



Media Studies

A Level | Eduqas | A680QS



2017 specification  
Exam from 2021

# Practice Papers

for A Level Eduqas  
Component 2: Media Forms and  
Products in Depth

Third Edition, January 2023

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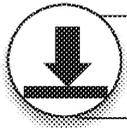
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# Teacher's Introduction

This material is intended to help prepare students for the A Level Media Studies Eduqas (A680QS) 2017 specification for **Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth**.

**Four full examination-style papers** are provided, each one is fully modelled on the examination format of the Eduqas 2017 specification. Each paper includes a mark scheme and indicative content for each question.

All the **set products** for assessment **from 2024** are covered across the four papers with guidance provided for each, covering the key topics for each set product.



Materials from this resource which are relevant to the set products for final assessment are provided on the ZigZag Education support files system, which can be accessed via the link below.

The practice papers include questions relating to all aspects of the theoretical framework and relevant contexts. Detailed analysis of all the set products is provided in the indicative examination question.

## Set products

Television set products:

- *Peaky Blinders* and *The Bridge*
- *Black Mirror* and *The Returned*
- *Killing Eve* and *Tehran*

Magazine set products:

- *Woman* and *Adbusters*
- *Woman's Realm* and *Huck*
- *Vogue* and *The Big Issue*

Online media set products:

- *Zoe Sugg* and *Uggie* (KS1)
- *and go* and *Attitude*

A **mark scheme** is provided for every question which shows the marks awarded for each question and describes the skills and level required to achieve marks in each mark band.

**Detailed indicative content** for each option choice is included, along with a mark question. This gives students (and teachers) a clear idea of what kind of ideas could be used to answer the question. It helps students to improve and develop their knowledge and their exam technique.

Working through all four papers will provide students with an excellent opportunity to test their knowledge, but to get used to the question style, format and approach of the examination skills and techniques. The materials are based on my experience as an examining body, and on the materials provided by Eduqas on their website.

Third Edition, January 2023

This resource has been updated in line with specification changes to set products for exams from 2024.



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## Examination Information

The exam consists of two papers. This section discusses the entire Media exam (this resource provides Practice Papers for Component 2 only).

### Component 2, Media Forms and Products in Depth

**90 marks, 2 hours 30 minutes, 35% of total qualification**

In each section of this paper, there will always be questions relating to *each* pair. You will choose to answer the question relating to *one* pair of set products they have studied.

#### Section A: Television in the Digital Age, 50 minutes, 30 marks

This section will include one two-part question **OR** one extended-response question. Television set products:

- Option 1: *Peaky Blinders* and *The Bridge*
- Option 2: *Black Mirror* and *The Returned*
- Option 3: *Killing Eve* and *Tehran*

#### Section B: Magazines – Mainstream and Alternative Media, 50 minutes, 30 marks

This section will include one two-part question **OR** one extended-response question. Magazine set products:

- Option 1: *Woman* and *Adbusters*
- Option 2: *Woman's Realm* and *Huck*
- Option 3: *Vogue* and *The Big Issue*

#### Section C: Media in the Online Age, 50 minutes, 30 marks

This section will include one two-part question **OR** one extended-response question. Online media set products:

- Group 1: *Zoe Sugg* or *JJ Olatunji / KS!*
- Group 2: *gal-dem* or *Attitude*

In the extended-response questions, which carry 30 marks, you will be assessed on your response, including your ability to develop a clear and sustained line of argument, coherent and substantiated. Your spelling, punctuation, grammar and so on will be assessed. While 30-mark questions may focus on a specific area of the framework, they will

### Assessment Objectives

The examination assesses you against AO1 and AO2. AO3 is assessed via the Non-Exam Assessment (coursework).

#### AO1

- **AO1 1a** Demonstrate knowledge of the theoretical framework of media
- **AO1 1b** Demonstrate understanding of the theoretical framework of media
- **AO1 2a** Demonstrate knowledge of contexts of media and their influence on
- **AO1 2b** Demonstrate understanding of contexts of media and their influence

#### AO2

- **AO2 1** Apply knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework of products, including how they are produced their contexts and through the use of academic
- **AO2 2** Apply knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework of theories
- **AO2 3** Apply knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework of products to draw conclusions

#### AO1/AO2 Totals

Component 2 AO1: 17.5% AO2: 17.5% – **35%** of the total examination mark

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## Using the Mark Schemes and the Indicative Content

The mark schemes are based on those provided by Eduqas.

The mark schemes set out the general expectations and are a general guide, to be

The indicative content is there to show what kinds of points could be considered to be given due credit. There is no expectation that answers must cover only the points listed and certainly no expectation that answers should cover all of the points in the indicative content.

### Examination Tips

- In Component 2, there are 100 marks available and 150 minutes. There are roughly 1.5 minutes per mark, or about 50 minutes for each of sections A and B.
- Expectations of how much can be covered in each answer should be guided by the number of marks available.
- Your 'English' skills and writing ability – known as the Quality of Written Communication (QWC) – is considered in longer (30-mark) questions, the Representation question in Component 2.
- QWC includes spelling, punctuation, paragraphs and developing a clear line of argument. It is the most important factor in awarding marks, but it does count.
- Shorter answers should still be clear and easy to understand, but QWC is not a factor in awarding marks.
- Your answers can show either breadth (covering a lot of points in not much detail) or depth (covering a few points in more detail). There will never be time to cover everything.
- Strengths in one area of your work can outweigh weaknesses in another area. Focus on what you have written rather than what you have not included.

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### Specification Coverage

Each question has a focus on a specific area of the framework, as indicated below, along with the weighting of marks towards each assessment objective (AO).

Component Two			
	Television	Magazines	Online Media
Practice Paper 1	Representation focus AO1 10 AO2 20 Option 1: <i>Peaky Blinders</i> and <i>The Bridge</i> Option 2: <i>Black Mirror</i> and <i>The Returned</i> Option 3: <i>Killing Eve</i> and <i>Tehran</i>	Media Language focus AO1 20 AO2 20 Option 1: <i>Woman</i> and <i>Adbusters</i> Option 2: <i>Woman's Realm</i> and <i>Huck</i> Option 3: <i>Vogue</i> and <i>The Big Issue</i>	Audience focus AO2 15 Industry focus AO1 15 Group 1: <i>Zoe Sugg</i> and <i>JJ Olatunji</i> / <i>KSI</i> Group 2: <i>gal-dem</i> and <i>Attitude</i>
	Industry and Audience focus AO1 20 AO2 10 Option 1: <i>Peaky Blinders</i> and <i>The Bridge</i> Option 2: <i>Black Mirror</i> and <i>The Returned</i> Option 3: <i>Killing Eve</i> and <i>Tehran</i>	Audience focus AO1 10 AO2 20 Option 1: <i>Woman</i> and <i>Adbusters</i> Option 2: <i>Woman's Realm</i> and <i>Huck</i> Option 3: <i>Vogue</i> and <i>The Big Issue</i>	Media Language focus AO2 20 Contexts focus AO1 5 AO2 5 Group 1: <i>Zoe Sugg</i> and <i>JJ Olatunji</i> / <i>KSI</i> Group 2: <i>gal-dem</i> and <i>Attitude</i>
Practice Paper 3	Media Language focus AO1 10 AO2 20 Option 1: <i>Peaky Blinders</i> and <i>The Bridge</i> Option 2: <i>Black Mirror</i> and <i>The Returned</i> Option 3: <i>Killing Eve</i> and <i>Tehran</i>	Industry and contexts focus AO1 25 AO2 5 Option 1: <i>Woman</i> and <i>Adbusters</i> Option 2: <i>Woman's Realm</i> and <i>Huck</i> Option 3: <i>Vogue</i> and <i>The Big Issue</i>	Representation and Industry focus AO1 10 AO2 20 Group 1: <i>Zoe Sugg</i> and <i>JJ Olatunji</i> / <i>KSI</i> Group 2: <i>gal-dem</i> and <i>Attitude</i>

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# ZigZag Practice Exam

## Supporting Eduqas A Level Media Studies

### Component 2: Media Forms and Production

#### Practice Paper 1

Name



#### Time Allowed

2 hours 30 minutes

#### Instructions to Candidates

- There are three sections.
- Answer **ONE** question in each section.
- Some questions are in two parts.
- Cross out any work you do not wish to be marked.

#### Information for Candidates

The number of marks is given at the end of each question or part-question. The number of marks gives an indication of the length of the response required.

Spend approximately 50 minutes on Section A, approximately 50 minutes on Section B, and approximately 50 minutes on Section C.

Answer **ONE** question in each section.

Questions in Section C are in two parts. Answer both part a and part b of your chosen question.

Questions in Section A and Section B require an extended response. In these answers, you will be assessed on the quality of your written response, including your ability to develop a clear and sustained line of argument which is logical, relevant, coherent and substantiated.

In all sections, use relevant theories and subject-specific terminology where appropriate.

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## Section A – Television in the Global Age

Answer *one* question in this section.

Either

### Option 1: *Peaky Blinders* and *The Bridge*

1. Van Zoonen suggests that media representations often portray women as being confined to domestic life and men to the social world of politics and work. How far does *Peaky Blinders* and *The Bridge* support this claim?

Or

### Option 2: *Black Mirror* and *The Returned*

2. Van Zoonen suggests that media representations often portray women as being confined to domestic life and men to the social world of politics and work. How far does *Black Mirror* and *The Returned* support this claim?

Or

### Option 3: *Killing Eve* and *Tehran*

3. Van Zoonen suggests that media representations often portray women as being confined to domestic life and men to the social world of politics and work. How far does *Killing Eve* and *Tehran* support this claim?

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Section B – Magazines: Mainstream and Alternative

Answer *one* question in this section.

Either

**Option 1: *Woman* and *Adbusters***

4. Explore how semiotic analysis of magazines may show how media language ideologies. In your answer you should refer to the set editions of *Woman* and *Adbusters*.

Or

**Option 2: *Woman's Realm* and *Huck***

5. Explore how semiotic analysis of magazines may show how media language ideologies. In your answer you should refer to the set editions of *Woman's Realm* and *Huck*.

Or

**Option 3: *Vogue* and *The Big Issue***

6. Explore how semiotic analysis of magazines may show how media language ideologies. In your answer you should refer to the set editions of *Vogue* and *The Big Issue*.

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### Section C – Media in the Online Age

Use the **two** set online media products you have studied from those listed below

Zoe Sugg	OR	JJ Olatunji / KSI
----------	----	-------------------

AND

gal-dem	OR	Attitude
---------	----	----------

7. (a) Explain how producers of online media products target specific audience psychographics. Use *gal-dem* or *Attitude* to support your response.
- (b) How effectively can online media be regulated in the current context? to support your response.

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# Mark Scheme: Practice Paper 2

## Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth

### General Information

Marking should be positive, rewarding achievement and what is included, and showing omissions.

Marks awarded should be directly related to the marking criteria. Use the generic indicative content for each question to assist in response.

### Indicative Content

Indicative content outlines some areas students may explore in their responses. It is not expected to be a 'model answer'. Students are not expected to include or omit. Students may consider aspects not included in the indicative content, and these should be rewarded.

All the examination questions provide opportunities for students to make informed responses. Such responses should be rewarded appropriately.

### Section A – Television in the Global Age

#### Questions 1, 2 and 3

1. How are media texts marketed to reach specific audiences? Refer to *Peaky Blinders*.
2. How are media texts marketed to reach specific audiences? Refer to *Black Mirror*.
3. How are media texts marketed to reach specific audiences? Refer to *Killing Eve*.

Band	AO1 1a and 1b Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework of media studies	AO2 1 Apply knowledge of theoretical frameworks to the analysis of media products, including advertising, through the application of the theoretical framework
5	<p><b>13–15 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent, thorough and appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>• A thorough and detailed understanding of the marketing materials associated with the set products is demonstrated through detailed and critically informed discussion, with points supported by relevant examples</li> <li>• Effective and detailed application of relevant media theory or theories</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent, thorough knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework applied to the marketing materials associated with the set products</li> <li>• Analysis of the marketing materials associated with the set products is thorough and informed and supported by relevant references to the marketing materials associated with the set products</li> </ul>
4	<p><b>10–12 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good, appropriate application of knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>• A secure and clear understanding of the marketing materials associated with the set products is demonstrated through well-organised discussion; points may be supported by examples</li> <li>• Appropriate and clear application of relevant media theories</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good, appropriate understanding of the theoretical framework applied to an analysis of the marketing materials associated with the set products</li> <li>• Analysis of the marketing materials associated with the set products is supported by relevant references to the marketing materials associated with the set products</li> </ul>

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<b>3</b>	<b>7–9 marks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Satisfactory and largely appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>A reasonable and straightforward understanding of the marketing materials associated with the set products is demonstrated through some discussion, although this may lack depth or detail</li> <li>Satisfactory application of relevant media theories</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Satisfactory and appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework of the marketing materials associated with the set products</li> <li>Analysis of the marketing materials associated with the set products supported by relevant references to marketing materials associated with the set products</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<b>4–6 marks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework, although this may lack relevance and/or accuracy at times</li> <li>A basic and limited understanding of the marketing materials associated with the set products is demonstrated, with limited discussion, and may describe the marketing materials associated with the set products</li> <li>Limited application of media theories, perhaps with some irrelevance or inaccuracy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework of the marketing materials associated with the set products, although this may lack relevance and/or accuracy at times</li> <li>Analysis of the marketing materials associated with the set products, which may be undeveloped, and may lack relevant references to marketing materials associated with the set products</li> </ul>
<b>1</b>	<b>1–3 marks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimal or no knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework, and answer may lack relevance, accuracy and detail</li> <li>Minimal or no understanding of the marketing materials associated with the set products is demonstrated</li> <li>Unlikely to refer to any relevant media theories</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimal or no analysis of the marketing materials associated with the set products, which may not analyse the marketing materials associated with the set products in terms of relevance, accuracy and detail</li> <li>Analysis of the marketing materials associated with the set products, which may be undeveloped, and may lack relevant or appropriate references to marketing materials associated with the set products</li> </ul>
	<b>0 marks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No response, or no work worthy of marks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No response, or no work worthy of marks</li> </ul>

**Indicative Content – Questions 1, 2 and 3**

Answers are expected to show knowledge and understanding of media industries and their products. To achieve marks in the higher bands, answers will use specific examples associated with the set products to support the points made. In the middle bands, a basic understanding of industries and audiences, but examples from the marketing materials associated with the set products are likely to be less effective. In the lower bands, answers are likely to be general, offering few or no examples from the marketing materials associated with the set products.

The indicative content below is not prescriptive. Answers are not expected to include all the valid points should be given discussed.

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## AO1

In demonstrating knowledge and understanding of industry and audiences, answer the following:

- How media organisations use marketing strategies to attract and maintain viewers
- How audiences are segmented by demographics and/or psychographics
- How the marketing mix and methods of marketing may appeal to specific audiences and psychographics
- The use of conventional and new marketing techniques and how this may target audiences
- How patterns of ownership and financing may influence the marketing and advertising of media products
- Hesmondhalgh's views that marketing is an essential means whereby media organisations can manage and minimise risk for their products, by formatting their products through the use of marketing techniques
- Curran's view that the concentration of ownership limits creative and political possibilities, in pursuit of profit
- Neale's genre theory of repetition and difference
- Jenkins' views of 'fandom' where media texts contribute to a participatory culture in the social and cultural lives of fans
- Shirky's view of the 'end of audience'
- Hall's reception theory of an active audience interpreting texts in different ways
- Answers may refer to a range of marketing materials such as posters, television programmes and coverage on the front of magazines, online methods such as social media, such as soundtrack CDs/downloads, T-shirts and so on associated with the series.

## AO2

1. With reference to *Peaky Blinders* and *The Bridge*, answers may refer to the following:
  - The ethos of BBC Two 'to broadcast programmes of depth and substance on issues portrayed in the drama – candidly' may be used to discuss how *Peaky Blinders* reflects the broadcaster's identity
  - The brand identity as a BBC Two drama in *The Bridge* is highlighted and audience who may otherwise be reluctant to try something new
  - The television trailer for *The Bridge* emphasises the detective/crime genre, highlighting a twist or a new take on the genre, promising repetition of key elements including the Nordic noir elements. This is likely to appeal to a primary audience of crime dramas, but also to a secondary audience who find the Nordic aspect of the genre appealing
  - Similarly, the trailer for *Peaky Blinders* reflects the high-budget and high-quality series through the range of technical codes and enigmatic shots leaving enticing viewers to continue watching
  - The extent to which, later in the season, audiences contributed to the success of the series through 'spoaching' elements and creating a fan-made website, demonstrating the role of active audiences in the success of television dramas
  - The Nordic aspect is emphasised through the use of subtitles in *The Bridge* which may appeal to an educated audience, making *The Bridge* likely to appeal to an audience aiming at a psychographic of reformers or thinkers.
  - The ensemble cast and the emphasis on the 'team' in *The Bridge* offer a sense of continuity and familiarity; similarly, the use of a diverse range of actors reflects BBC Two's commitment to diversity as through the inclusion of Irish actor, Cillian Murphy
  - The trailer for *The Bridge* includes several enigmas and a clear narrative which may appeal to an educated audience who enjoy the intellectual puzzles offered by crime dramas. The trailer also establishes the viewer's role as 'armchair detective'
  - The representation of Saga as an unusual and non-stereotypical woman, as a feminist or reformer
  - The advertising for Series 1 of *Peaky Blinders* features predominantly Cillian Murphy's track record in a wide range of film genres
  - The UK scheduling of *The Bridge* was the Saturday 9pm slot, which had previously been used for similar subtitled drama, *Les Revenants*, suggesting to audiences that *The Bridge* was likely to be a similar quality drama.

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2. With reference to *Black Mirror* and *The Returned*, answers may refer to the references to marketing materials, which will vary depending on which materials are used.
- The original release of *Black Mirror* on Channel 4 relied on limited traditional word of mouth marketing. Over time, since its release in 2011, the show has become a 'cultural phenomenon', with many younger audiences discussing the seemingly dystopian world developed by Brooker.
  - The television trailer for *The Returned* sells the show on its genre but also takes a unique take on the genre, promising repetition of familiar elements but also variation. It appeals to a primary audience who enjoy drama but also to a secondary, alternative audience who appreciate the science-fiction aspects, the non-linear narrative and the lack of closure.
  - The online trailer, released for Series 3 of *Black Mirror*, by the conglomerate, is a collection of clips from the episodes of the series, constructing a narrative in itself. It is a marketing tool that uses the enigmatic ending leaves many unanswered questions, and encourages the audience to watch the full series.
  - The alternative audience for *The Returned* may be inherited from similar shows like *The Walking Dead* (1990, 2017), or from other AMC programming, such as *The Walking Dead*. It may appeal to a psychographic of experiencers who enjoy the vicarious thrill and want to seek out something new.
  - Social media sites were used to create a 'buzz' about *The Returned*, focusing on a method likely to appeal to a younger audience who use social media for entertainment information.
  - The secondary trailer for Series 3 of *Black Mirror* – 'Orange is the New Black' – references the cult success *Orange Is the New Black*, featuring character names. This may be argued as a symbiotic relationship, mutually benefiting both shows.
  - The use of institutional names and logos in *The Returned* helps to guarantee a primary audience who would trust Canal+, C4 and the BAFTA awards.
  - *The Returned* was promoted in film magazines such as *SFX* and *Total Film*, which are read by those interested in the genres of science-fiction and horror texts.
  - In *The Returned*, the marketing strategy – novelisation, T-shirts, etc. – encourages a primary audience through fan culture to explore more ways to consume aspects of the show.
  - The promotional interviews about the set episode of *Black Mirror* by newspaper and magazine are aimed at bringing an educated ABC1 audience who are liberal and progressive.
  - The use of a well-known genre in *The Returned*, even with a new twist, helps to attract a primary audience more easily; the development of Series 2, and the spin-off show in the UK, demonstrates how institutions minimise risk and maximise profit by formatting cultural consumption.
3. With reference to *Killing Eve* and *Tehran*, answers may refer to the following references to marketing materials, which will vary depending on which materials are used.
- *Killing Eve* was released during a shift in cultural attitudes; strong female characters. The advertising trailer for the first season reinforced this cultural attitude with an arc featuring Sandra Oh and Jodie Comer, which would hook in audiences who want to see this positive change.
  - *Killing Eve* is based on the novel by Luke Jennings, "I hereby bringing in a new audience captivated by the heroine/villain, Villanelle".
  - The use of social media marketing played a prominent role in *Killing Eve*'s success. The #CrazyForEve hashtag reinforced the importance of audiences in the success of the show in the digital age.
  - Audiences are engaging in 'textual poaching' – creating their own trailers for other television drama on social media such as TikTok and YouTube – representing a new pattern whereby prosumerism is a key factor in the distribution and circulation of media. Therefore, their success.
  - Arguably, the success of *Killing Eve* comes from its casting of Sandra Oh, who has had previous cult successes such as *Grey's Anatomy*.

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- The set episode of *Killing Eve* relies partially on audience's prior knowledge shaped by previous television dramas (the swerve male hero, the 'enemy unit, etc.), but the subversion of these genre tropes, and the female assassin, suggests that these typical conventions do not quite pass muster in a contemporary world. One may argue this was a key marketing technique in 'hooking' audiences into the series.
- *Tehran* is arguably Apple's flagship non-English language television drama on the new streaming service. The premium drama series standard conventions are modelled in response to social anxieties in the Middle East – notably, the ongoing Iran–Israeli conflict. The reference to real events creates a tension between the real and the simulated (Baudrillard), thus acting as a key marketing technique.
- Candidates may also argue that this was a method for Apple to capitalise on global audiences through, for example, codified narratives and recognisable characters; these tropes have global recognition for audiences, thus maximising success while minimising risk, therefore relying on the globalised nature of TV production.
- *Tehran* presents conventionally codified and socially contested gender roles. The characterisation of the brilliant and resolute Mossad agent, Tamar, to subvert the trope, thus showing Apple attempting to deviate from social conformity. This is a key marketing technique in drawing in audiences to a spy thriller 'done differently'. Conventional spy thrillers may rely on more hegemonic representations of gender, therefore minimising risk and maximising success.
- *Tehran* was written and co-created by Moshe Zonder – head writer of another Apple TV+ thriller, *Fauda*. This is perhaps a key way that pre-sold audiences may be drawn to the success of *Fauda*.

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**Questions 4, 5 and 6**

4. Evaluate Stuart Hall's reception theory as well as how far different interpretations of the cultural and historical contexts of the audience. Refer to the set editions of your answer.
5. Evaluate Stuart Hall's reception theory as well as how far different interpretations of the cultural and historical contexts of the audience. Refer to the set editions of your answer.
6. Evaluate Stuart Hall's reception theory as well as how far different interpretations of the cultural and historical contexts of the audience. Refer to the set editions of your answer.

Band	<p><b>AO1 1a and 1b</b> Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework of media</p> <p><b>AO1 2a and 2b</b> Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of contexts of media and their influence on media products and processes</p>	<p><b>AO2 2</b> Apply knowledge of theoretical frameworks to academic judgements</p> <p><b>AO2 3</b> Apply knowledge of theoretical frameworks to judgements</p>
5	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>13–15 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent, thorough and appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>• A thorough and detailed understanding of the set products is demonstrated through detailed and critically informed discussion, with points supported by relevant examples</li> <li>• Effective and detailed application of relevant media theories or theories</li> <li>• Excellent, thorough and appropriate knowledge and understanding of the influence of media contexts on the set products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent, thorough knowledge and understanding of theoretical frameworks and academic theories</li> <li>• Evaluation of academic theories supported by relevant references to set products</li> <li>• Excellent, thorough knowledge and understanding of theoretical frameworks and judgements and</li> <li>• Judgements and conclusions fully supported by relevant references to specific aspects</li> </ul>
4	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10–12 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good, appropriate application of knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>• A secure and clear understanding of the set products is demonstrated through well-informed discussion; points may be supported by examples</li> <li>• Appropriate and clear application of relevant media theories</li> <li>• Good, appropriate application of knowledge and understanding of the influence of media contexts on the set products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good, appropriate knowledge and understanding of theoretical frameworks applied to evaluation</li> <li>• Evaluation of academic theories supported by relevant references to the set products</li> <li>• Good, appropriate knowledge and understanding of theoretical frameworks applied to make judgements and conclusions</li> <li>• Judgements and conclusions supported by relevant references to the set products</li> </ul>

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<b>3</b>	<b>7–9 marks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Satisfactory and largely appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>A reasonable and straightforward understanding of the set products is demonstrated through some discussion although this may lack development</li> <li>Satisfactory application of relevant media theories</li> <li>Satisfactory and largely appropriate knowledge and understanding of the influence of media contexts on the set products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Satisfactory and understanding of the theoretical framework is a</li> <li>theories</li> <li>Evaluation of a straightforward references to the</li> <li>Satisfactory and understanding of the theoretical framework is a draw conclusion</li> <li>Judgements and straightforward references to the</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<b>4–6 marks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework, although this may lack relevance and/or accuracy at times</li> <li>A basic and limited understanding of the set products is demonstrated, with limited discussion, and may describe the set product</li> <li>Limited application of media theories, perhaps with some irrelevance or inaccuracy</li> <li>Basic knowledge and understanding of the influence of media contexts on the set products, although this may lack relevance and/or accuracy at times</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic knowledge of the theoretical framework and academic theories</li> <li>relevance and/or accuracy at times</li> <li>Evaluation of a set of undeveloped, a</li> <li>references to the</li> <li>Basic knowledge of the theoretical framework and judgements and this may lack relevance at times</li> <li>Judgements and undeveloped, a</li> <li>references to the</li> </ul>
<b>1</b>	<b>1–3 marks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimal or no knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework, and answer may lack relevance, accuracy and clarity</li> <li>Minimal or no understanding of the set products is demonstrated</li> <li>Unlikely to refer to any relevant media theories</li> <li>Minimal or no knowledge and understanding of the influence of media contexts on the set products, and may lack relevance, accuracy and clarity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimal or no knowledge of the theoretical framework and evaluate academic theories</li> <li>lack relevance, accuracy and clarity</li> <li>Evaluation of a set of minimal or not</li> <li>Minimal or no knowledge of the theoretical framework and judgements and may lack relevance</li> <li>Relevant or appropriate conclusions are</li> </ul>
	<b>0 marks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No response, or no work shown, or 0 marks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No response, or</li> </ul>

**Indicative Content – Questions 4, 5 and 6**

Questions 4 and 6 require an extended response. To achieve marks in the high band, candidates should develop a sustained line of argument which is logical, relevant, coherent and well supported.

Answers should refer to both set products. For bands 4 and 5, it is expected that candidates refer to both texts; at band 3 and below, coverage may be more unequal. If there is reference to both texts, the answer should be placed in the band which best represents the quality of the response.

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halved. While there is no expectation that students should refer to every page or refer to only one page (such as the front cover) may be limited to the lower level

Answers are expected to show knowledge and understanding of audiences in relation to the set products. In the higher bands, answers will explicitly evaluate Hall's claim that different interpretations of a text are possible. In the middle bands, answers might reflect the social, cultural and historical circumstances of the set products. In the lower bands, answers will explicitly evaluate Hall's claim using specific examples to support the points made. In the middle bands, answers will show knowledge of the set products rather than evaluate Hall's claim. In the lower bands, answers are likely to simply describe aspects of the set product, or not refer to it at all.

Answers should also show judgements and draw conclusions about the relevance of the set products. In the higher bands, answers will engage fully with the debate and draw valid conclusions from the set products. In the middle bands, answers will show partial engagement with the debate and will draw straightforward conclusions largely supported by examples from the set products. In the lower bands, answers are unlikely to engage in debate and may draw conclusions that are not supported by the set products or simply describe aspects of the set product.

Answers may take a range of stances and each stance should be judged on its merits. The list below is not prescriptive. Answers are not expected to include all of the points listed below, but given due credit.

#### AO1

**In demonstrating knowledge and understanding of audiences and evaluating Hall's reception theory to some of the following:**

- Hall's reception theory, and the idea that all media communication is a process of negotiation between producers and audiences decoding texts
- Understanding that audiences do not always decode the text from the same position and that there may be three broad positions from which audiences may decode a text
  - the dominant or hegemonic position, where the audience fully accepts the encoder's intended meaning
  - a negotiated position, where the audience may recognise the intended meaning but also negotiate with it
  - an oppositional position, where the audience may reject the encoder's intended meaning and decode the text in ways not intended by the encoder
- Understanding of how demographic factors such as age and gender might influence audience responses to, and interpretations of, a text
- The idea that hegemonic values change over time
- Other theoretical perspectives, such as:
  - Gerbner's cultivation theory and the effect on audiences of viewing repetitive representations that cultivation tends to reinforce mainstream and hegemonic values
  - Hall's view of the representation of stereotypes and use of familiar icons as a 'road map' for audiences
  - Gauntlett's ideas of media images presenting the audiences with 'role models'
  - Butler's ideas of gender performativity
  - Van Zoonen's views on how representation of women may contribute to the construction of gender
  - Gilroy's view of the continuing influence of colonial discourses

With reference to the older set products, answers should refer to some aspects of the historical contexts of the 1960s, such as:

- Knowledge of the historical contexts of the 1960s, such as:
  - An increase in opportunities for women to work outside the home (following the 'second wave' of feminism) and aspire to be more than a wife or mother
  - The post-war boom in technology and consumer goods; women were targeted by advertising for goods and products, sold as aspirational
  - Most women were housewives, and the home and children were seen as central to their lives

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### *Adbusters*

- The main image on the front cover is likely to appeal only to a psychographic as it challenges the conventions of the form by connoting conflict, aggression and an aspirational image
- The age of the man on the front cover suggests the magazine may be appealing to possibly a largely male audience
- Other audiences may find the front cover off-putting and unpleasant
- The dominant reading of *Adbusters* is unlikely to be accepted by a mainstream psychographic, and only those in the target audience are likely to accept the culture, such as the magazine's focus on the Louboutin advert undermines conventional gender roles. The cover conveys an ideology that draws attention to, and critiques, wealth disparity. It is unlikely to appeal to a psychographic who hold left-wing, potentially radical political values.
- *Adbusters* has a radical environmentalist perspective, suggesting that only those who are likely to accept the dominant reading of the magazine, as indicated by the article 'Planet, Kill Yourself', which critiques humanity's influence on the world warming suggests environmentalism is a topic of current social concern.
- *Adbusters* as a whole conveys ideologies of anti-capitalist non-consumerism. It is unlikely to be accepted by the majority of the population but is likely to appeal to those with radical political values.

5. With reference to *Woman's Realm* and *Huck*, answers may refer to some of the following:

### *Woman's Realm*

- The popularity of *Woman's Realm* suggests that it found a large readership. The dominant reading of the text and accepted the hegemonic values and ideologies of the time.
- How the title of the magazine reflects the social values of the time – that the world is defined by the male. The magazine (e.g. articles about beauty, as well as regular features on children, babies and romantic fiction) reflects a modern woman's world. It is much more focused on work and self-actualisation.
- The magazine's focus on appearance and looks, such as in the article 'Bottled Beauty', reflects the focus on appearance by many modern women, as reflected in the continuing focus on beauty in contemporary magazines.
- How articles such as the 'Picture Treasury of Homemaking' supplement the magazine's focus on women, and how far this has changed in the intervening years, with contemporary magazines still aimed mainly at women.
- How *Woman's Realm* represents love and romance as stereotypically female. The editorial about Valentine's Day, conveying a gender-normative ideology central to a woman's success and happiness; modern magazines may be more inclusive of romance – they may be more inclusive in their language and may also focus on the independent woman.
- How *Woman's Realm* conveys an ideology of consumerism, materialism and capitalism in order to deliver a demographic of readers with disposable income to advertisers. This has changed in the intervening years, with many magazines still reliant on advertising.
- How *Woman's Realm* would have been read differently in the 1960s and how its meaning have different connotations in contemporary society, connoting an old-fashioned view of women.
- How the changes in social, political and economic contexts for women in the 1960s are unlikely to be the dominant reading of the magazine, and are likely to be a negotiated or oppositional reading of historical texts such as this.

### *Huck*

- As a magazine produced outside the commercial mainstream, *Huck* conveys an ideology that challenges the conventions of the form, e.g. on the front cover the main image is anchored with a coverline – 'Female Fighters' – that emphasises her role. The magazine's focus on representations usually found on front covers of women's or lifestyle magazines.

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- usual codes and expectations of consumer magazines, and is likely to appeal to reformers and thinkers, to feminists and to those who reject many conventional values
- How far articles such as ‘Ocalan’s Angels’ convey an ideology that criticises oppression to class and race as much as to gender; this ideology is unlikely to appeal to a mainstream demographic and psychographic, and only those in the target audience are likely to accept the dominant reading of the magazine
- How far *Huck* conveys an ideology that critiques and challenges hegemony common in contemporary mainstream media through its exploration of countercultures, such as the article titled ‘Teenage Utopia’, and whether these views are likely to appeal to the dominant reading of the article
- How far the set edition of *Huck* challenges and moves beyond binary views; the article ‘Beyond Binary’, the dominant reading is likely to be accepted only by a niche psychographic of hegemonic values
- How *Huck* as a whole operates as a sign, conveying ideologies of counterculture, such as having an issue subtitled ‘The Defiance Issue’; this dominant reading is likely to be accepted by the majority of the population but is likely to be accepted by a niche psychographic

6. With reference to *Vogue* and *The Big Issue*, answers may refer to some of the following:

#### *Vogue*

- The popularity of *Vogue* suggests that it found a large readership who accepted the text and accepted the hegemonic values and ideologies conveyed by the text
- How the contents page of *Vogue* signifies what a wealthy woman’s interests are: ‘Fashion and beauty’ but also travel, entertaining and shopping, which is accepted by many modern women, as reflected in the continuing focus on entertainment in today’s magazines
- How the images of women, such as those used in the advertorial titled ‘Revlon’, and in the ‘Bare Essentials’ advert for Lux, convey an ideology of their key quality; again, the continued popularity of magazines such as *Vogue* focus on beauty and fashion suggest that modern readers may still accept these ideologies
- How far *Vogue* conveys an ideology of travel, consumerism, material gain and order to deliver a psychographic of readers with disposable income to accept these ideologies in intervening years, with many magazines still reliant on advertising
- How *Vogue* may have been seen as advanced, even feminist, in the 1960s, but as a sign of money and travel
- How the 1960s *Vogue* magazine may be read differently than in contemporary contexts, connoting an old-fashioned, restrictive and sexist view of women
- How the changes in social, political and economic contexts for women in the 1960s mean that audiences today are unlikely to accept the dominant reading of the text, and are likely to take a negotiated or oppositional reading of historical texts such as *Vogue*

#### *The Big Issue*

- As a magazine largely sold direct to readers from the vendors, many of whom are homeless, *The Big Issue* is likely to appeal to a psychographic of reformers who seek to support homeless people by purchasing the magazine from the vendors
- How far the set edition of *The Big Issue* challenges conventional notions of success, as ‘My Pitch’ featuring 70-year-old Donato Pizzetti, this dominant reading is likely to be accepted by the majority of the population, and is more likely to be accepted by those in the target audience
- How far *The Big Issue* champions a psychographic of countercultural and non-mainstream values, *Daniel Blake*, offering an ideology that does not see the profits of the measure of success; this is likely to appeal to a psychographic such as reformers and those who support a range of non-mainstream cultural products
- By conveying ideologies of anti-poverty and empowering homeless people, *The Big Issue* challenges aspects of consumer capitalist culture, such as in the editorial statement ‘I’m a rebel’, a raised rebel voice that challenges orthodoxy and standardised received ideologies; this clear political stance that is unlikely to be accepted by a mainstream demographic, and only those in the target audience are likely to accept the dominant reading

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## Section C – Media in the Online Age

### Questions 7a and 7b

7. (a) How far can *KSI* or *Zoe Sugg* be considered postmodern? In your answer refer to relevant academic theories.

Band	AO1 1a and 1b Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework
	<b>13–15 marks</b>
<b>5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excellent, thorough and appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>Excellent, thorough and appropriate knowledge and understanding of the influence of media contexts on the set product</li> <li>Links between the set product and relevant contexts are insightful</li> <li>Judgements and conclusions are perceptive and fully supported by references to the set product</li> </ul>
	<b>10–12 marks</b>
<b>4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good, appropriate application of knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>Good, appropriate application of knowledge and understanding of the influence of media contexts on the set product</li> <li>Links between the set product and relevant contexts are effective</li> <li>Judgements and conclusions are effective and supported by references to the set product</li> </ul>
	<b>7–9 marks</b>
<b>3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Satisfactory and largely appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>Satisfactory and largely appropriate knowledge and understanding of the influence of media contexts on the set product</li> <li>Links between the set product and relevant contexts are valid and clear</li> <li>Judgements and conclusions are straightforward and supported by references to the set product</li> </ul>
	<b>4–6 marks</b>
<b>2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework, although this may lack relevance and/or accuracy at times</li> <li>Basic knowledge and understanding of the influence of media contexts on the set product, although this may lack relevance and/or accuracy at times</li> <li>Links between the set product and relevant contexts are undeveloped</li> <li>Judgements and conclusions are basic and undeveloped, and only supported by a few references to the set product</li> </ul>
	<b>1–3 marks</b>
<b>1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimal or no knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>Minimal or no knowledge and understanding of the influence of media contexts on the set product, and answer may lack relevance, accuracy and clarity</li> <li>Links between the set product and relevant contexts are general and unclear</li> <li>Relevant or appropriate judgements and conclusions are lacking</li> </ul>
	<b>0 marks</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No response, or no work worthy of marks</li> </ul>

### Indicative Content – Question 7a

Answers are expected to show knowledge and understanding of media language and theory. Answers in the higher bands will show clear understanding of hyperreality, specifically on postmodernism and Baudrillard's ideas, applying them to specific examples from the set product. In the middle bands, answers will show knowledge of hyperreality, but engagement with theory will be less effective. Examples from the set product may be more generalised. In the lower bands, answers may show limited awareness of hyperreality, simply describe rather than apply it, or give a few examples from the set product.

Answers may take a range of stances and each stance should be judged on its merits. The indicative content below is not prescriptive. Answers are not expected to include all of the points listed, but to cover the given due credit.

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## AO1

Answers should apply knowledge and understanding of aspects of media language framework of media, such as:

- Baudrillard's views of hyperreality:
  - The idea that we are all living in a culture where boundaries between the media have become blurred or collapsed
  - It is increasingly difficult to distinguish between mediated reality and objective reality
  - The simulated world is reliant on images or simulacra which refer more to objective reality
  - The simulated world becomes hyperreality where the audiences become that it seems more real than the reality it represents
  - Hyperreality becomes a barrier which restricts audiences from experiencing the real
- Shirky's views of the 'end of audience', such as:
  - The idea that the Internet and other digital technologies have changed audiences and consumers, and that audiences cannot be seen as passive rather as contributors and participants who adapt and circulate existing content, sharing their own texts
- Hall's reception theory of an active audience interpreting texts in different ways
- The extent to which the hyperreality of the set product can be viewed as part of a specialised audience and deliver this audience to advertisers

With reference to *KSI*, answers may refer to the following:

- *KSI's* persona extends way beyond his YouTube personality (a constructed self) as the 'Sidemen' channel reflect the blending of his real and simulated personalities
- The nature of YouTube production can be considered hyperreal in its own right as cutting and *KSI's* self-reflexivity all construct a particular representation of the audience only experience a 'window' into his life rather than seeing everything as simulacra (perhaps through his extensive 'far back' social media interactions)
- *KSI's* YouTube channel presents audiences with a believable personality through choices such as an informal mode of address, casual editing style (leaving in more conversational and vlogging style videos) as well as the mise-en-scene of *KSI's* best friend, which is relatable for its younger audience demographic. Thus allowing audiences to 'identify' with a character whose values are similar to their own.
- The extent to which *KSI's* social media output constructs a 'raw' and unfiltered highly constructed version reflecting 'stardom'
- The release of successful singles such as 'Not Over Yet' and 'Holiday' with other changes *KSI's* casual and down-to-earth personality and instead focuses on a more 'glossy' and heavily edited in order to appeal to a wider audience

With reference to *Zoe Sugg*, answers may refer to the following:

- *Zoe Sugg* is part of the media saturation of today's world, where audiences experience the world through the lens of *Zoe Sugg's* experiences, rather than directly experiencing the world
- *Zoe Sugg* is part of the culture where stardom and celebrity status are the new 'normal' qualities
- Stardom is conveyed through the flood of images and the subject (*Zoe*), who uses to convey a particular image, and also through her constructed and real personality
- The use of a casual and informal mode of address using a lot of slang, colloquial language creates a feeling of mediated access and friendship
- Audiences are encouraged to believe that the persona and images represent the casual and informal mode of address in the language used, and the occasional images of her are presented alongside the majority of constructed images of her view of reality
- References to her issues with anxiety help *Zoe Sugg* present herself as real, while simultaneously presenting a lifestyle that few could achieve or emulate

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- *Zoe Sugg* has links to social media sites such as Instagram, Twitter and Snapchat or simulacra which contribute to hyperreality
- The self-referential and 'closed' world of many YouTubers – in which they interact with celebrities – creates a world far removed from the reality of most people. *Alfie Deyes* from *PointlessBlog*, her famous brother, *Joe Sugg*, and her friend *Fearne Cotton*

**Question 7b**

7b. How far do online media products reflect the context in which they are produced with reference to *gal-dem* or *Alfie Deyes*

Band	AO2 1 Apply knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework to analyse products, including in relation to their contexts and through the application of judgements and draw conclusions
5	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>13–15 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent, thorough and appropriate knowledge and understanding applied to analyse the set product</li> <li>• Analysis of the set product is perceptive, critically informed and fully supported by references to specific aspects of the set product</li> <li>• Excellent, thorough and appropriate knowledge and understanding applied to make judgements and draw conclusions</li> <li>• Judgements and conclusions are perceptive and fully supported by references to specific aspects of the set product</li> </ul>
4	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10–12 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good, appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework applied to analyse the set product</li> <li>• Analysis of the set product is effective and supported by references to specific aspects of the set product</li> <li>• Good, appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework applied to make judgements and draw conclusions</li> <li>• Judgements and conclusions are effective and supported by references to specific aspects of the set product</li> </ul>
3	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>7–9 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Satisfactory and largely appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework applied to analyse the set product</li> <li>• Analysis of the set product is straightforward and supported by some references to specific aspects of the set product</li> <li>• Satisfactory and largely appropriate knowledge and understanding applied to make judgements and draw conclusions</li> <li>• Judgements and conclusions are straightforward and supported by some references to specific aspects of the set product</li> </ul>
2	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>4–6 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework is applied to analyse the set product, although this may lack relevance and/or accuracy at times</li> <li>• Analysis of the set product is basic and undeveloped, and only partially supported by references to the set product</li> <li>• Basic knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework is applied to make judgements and draw conclusions, although this may lack relevance and/or accuracy</li> <li>• Judgements and conclusions are basic and undeveloped, and only partially supported by references to the set product</li> </ul>
1	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>1–3 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimal or no knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework is applied to analyse the set product; answer may lack relevance, accuracy and clarity</li> <li>• Analysis of the set product is either minimal or not relevant or appropriate</li> <li>• Minimal or no knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework is applied to make judgements and draw conclusions, and answer may lack relevance, accuracy and clarity</li> <li>• Relevant or appropriate judgements and conclusions are lacking</li> </ul>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>0 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No response, or no work worthy of marks</li> </ul>

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**Indicative Content – Question 7b**

Answers are expected to show knowledge and understanding of the influence of the set product. To achieve marks in the higher bands, answers will show detailed understanding of applying them to specific examples from the set product. In the middle bands, answers will show an understanding of media contexts and the set product, but the links between them are less clear. In the lower bands, answers are likely to show limited awareness of relevant contexts and the set product are likely to be undeveloped.

The indicative content below is not prescriptive. Answers are not expected to include all the valid points should be given due credit.

**AO2**

Answers should apply knowledge and understanding of media contexts, such as:

- How the representations, themes, values and ideologies within the text reflect their contexts
- How political contexts operate in relation to models of funding and ownership; orientation of owners might be reflected in the texts produced, and how they can influence the political values of a text
- How relevant political contexts – for example, capitalism, consumerism, liberal values regarding gender and so on may influence texts
- How texts may be influenced by contexts, but also contribute to, and influence contexts
- How far texts are influenced by the need to maintain audiences, please their advertisers
- Answers may also refer to:
  - Curran and Seaton's view that the concentration of ownership limits creative and political ideologies, in pursuit of profit
  - Hesmondhalgh's view that companies may conform to mainstream values in order to maximise profit
  - van Zoonen's views on how representations of women may contribute to the construction of gender

**AO2**

With reference to *gal-dem*, answer the following, supported by specific evidence which will vary depending on the website accessed:

- *gal-dem* is run by a small-scale independent publisher, which suggests it is outside the constraints of the 'cultural industries' and to take a less hegemonic approach
- *gal-dem*'s content and niche appeal suggest it may have radical potential to offer creative and different from the mainstream media
- *gal-dem* takes a deliberate political stance which seeks to influence the current media landscape. Its mission statement on its 'About' page states: 'The current journalistic landscape is male and *gal-dem* is actively trying to redress this imbalance in media more broadly and commercial work' (site accessed 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019). As such, *gal-dem* has become a respected voice in the media landscape. For example, in August 2018 *gal-dem* was invited by prestigious national *Weekend* magazine, to produce an edition with greater diversity
- *gal-dem*'s editorial policy is to 'empower and support the creative work of young, binary people of colour through disrupting tired stereotypes and showcasing their part of discussions in a whitewashed media environment' (on the 'About' page)
- *gal-dem* currently refuses advertising, which gives it greater editorial control and a need to support consumerism or industries such as the beauty industry, which advertise on a site aimed at young women. This gives *gal-dem* some freedom from the magazine/online industry.
- The site features representations of gender, race and sexuality that challenge hegemonic ideas about them. Positive representation is, such as in article 'Vibrant black womanhood' or 'Asian' by Habiba Katsha (site accessed 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019)
- *gal-dem* was set up to address a 'gap in the market' and to reflect the voices of an under-represented social group
- Overall, *gal-dem* occupies a politically important niche which gives a voice to an under-represented social group; it frequently features radical content which reflects the position of society today and is likely to contribute to making their position more powerful

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With reference to *Attitude*, answers may refer to the following, supported by specific evidence, which will vary depending on when the website was accessed:

- *Attitude* is produced by a small-scale independent publisher, which suggests it is created outside the constraints of the 'cultural industries' and to take a less hegemonic approach to content
- *Attitude's* content and niche appeal suggest it may have radical potential to be more creative and different from the mainstream media
- *Attitude* takes a pro-LGBTQ-rights stance in all of its stories, e.g. the news item 'Tasmania Could Make It Illegal To Refuse To Call People By Their Preferred Pronouns' (December 2018), which clearly opposes the government's stance on presenting a pro-LGBTQ-rights stance
- *Attitude* particularly focuses on gay male champions, the gay male lifestyle, for example a feature page on 'Boys' which hosts many image-led items showing off the male body as a positive political stance, bringing gay values further into the mainstream and appealing to young women and other members of the LGBTQ community
- *Attitude* operates in an economic context where revenue is gained largely from advertising sales, so the site features frequent advertisements, News stories and entertainment 'sponsored content' click bait stories. These lead audiences to advertisers' sites (e.g. a Health Product presented as a news article titled 'Say goodbye to stomach aches' accessed 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018)
- *Attitude* remains brand compliant by promoting ideologies of consumerism and hedonism to its brand partners
- As a result, content tends to feature a lot of traditional celebrity material, which appeals to advertisers. Such content helps to position the advertisers' products by encouraging hedonism, idealism, escapism and consumerism.
- Overall, *Attitude* occupies a politically important niche which gives a voice to a marginalised social group; it has some radical content which reflects the position of LGBTQ people and is likely to contribute to making their position more powerful and visible

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# ZigZag Practice Exam

## Supporting Eduqas A Level Media Studies

### Component 2: Media Forms and Production

### Practice Paper 2

Name



#### Time Allowed

2 hours 30 minutes

#### Instructions to Candidates

- There are three sections.
- Answer **ONE** question in each section.
- Some questions are in two parts.
- Cross out any work you do not wish to be marked.

#### Information for Candidates

The number of marks is given at the end of each question or part-question. The number of marks gives an indication of the length of the response required.

Spend approximately 50 minutes on Section A, approximately 50 minutes on Section B, and approximately 50 minutes on Section C.

Answer **ONE** question in each section.

Questions in Section B are in two parts. Answer both part a and part b of your chosen question.

Questions in Section A and Section C require an extended response. In these answers, you will be assessed on the quality of your written response, including your ability to develop a clear and sustained line of argument which is logical, relevant, coherent and substantiated.

In all sections, use relevant theories and subject-specific terminology where appropriate.

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Section A – Television in the Global Age

Answer *one* question in this section.

Either

**Option 1: *Peaky Blinders* and *The Bridge***

1. To what extent are genres marked as much by variation as by repetition? Discuss with reference to *Peaky Blinders* and *The Bridge*. You should refer to relevant media theories.

Or

**Option 2: *Black Mirror* and *The Returned***

2. To what extent are genres marked as much by variation as by repetition? Discuss with reference to *Black Mirror* and *The Returned*. You should refer to relevant media theories.

Or

**Option 3: *Killing Eve* and *Tehran***

3. To what extent are genres marked as much by variation as by repetition? Discuss with reference to *Killing Eve* and *Tehran*. You should refer to relevant media theories in your answer.

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**Section B – Magazines: Mainstream and Alternative**

Answer **one** question in this section. Each question has to

Either

**Option 1: *Woman's Realm* and *Adbusters***

4. a. How has the move towards digitally convergent platforms affected media circulation of magazines? Refer to the set edition of *Adbusters* in your answer.
- b. Magazines are produced in social and economic contexts. Discuss how content, production and distribution of magazines. Refer to the set edition of *Woman's Realm*.

Or

**Option 2: *Woman's Realm* and *Huck***

5. a. How has the move towards digitally convergent platforms affected media circulation of magazines? Refer to the set edition of *Huck* in your answer.
- b. Magazines are produced in social and economic contexts. Discuss how content, production and distribution of magazines. Refer to the set edition of *Woman's Realm*.

Or

**Option 3: *Vogue* and *The Big Issue***

6. a. How has the move towards digitally convergent platforms affected media circulation of magazines? Refer to the set edition of *The Big Issue* in your answer.
- b. Magazines are produced in social and economic contexts. Discuss how content, production and distribution of magazines. Refer to the set edition of *Vogue*.

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### Section C – Media in the Online Age

Use the **two** set online media products you have studied from those listed below

Zoe Sugg	OR	JJ Olatunji / KSI
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AND

gal-dem	OR	Attitude
---------	----	----------

7. To what extent do online media texts offer an increased potential for new representations? Refer to *Zoe Sugg* or *KSI* and *gal-dem* or *Attitude*. In your answer, refer to relevant academic theories and media contexts.

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## **Preview of Questions Ends Here**

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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.

# Mark Scheme: Practice Paper 4

## Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth

### General Information

Marking should be positive, rewarding achievement and what is included, and showing omissions.

Marks awarded should be directly related to the marking criteria. Use the generic indicative content for each question to assist in response.

### Indicative Content

Indicative content is not exhaustive. In some areas students may explore in their responses. The expected content is not a 'model answer'. Students are not expected to include or omit. Students may consider aspects not included in the indicative content, and these

All the examination questions provide opportunities for students to make informed judgements. Such responses should be rewarded appropriately.

### Section A – Television in the Global Age

#### Questions 1a, 2a and 3a

- 1a. How important are Barthes' enigma codes to the narrative of the set episode?
- 2a. How important are Barthes' enigma codes to the narrative of the set episode?
- 3a. How important are Barthes' enigma codes to the narrative of the set episode?

Band	AO2 1 Apply knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework of media products, including in relation to their contexts and through the analysis of their forms and functions AO2 3 Apply knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework of media products to make judgements and draw conclusions
5	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>13–15 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent, thorough and appropriate knowledge and understanding is applied to analyse the set product</li> <li>• Analysis of the set product is perceptive, critically informed and fully supported by references to specific aspects of the set product</li> <li>• Excellent, thorough and appropriate knowledge and understanding is applied to make judgements and draw conclusions</li> <li>• Judgements and conclusions are perceptive and fully supported by references to specific aspects of the set product</li> </ul>
4	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10–12 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good, appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework is applied to analyse the set product</li> <li>• Analysis of the set product is effective and supported by references to specific aspects of the set product</li> <li>• Good, appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework is applied to make judgements and draw conclusions</li> <li>• Judgements and conclusions are effective and supported by references to specific aspects of the set product</li> </ul>
3	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>7–9 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Satisfactory and largely appropriate knowledge and understanding is applied to analyse the set product</li> <li>• Analysis of the set product is straightforward and supported by some references to specific aspects of the set product</li> <li>• Satisfactory and largely appropriate knowledge and understanding is applied to make judgements and draw conclusions</li> <li>• Judgements and conclusions are straightforward and supported by some references to specific aspects of the set product</li> </ul>

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2	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>4–6 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework product, although this may lack relevance and/or accuracy at times</li> <li>• Analysis of the set product is basic and undeveloped, and only partial to the set product</li> <li>• Basic knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework and draw conclusions, although this may lack relevance and/or accuracy</li> <li>• Judgements and conclusions are basic and undeveloped, and only partial references to the set product</li> </ul>
1	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>1–3 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimal or no knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework product; answer may lack relevance, accuracy and clarity</li> <li>• Analysis of the set product is either minimal or not relevant or appropriate</li> <li>• Minimal or no knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework judgements and draw conclusions, and answer may lack relevance and clarity</li> <li>• Relevant or appropriate judgements and conclusions are lacking</li> </ul>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>0 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No response, or no work worthy of marks</li> </ul>

### Questions 1a, 2a and 3a – Indicative content

Answers are expected to show knowledge and understanding of media language. To achieve marks in the higher bands, answers will show clear understanding of enigma codes, aspects of narrative, and will draw specifically on Barthes' ideas, applying them to the set product. In the middle bands, answers will show knowledge of enigma codes and the theory is likely to be less effective and examples from the set product may be limited. In the lower bands, answers are likely to show limited awareness of enigma codes, may simply describe the set product, or not refer to enigma codes or narrative at all, with few examples.

Answers may take a range of stances and each stance should be judged on its merits. The list below is not prescriptive. Answers are not expected to include all of the points listed, given due to the range of possible responses.

### AO2

Answers should apply knowledge and understanding of aspects of media language and the framework of media, such as:

- Barthes' enigma codes:
  - Enigma codes or hermeneutic codes can be viewed as any element of the narrative that is not explained, and that, as a result, acts as an enigma for audiences
  - Narratives often offer many enigmas, especially at the start, and these are resolved for the audience
  - Narrative closure is achieved through the resolution of enigmas and reveals the meaning of the narrative
  - Enigmas often feature in the 'disruption' stage of the narrative, and are resolved in the final stage of the narrative
  - Enigmas can be created through the use of non-linear narratives, flashbacks, foreshadowing, story arcs and other methods
  - Enigmas are central to some genres

Answers may also refer to:

- Todorov's narratology:
  - All narratives share a similar underlying structure with a movement from a state of equilibrium to a state of equilibrium
  - Between these two states is a period of disruption or imbalance
  - The resolution of the narrative often has ideological significance
  - Enigma codes occur frequently in the disruption stage of the narrative
- Audience expectations of the genre, and audience pleasures in trying to solve the enigmas answered

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- 1a. With reference to *The Bridge*, answers may refer to the following:
- The series relies on several Nordic noir tropes to the success of the narrative – conventionally generic in nature – perhaps suggesting that the way the ‘armchair detectives’ is more important in its success than the use of evidence
  - The series’ success could also be attributed to the socially contended gender representation as a driven and dedicated inspector could be a drawing card
  - The use of Nordic noir conventions, such as the use of long takes with slow motion, focus on revealing dark secrets and corruption, could both be considered as tropes, thus contributing to the drama’s success
  - The uniqueness of the bleak noir aspects and modern representation of an uncommon female lead and the emphasis on contemporary themes like terrorism
  - The enigma of the Anker’s murder – codified as an enigmatic narrative with a focus on the ‘whodunnit’
  - The first episode leaves many unanswered questions, and thus can be considered as ‘hooking’ audiences into further viewing
  - With its unconventionally codified psychological elements, the comparison of Sweden and Denmark (Strauss, Structuralism), and its blatant challenge to the idea that Scandinavian nations are secure and idealistic, the drama can be seen as a subversion of the Nordic noir genre and may serve as an allegory for its viewers
- 2a. With reference to *The Returned*, answers may refer to the following:
- The genre of supernatural/mystery drama relies on enigma codes
  - A key enigma is set up by the return of the dead characters – this provides a narrative equilibrium
  - The enigma of the returned is key to the episode – whether they are dead or good, whether they will continue to live in the community, grow up or stay the same, the dead have returned, why those who died at different times are all returning, and so on – this enigma continues throughout the narrative arc of the entire series
  - A further enigma is added by the possible importance of the dam and the fact that this links to the return of the previously dead
  - The first episode can be seen as a ‘teaser’ for the whole series, with flashbacks, an enigma, and a narrative line having its own enigmas to hook the audience
  - Several enigmas are resolved by the end of the initial episode
  - Other enigma codes link to the narrative arc of each character:
    - the attack on Lucy and potential links to other attacks through the narrative
    - whether the attack is linked to the return of the previously dead
    - who Victor is and why he has chosen Julie, and whether this links to the return of the dead
    - why the bus crashed in the first place, and whether Victor caused the crash by doing in the road by himself, and why does he appear to have no fear
    - how Adele will react to the return of Simon, and how he will react to his new partner
  - Intertextual links to surreal texts such as *Twin Peaks* (1990, 2017) add to the enigma
  - The use of flashbacks and a non-linear narrative suggests further enigmas between the attack in the present day and previous crimes
  - The enigmas drive the narrative and act as intellectual puzzles which challenge the viewer, thus keeping them engaged
- 3a. With reference to *Tehran*, answers may refer to the following:
- The drama is littered with enigmas throughout the first episode; initially significant characters, Samira and Yoni – who are they and will the narrative of the drama be about them?
  - The show’s success requires some understanding of the social anxieties in the Middle East, the Israeli conflict, as this largely shapes our understanding of the narrative, however, is not assumed on the part of the producers, and the initial enigma of ‘life in Iran’ is shaped through an exploration of the values and ideologies of the region
  - The show’s main enigma of Tamar’s role – the feminine role is conventionalised by Eastern cultural attitudes to gender (theories such as those of Butler and

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appropriately linked); Tamar and Zhila wear the burqa, reflecting their Western culture that women must display in the Middle-East

- The constant unresolved narrative arcs keeping audiences alert and 'on edge' is questioned and reveals that she saw Tamar in the toilets, or when Tamar was at the nuclear plant but is interrupted and attacked by the man

**Questions 1b, 2b and 3b**

1b. How far can the success of *Peaky Blinders* be attributed to the way it reflects contemporary culture?

2b. How far can the success of *Bridgerton* be attributed to the way it reflects contemporary culture?

3b. How far can the success of *Killing Eve* be attributed to the way it reflects contemporary culture?

Band	AO1 1a and 1b Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework on media products and processes AO1 2a and 2b Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of contemporary contexts on media products and processes
5	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>13–15 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent, thorough and appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>• Excellent, thorough and appropriate knowledge and understanding of contemporary contexts on the set product</li> <li>• Links between the set product and relevant contexts are insightful</li> <li>• Judgements and conclusions are perceptive and fully supported by references to specific aspects of the set product</li> </ul>
4	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10–12 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good, appropriate application of knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>• Good, appropriate application of knowledge and understanding of contemporary contexts on the set product</li> <li>• Links between the set product and relevant contexts are effective</li> <li>• Judgements and conclusions are effective and supported by references to the set product</li> </ul>
3	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>7–9 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Satisfactory and largely appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>• Satisfactory and largely appropriate knowledge and understanding of contemporary contexts on the set product</li> <li>• Links between the set product and relevant contexts are valid and supported</li> <li>• Judgements and conclusions are straightforward and supported by references to the set product</li> </ul>
2	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>4–6 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework and/or relevance and/or accuracy at times</li> <li>• Basic knowledge and understanding of the influence of media on contemporary culture although this may lack relevance and/or accuracy at times</li> <li>• Links between the set product and relevant contexts are undeveloped</li> <li>• Judgements and conclusions are basic and undeveloped, and only supported by references to the set product</li> </ul>
1	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>1–3 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimal or no knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>• Minimal or no knowledge and understanding of the influence of media on contemporary culture, and answer may lack relevance, accuracy and clarity</li> <li>• Links between the set product and relevant contexts are general</li> <li>• Relevant or appropriate judgements and conclusions are lacking</li> </ul>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>0 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No response, or no work worthy of marks</li> </ul>

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**Indicative Content – Questions 1b, 2b and 3b**

Answers are expected to show knowledge and understanding of the influence of set product. To achieve marks in the higher bands, answers will show detailed understanding of contexts, applying this understanding to specific examples from the set product to 'to what extent' this contributes to its success. In the middle bands, answers will show understanding of media contexts and the set product, but the links between them will be less straightforward. In the lower bands, answers are likely to show limited awareness of links between contexts and the set product, and these links are likely to be undeveloped; candidates are likely to debate about how far contexts affect success.

Answers may refer to a number of instances and each stance should be judged on its merits. The list below is not exhaustive. Answers are not expected to include all of the points listed, but given due credit.

**AO1**

**Answers should demonstrate knowledge and understanding of industry and media contexts**

- How the success of a media text is judged and communicated; for instance, through critical acclaim, by renewed commissions for series, by selling the product in new territories
- Understanding of how genres and genre conventions are dynamic and socially constructed
- Understanding of how social/cultural contexts influence representations
- Understanding of how social/cultural contexts influence the themes, values and messages of a text
- Understanding of how audience interpretations of media texts may reflect the social and cultural contexts of the audience

1b. With reference to *Peaky Blinders*, answers may refer to:

- The show reflects the contemporary ethos of the BBC and its Reithian values, with characters such as Polly Greenwood to the extent to which she can be considered a feminist icon
- The extent to which *Peaky Blinders* reflects the post-war era but with a contemporary aesthetic which perhaps suggests that hegemonic representations of the past are not always shared by the audience, such as those targeted by the BBC
- *Peaky Blinders* features a diverse range of actors, e.g. A-lister Cillian Murphy, suggesting that this could be one of the reasons for its success
- The fact that *Peaky Blinders* can be considered the hallmark of BBC broadcast television, high production values and impressive camerawork reflects the high status of the show
- Contemporary television dramas are influenced by contemporary social and cultural contexts; ways they construct representations and contest values and ideologies; *Peaky Blinders* constructs representations of moral ambiguity and the class system in post-war Britain to the extent to which the reflection of post-war Britain is for nostalgic or aesthetic purposes
- The extent to which television dramas such as *Peaky Blinders* contest the boundaries of the genre; through, for example, the hybridisation of period and crime conventions under the umbrella of television drama
- The cultural importance of television dramas in reflecting, reinterpreting and challenging cultural values, attitudes and ideologies and *Peaky Blinders* does this through its construction, challenging a traditional view of masculinity in *Peaky Blinders* the extent to which Shelby's character can be considered a toxic masculinity

2b. With reference to *Black Mirror*, answers may refer to:

- The influence of key historical events on the values, attitudes and ideologies of the show; for example, *Black Mirror* reflects the sociocultural attitudes of the 1980s through the main protagonists, Kelly and Yorkie. At first, the show is a dystopian narrative, but as the other, perhaps reflecting the range of culturally acceptable attitudes during the 1980s, the narrative arcs develop throughout the episode
- The show reflects the awareness of the influence of the social values and ideologies of the time in which race, gender and sexuality do not impede our experience of love

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allegorically by audiences in that genders with many intersections are a fair representation in the media

- Candidates may show knowledge and understanding of the codes and conventions of television programmes and the ways these construct ideological meaning – the series draws on conventions from sci-fi, dystopia and thriller, which suggests that it is popular with contemporary audiences
- The success of the storyline is perhaps one of the main reasons for the show's popularity. It comes from its ability to reflect and reinvent the post-1980s and construct a narrative that is enigmatic in nature; audiences are constantly kept on their toes as there are many twists in the different narrative strands. The ending is particularly impressive, reflecting genre conventions.
- The extent to which the success of *Black Mirror* could be attributed to its format. The extent to which the episode could be considered flagship for the service. Netflix

3b. With reference to *Killing Eve*, answers may refer to:

- The extent to which *Killing Eve* can be considered a feminist show; for example, the three-dimensional characters such as Villanelle – an assassin with a complex personality – violent and ruthless in her approach – completely opposing all female archetypes and perhaps redefining the idea of a 'strong female character'
- The extent to which the first episode uses influences of national culture and the conventions of the spy-thriller genre; perhaps this highlights the evolving nature of television quality BBC production exported for an American audience
- The impact and significance of intertextuality in drawing in a pre-sold audience. A female-driven narrative without sexualisation or objectification – although Villanelle's characterisation relies on the stereotype of a sexy yet deadly assassin who doesn't shy from her femininity. Villanelle instead uses it as a weapon.
- The remarkable representation of the determined MI5 agent Eve Polastri who is in the household yet has a complex and unconventional relationship with her partner
- The representation of Carolyn Martens as the MI6 Russian desk boss; let's see how she approaches her work – she devises the tasks and responds sarcastically

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Section B – Magazines: Mainstream and Alternative

Questions 4, 5 and 6

4. bell hooks claims that race, class and circumstance as well as sex determine who is exploited, discriminated against or oppressed. Evaluate the validity of the representations evident in the set editions of *Woman* and *Adbusters* and the way they were produced.
5. bell hooks claims that race, class and circumstance as well as sex determine who is exploited, discriminated against or oppressed. Evaluate the validity of the representations evident in the set editions of *Woman's Realm* and *Huck* and the way they were produced.
6. bell hooks claims that race, class and circumstance as well as sex determine who is exploited, discriminated against or oppressed. Evaluate the validity of the representations evident in the set editions of *Vogue* and *The Big Issue* and the way they were produced.

Band	<p><b>AO1 1a and 1b</b> Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework of media</p> <p><b>AO1 2a and 2b</b> Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of contexts of media and their influence on media products and processes</p>	<p><b>AO2 2</b> Apply knowledge of theoretical framework to academic texts</p> <p><b>AO2 3</b> Apply knowledge of theoretical framework to make judgements</p>
5	<p><b>13–15 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent, thorough and appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>• A thorough and detailed understanding of the set products is demonstrated through detailed and critically informed discussion, with points supported by relevant examples</li> <li>• Effective and detailed application of relevant media theory or theories</li> <li>• Excellent, thorough and appropriate knowledge and understanding of the influence of media contexts on the set products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent, thorough knowledge and understanding of theoretical framework and academic theory</li> <li>• Evaluation of academic texts is critically informed and supported by detailed references to set products</li> <li>• Excellent, thorough knowledge and understanding of theoretical framework to make judgements and judgements are supported by detailed references to specific aspects of the set products</li> </ul>
4	<p><b>10–12 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good, appropriate application of knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>• A secure and clear understanding of the set products is demonstrated through well-informed discussion, with points supported by relevant examples</li> <li>• Appropriate and clear application of relevant media theories</li> <li>• Good, appropriate application of knowledge and understanding of the influence of media contexts on the set products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good, appropriate knowledge and understanding of theoretical framework applied to evaluate academic texts</li> <li>• Evaluation of academic texts is supported by relevant references to the set products</li> <li>• Good, appropriate knowledge and understanding of theoretical framework applied to make judgements and judgements are supported by relevant references to the set products</li> </ul>

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<b>3</b>	<b>7–9 marks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Satisfactory and largely appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>A reasonable and straightforward understanding of the set products is demonstrated through some discussion although this may lack development</li> <li>Satisfactory application of relevant media theories</li> <li>Satisfactory and largely appropriate knowledge and understanding of the influence of media contexts on the set products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Satisfactory and understanding of the theoretical framework is a</li> <li>theories</li> <li>Evaluation of a straightforward references to the</li> <li>Satisfactory and understanding of the theoretical framework is a draw conclusion</li> <li>Judgements and straightforward references to the</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<b>4–6 marks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework, although this may lack relevance and/or accuracy at times</li> <li>A basic and limited understanding of the set products is demonstrated, with limited discussion, and may describe the set products</li> <li>Limited application of media theories, perhaps with some irrelevance or inaccuracy</li> <li>Basic knowledge and understanding of the influence of media contexts on the set products, although this may lack relevance and/or accuracy at times</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic knowledge of the theoretical framework and academic theories may lack relevance and/or accuracy at times</li> <li>Evaluation of a set of undeveloped, a references to the</li> <li>Basic knowledge of the theoretical framework and judgements and this may lack relevance at times</li> <li>Judgements and undeveloped, a references to the</li> </ul>
<b>1</b>	<b>1–3 marks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimal or no knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework, and answer may lack relevance, accuracy and clarity</li> <li>Minimal or no understanding of the set products is demonstrated</li> <li>Unlikely to refer to any relevant media theories</li> <li>Minimal or no knowledge and understanding of the influence of media contexts on the set products, and answer may lack relevance, accuracy and clarity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimal or no knowledge of the theoretical framework and evaluate academic theories may lack relevance, accuracy and clarity</li> <li>Evaluation of a set of undeveloped, a references to the</li> <li>Minimal or no knowledge of the theoretical framework and judgements and this may lack relevance at times</li> <li>Relevant or appropriate conclusions are</li> </ul>
	<b>0 marks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No response, or no work shown, or 0 marks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No response, or</li> </ul>

**Indicative Content – Questions 4, 5 and 6**

Questions 4 and 6 require an extended response. To achieve marks in the high band, candidates should develop a clear and sustained line of argument which is logical, relevant, coherent and well supported.

Answers should refer to both set products. For bands 4 and 5, it is expected that candidates refer to both texts; at band 3 and below, coverage may be more unequal. If there is reference to both texts, the answer should be placed in the band which best represents the quality of the response.

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halved. While there is no expectation that students should refer to every page or refer to only one page (such as the front cover) may be limited to the lower level. Answers are expected to show knowledge and understanding of representation and to explicitly evaluate hook's claim that race, class and circumstance as well as which individuals are exploited, discriminated against or oppressed. To achieve higher band answers will explicitly evaluate hook's claim, using specific examples from the set products. In the middle bands, answers will show knowledge of representation, but not explicitly evaluate hook's claim. In the lower bands, answers may simply describe hook's claim, or not refer to it at all.

Answers should also make judgements and draw conclusions. In the higher band answers will show full engagement with the debate and will draw strong conclusions supported by examples from the set products. In the middle bands, answers may show partial engagement with the debate and will draw strong conclusions supported by examples from the set products. In the lower bands, answers may draw conclusions that are not supported by examples, or simply describe as

Answers may take a range of stances and each stance should be judged on its merits. The following below is not prescriptive. Answers are not expected to include all of the points listed below given due credit.

### AO1

**In demonstrating knowledge and understanding of representation, and evaluation, students should refer to some of the following:**

- The way issues, individuals and social groups are represented through a particular combination (and exclusion) of elements of media language
- How representations invoke discourses and convey values, attitudes and beliefs
- How representations are constructed, by, for example:
  - choice of characters/actors and how this is used to construct representations
  - visual and technical codes, and how these are used to construct representations
  - intertextuality, narrative and other codes and conventions, and how these are used to construct representations and narrate experiences
- How representations may be used within different media texts to sell or promote products
- How representations may be interpreted by audiences, and accepted, negotiated or resisted
- How far representations conform to hegemonic values of gender and sexual orientation
- hook's views:
  - Race and class are as significant as gender in determining the way individuals are discriminated against or oppressed
  - Feminism is a process of struggle against patriarchal oppression and the domination of men
  - Feminism is less a lifestyle choice and more of a political stance and commitment
- Other theoretical perspectives on representation such as:
  - Hall's view of the representation of stereotypes and use of familiar icons as a 'road map' for audiences
  - Gauntlett's ideas of media images presenting the audiences with 'role models'
  - Butler's ideas of gender performativity
  - Van Zoonen's views on how representations of women may contribute to the construction of gender
  - Gilroy's view of the continuing influence of colonial discourses
- Knowledge of the historical context of the 1960s, such as:
  - An increase in opportunities for women to work outside the home (full-time or part-time) and to be more than a wife or mother
  - Growing numbers of women attending university and taking up professional careers, leading to more intellectual and financial freedom
  - Beginning of demands for more equal treatment, such as equal opportunities for women
  - Some criticism of the advertising industry for offering a limited view of women
  - Feminist literature, such as Friedan's *The Feminine Mystique* (1963), is published
  - Women's liberation movement gaining pace throughout the 1960s
  - The contraceptive pill was introduced in 1960, giving women more sexual freedom

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- Social norms and customs were changing with 'the swinging sixties'
- The civil rights movement in the USA, challenging views of race
- The Black is Beautiful movement which challenged conventional notions represented in the media
- How far representations of women in the 1960s reflect the changing context
- How far representations of women contribute – positively or negatively – to the image of women
- How far representations are singular, straightforward and support the hegemony of women as secondary to men, of the dominant culture of the middle and upper class, of non-white people and cultures
- How far the genre, content and target audience of the magazine influence the representations

## AO2

4. With reference to the set editions of *Woman* and *Adbusters*, answers may refer to:

*Woman*

- How far *Woman* only represents middle-class women and excludes lower-class women, in order to deliver a demographic of readers with disposable income to advertisers
- How far *Woman* under-represents people of colour
- How far *Woman* offers some diversity in its representations of gender, such as the Women's Royal Army Corps

*Adbusters*

- How far *Adbusters* offers a range of representations of gender that differ from the idealised representations usually found on the front covers of women's magazines, representing gender in subtle and pluralistic ways, e.g. the way in which it represents the female body
- How far the set edition of *Adbusters* offers a critique of hegemonic masculinity and female identity that are common in contemporary mainstream media, through intertextuality and culture jams
- How far *Adbusters* challenges the dominant representation of people of colour, such as in the 'Black Girl' advert which draws attention to inequalities, and the 'Black Girl' representation perpetuates or critiques stereotypes of poverty
- How such representations in *Adbusters* invoke discourses of, and critique, audience identity, such as in the article titled 'Save the Planet'
- How such representations position audiences to accept the representations, question or mock the representations found in mainstream media, and address issues such as poverty and inequality

5. With reference to the set editions of *Woman's Realm* and *Huck*, answers may refer to:

*Woman's Realm*

- How far *Woman's Realm* only represents middle-class women and excludes lower-class women, in order to deliver a demographic of readers with a consumerist income to advertisers
- How far *Woman's Realm* under-represents people of colour, and conveys a sense of superiority; for example, in the Gor-Ray advert the copy states that, 'The Gor-Ray fails to overwhelm the girl in Drogheda' (where the 'Eastern idol cannot be understood, in contrast to the Western woman, whose attire connotes modernity')

*Huck*

- How far *Huck* offers a range of representations of gender that differ from the idealised representations usually found on the front covers of women's magazines, representing gender in subtle and pluralistic ways, e.g. the way in which it represents the Kurdish woman, anchored with the coverline – 'Female Fight' – which differs from the representations usually found on front covers of women's magazines
- In this image, women are represented as powerful and active, rather than passive (which is more usual in the mainstream media)
- *Huck* avoids the male gaze and the objectification of women, instead of offering representations of women that are more active than is usually found in the media

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Section C – Media in the Online Age

Question 7

7. To what extent have developing technologies changed the way producers create media products? Refer to *Zoe Sugg* or *KSI and gal-dem* or *Attitude*. In your answer, you must refer to relevant theories and media contexts.

Band	AO1 1a and 1b Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework of media	AO2 3 Apply knowledge of the theoretical framework of media to draw conclusions
5	<p><b>13–15 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent, thorough and appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>• A thorough and detailed understanding of the set products is demonstrated through detailed and critically informed discussion, with points supported by relevant examples</li> <li>• Effective and detailed application of relevant media theory or theories</li> </ul>	<p><b>13–15 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent, thorough and informed understanding of the theoretical framework to evaluate academic theories</li> <li>• Evaluation of academic theories is informed and fully supported by reference to specific aspects of the set products</li> <li>• Excellent, thorough and informed understanding of the theoretical framework to make judgements and draw conclusions</li> <li>• Judgements and conclusions are supported by detailed reference to the set products</li> </ul>
4	<p><b>10–12 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good, appropriate application of knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>• A secure and clear understanding of the set products is demonstrated through well-informed discussion; points may be supported by examples</li> <li>• Appropriate and clear application of relevant media theories</li> </ul>	<p><b>10–12 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good, appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework to evaluate academic theories</li> <li>• Evaluation of academic theories is supported by reference to specific aspects of the set products</li> <li>• Good, appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework to make judgements and draw conclusions</li> <li>• Judgements and conclusions are supported by reference to specific aspects of the set products</li> </ul>
3	<p><b>7–9 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Satisfactory and largely appropriate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework</li> <li>• A reasonable and straightforward understanding of the set products is demonstrated through some discussion, although this may lack development</li> <li>• Satisfactory application of relevant media theories</li> </ul>	<p><b>7–9 marks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Satisfactory and largely informed understanding of the theoretical framework to evaluate academic theories</li> <li>• Evaluation of academic theories is supported by some reference to specific aspects of the set products</li> <li>• Satisfactory and largely informed understanding of the theoretical framework to make judgements and draw conclusions</li> <li>• Judgements and conclusions are supported by some reference to specific aspects of the set products</li> </ul>

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<b>2</b>	<b>4–6 marks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework, although this may lack relevance and/or accuracy at times</li> <li>A basic and limited understanding of the set products is demonstrated, with limited discussion, and may describe the set products</li> <li>Limited analysis of media theories overlaps with some relevance or inaccuracy</li> </ul>	<b>4–6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework is applied to the set products, although this may lack relevance at times</li> <li>Evaluation of academic theories is undeveloped, and only references to the set products are used</li> <li>Basic knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework is applied to draw conclusions, although there may be some inaccuracy at times</li> <li>Judgements and conclusions are undeveloped, and only references to the set products are used</li> </ul>
<b>1</b>	<b>1–3 marks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimal or no knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework, and answer may lack relevance, accuracy and clarity</li> <li>Minimal or no understanding of the set products is demonstrated</li> <li>Unlikely to refer to any relevant media theories</li> </ul>	<b>1–3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimal or no knowledge of the theoretical framework and theories; answer may lack clarity</li> <li>Evaluation of academic theories is not relevant or appropriate</li> <li>Minimal or no knowledge of the theoretical framework and draw conclusions, although there may be some inaccuracy and clarity</li> <li>Relevant or appropriate examples are lacking</li> </ul>
	<b>0 marks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No response, or no work worthy of marks</li> </ul>	<b>0</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No response, or no work worthy of marks</li> </ul>

**Indicative Content – Questions 7 and 8**

Questions 7 and 8 require an extended response. To achieve marks in the highest band, a clear and sustained line of argument which is logical, relevant, coherent and sustained is required.

Answers should refer to both set products. For bands 4 and 5, it is expected that the answer will refer to both texts; at band 3 and below, coverage may be more unequal. If there is reference to only one text, the answer should be placed in the band which best represents the quality of the work.

Answers are expected to show knowledge and understanding of how far changing relationships between producers and audiences, and evidence this with reference to the set products using language from the set products. To achieve marks in the higher bands, answers will show a clear understanding of the influence of media contexts, applying them to specific examples of media products. In the middle bands, answers will show knowledge and understanding of media contexts of the set products, but the links between them are likely to be less effective. In the lower bands, answers are unlikely to show limited awareness of relevant contexts, and links between context and set products are likely to be unconvincing.

Answers should show analysis, judgements and draw conclusions. In the higher bands, answers will show a clear understanding of the 'to what extent' part of the question and draw valid conclusions that are supported by examples of the set products. In the middle bands, answers will show partial engagement with the 'to what extent' part of the question and will draw straightforward conclusions largely supported by examples of the set products. In the lower bands, answers are unlikely to engage in debate around 'to what extent', and conclusions are not supported by examples, or simply describe aspects of the set products.

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The indicative content below is not prescriptive. Answers are not expected to include valid points should be given due credit.

### AO1

Answers should demonstrate knowledge and understanding of media language contexts, such as:

- Visual and technical codes and how these are used to construct and convey meaning
- Intertextuality, narrative and use of codes and conventions, and how these influence meaning

#### Historical contexts

- How recent technological changes – such as the move from paper-based print to onscreen and digital products – have influenced the media language of texts
- How the prevalence of new technology, such as smartphones, has influenced media language
- How audience interpretations and expectations of media language may reflect historical contexts

#### Social and cultural contexts

- How the conventions of a genre, including the media language of websites, social media and other digital products, are influenced by social and cultural contexts
- How far social and cultural contexts influence the use of media language

#### Economic context

- How issues of funding, ownership and the drive for economic success may influence the production of media products

Reference will also be made to changing relationships between producers and audiences, such as:

- Jenkins' views of 'fandom', such as:
  - the idea that online media offers fans the opportunity to participate actively in the construction of meanings in media texts and in the circulation of textual products
  - the idea of 'poaching texts', i.e. that texts can be appropriated by fans who are not expected or authorised by the original media producers
  - the idea that fans of texts not only construct their own social and cultural meanings but also adapt and adaptively reuse media texts
  - the idea that digital media texts contribute to a participatory culture that plays a central role in the lives of fans
- Shirkey's view of the 'end of audience', such as:
  - the idea that the Internet and other digital technologies have changed the relationship between audiences and consumers, and that audiences cannot be seen as passive recipients but rather as contributors and participants who adapt and circulate existing texts and share their own texts
- Hall's reception theory of an active audience interpreting texts in different ways
- The extent to which the set products demonstrate the 'creeping commercialisation' of media
- The extent to which the content of the set products is influenced by the need to attract advertisers and be 'brand compliant'
- The extent to which the set products can be viewed as a means to target a specific audience and deliver this audience to advertisers

### AO2

With reference to the online case studies, an answer may refer to the following:

#### gal-dem

- As an online magazine, the layout is optimised to be easy to read on screen:
  - on a single page, a heading straddles the page
  - the navigation bar is clean and simple with a lot of white space
  - there are no side bars or adverts on the home page
  - the site is laid out in a simple grid pattern for easy scanning
  - there is a high image-to-text ratio on the landing page, with large images
  - within the articles, there is extensive use of white space, and fairly short paragraphs and quotes

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- Viewers can move quickly between websites, so techniques are used to engage them
  - Stories and articles frequently use a dramatic lead to entice readers, e.g. 'I was inspired in Ghana inspired me to become an activist in Brixton' (site accessed 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019)
  - There is frequent use of teaser headlines, which operate as clickbait to entice readers to other pages of the site, such as the question posed by the headline 'How black Ariel?' (site accessed 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019)
  - Stories often rely on 'star power' to appeal and have a global aspect, such as 'Trump's racism' (site accessed 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019)
  - Stories and articles are organised by upload date, ensuring that recency is prominent, encouraging readers to return regularly to the site for new content
  - Social media links are prominent to encourage readers to connect with the site; having a lot of linked social media content helps to increase the site's searchability on Google
  - Likewise, social media is used to drive new audiences to the main site; featuring tweets with weblinks
- Economic context affects content:
  - Initially stories were sourced from 'volunteer' writers; the site has now moved to having full-time paid staff and pays its writers
  - The site still seeks pitches and contributions from the wider community, but the content continues to reflect the voices of this community, rather than being dominated by a few paid journalists
- The relationship between producers and audiences hasn't changed significantly; viewers can become producers by pitching and writing articles, and connect with the site back to producers, offering limited comment and feedback

#### Attitude

- As an online magazine, layout is optimised to be easy to read on screen:
  - 'chunked' text blocks in an 'F' pattern for easy scanning – text is broken up with bolding, headings and sub-headings and white space
  - a high image-to-text ratio, such as in the article titled 'Happy birthday to the hottest man in the world' which features extensive pictures of the actor with a white background (November 2018)
  - use of lists and bullet points that can be scanned quickly
  - the initial landing page will tend to use an elliptical header which omits the main content
- Viewers can move quickly between websites, so techniques are used to engage them
  - Stories and articles frequently use a dramatic lead to entice readers
  - Use of teaser headlines, which operate as click bait to entice readers to other pages of the site (and, as a result, gain more 'eyeballs' on the advertising content); headline 'Man accused of murdering schoolmate Blaze Bernstein has police record' (site accessed 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018)
  - Stories and articles are organised by upload date, ensuring that recency is prominent, encouraging readers to return regularly to the site for new content
  - Social media links are prominent to encourage readers to connect with the site; having a lot of linked social media content helps to increase the site's searchability on Google
  - Likewise, social media is used to drive new audiences to the main site; featuring tweets with weblinks
- Economic context affects content:
  - Advertising is featured on every page in banners and wraparounds, such as 'Zig Zag Education' (site accessed 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018)
  - Competition for advertisers, and the low fees advertisers pay, creates a market that is cheap to produce and changes quickly; therefore, images tend to be selected that are used under 'fair use' to avoid paying copyright; stories are often selected that are

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- News stories and entertainment stories are mixed with 'sponsored content' for readers to advertisers' sites, such as an advertorial for a health product 'Say goodbye to stomach troubles: here's how' (site accessed 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018)
- The relationship between producers and audiences hasn't changed significantly. Producers connect with the magazine through social media and speak back to produce feedback

### Zoe Sugg

- The development of YouTube, the use of webcams, and the increased usage for a new genre of vlogs took it to become popular
- The media language used by vloggers is designed to create the sense of an authentic connection between vloggers and their audience
- This unmediated effect is achieved by the use of recognisable locations, typically emphasising the intimate relationship between vlogger and viewer.
- The use of everyday mise en scène, such as the homely locations and the non-performative realism – *Zoe Sugg* often appears in her pyjamas, sitting on her bed, suggesting a 'real' life
- The single camera perspective and the direct address to camera make it seem as if she is speaking directly to the webcam and to the audience
- The use of jump cuts provides narrative energy but also makes the filming seem more authentic as a result
- The narratives are simple and everyday, featuring frequent references to shopping 'haul' with her fans, such as her video 'Huge Summer Primark Haul' (June 2017) which seems relatable for the audience, and plays down her millionaire status.
- She emphasises her humble nature, referring to her success as having 'my own little business' and adding an aside in which she describes the success of her book '(pinched) ordinary person (site accessed 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018)
- In addition, romance narratives are offered through the relationship between successful vlogger Alfie Deegan and Zoe, who frequently posts collaborative videos
- *Zoe Sugg* also offers relatable narratives focusing on her struggles with anxiety and mental health, often accompanied by images of her without make-up, suggesting authenticity
- The narratives are seemingly unscripted, and mistakes are often included, making the content seem authentic and uncrafted; for example, in her 'Huge Summer Primark Haul' (June 2017) she gets distracted, commenting on the rain outside before returning to her topic
- The verbal codes used are casual, informal and down-to-earth, reflecting the 'real' life as when *Zoe Sugg* refers to wearing a new lipstick: 'That's it, I've cracked out my new autumn in my book' (site accessed 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018)
- Material is uploaded on a weekly basis, or more frequently, giving a sense of ongoing narrative for audiences to engage with
- Vloggers seek regular feedback, suggesting they are in a genuine friendship with their audience. *Zoe Sugg's* 'Who Run The World' post on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017, where she says, 'It's like you are learning about me and my life, I can also learn a lot from you too just from your tweets.'
- Responses to the post indicate that audience members feel very close to *Zoe Sugg*, seeing her as inspiration and a friend, and clearly enjoying the sense of identification, connection and intimacy she has with her
- Social media allows audiences to further connect with vloggers and to actively engage with them, creating a sense of two-way communication and positioning audiences as active rather than passive
- *Zoe Sugg* positions herself as the 'best friend', allowing audiences to gain intimacy and connection with her

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*JJ Olatunji / KSI*

- Producers such as *KSI* have emerged from the proliferation and emergence of digital convergence – the Internet and the globalised nature of media production has provided platforms for audiences to create their own media through, for example, YouTube
- Traditional media production has changed and now involves active audience participation; successful in the ever-evolving online media; below-the-line comments and direct interaction allows producers such as *KSI* to get feedback from audiences
- *KSI*'s style suggests a less mediated image – the 'live' on-scene of his room and direct address mean that producers such as *KSI* can connect more with their audience
- The intimate style and lifestyle content of his YouTube channel, such as the vlogs and gaming, means that a greater audience is 'hooked in'
- The edited style is semi-professional, perhaps suggesting a more mediated image than more serious producers
- Digital convergence has enabled YouTube personas to diversify into traditional media; *KSI* now has a debut album and has collaborated with artists such as Tom Grenn and Digital Farm Animals
- *KSI* has two channels: *KSI* – which arguably includes a more mediated and 'public' persona, and a more personal channel – *JJ Olatunji* – which is a less scripted and more personal online persona
- The fact that *KSI* has been recognised as a pioneer of the vlogging phenomenon, winning the 'the Year' (2016) award
- The ways in which sociocultural contexts impact media producers – such as the influence of social media on audiences to the 'Sidemen' channel – *KSI* spread a false rumour that he will be leaving the group and members to create 'diss tracks' and thus drawing attention to the group
- The ways in which digital convergence has enabled producers to have a more direct connection to its followers (through, for example, Twitter 'streams')

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## **Preview of Answers Ends Here**

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