus on high-stakes crime (bombs in *Trigger Point*, armed robbery in *The Sweeney*)
 - Action scenes including fights, tense stand-offs, and dramatic resolutions
 - A central lead character working under pressure
- Both shows use **linear narrative structure** and **enigma codes** to build suspense

Changed:

- Crime dramas now include variation to stay relevant, appeal to new audiences and reflect contemporary issues
- In *Trigger Point*, the lead character is Lana Washington, a female bomb disposal expert, contrasting with the male detectives of older shows like *The Sweeney*
- *Trigger Point* features more diversity in gender and ethnicity – Lana's team includes characters like DSU Hassan and senior officers like DSU Hamilton and DI Helen Morgan
- *Trigger Point* explores mental health, especially Lana's PTSD, reflecting a modern focus on the psychological impact of frontline work, something not shown in *The Sweeney*
- The genre has hybridised – *Trigger Point* mixes action, thriller and psychological elements, while *The Sweeney* is more focused on gritty realism and physical policing
- Updated use of technology and counterterrorism themes in *Trigger Point* reflect contemporary issues in today's world

Conclusions

- Answers may conclude that crime drama has or has not changed significantly, or has been introduced due to changes in the social, cultural and political context



**COPYRIGHT
PROTECTED**



Preview of Answers Ends Here

This is a limited inspection copy. Sample of answers ends here to stop students looking up answers to their assessments. See contents page for details of the rest of the resource.