

# Topic on a Page

for A Level Eduqas Component 2 Section A: Television in the Global Age Option 1: *Peaky Blinders* and *The Bridge* 

Second Edition, October 2023

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Activity posters are provided for each of the above.

All Topic on a Page posters are provided in both A3 and A4 formats.

# **Teacher's Introduction**

This resource is primarily intended to be used during revision by students studying A Level Eduqas (A680QS) Media Studies: Component 2: Section A: Television in the Global Age: Option 1: *Peaky Blinders* and *The Bridge*.

# Remember

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

As a revision tool, this resource does not aim to cover the material in depth, but rather to provide visual 'mind maps' of A Level Eduqas **Component 2: Section A: Option 1.** Students can use this resource as the basis of their revision, as it covers all the key vocabulary and knowledge that students need for their exam. The resource is especially suited to visual learners, and those learners who find it hard to revise from written notes.

# The resource consists of:

- 4 completed mind maps, which provide solutions to the activity mind maps, labelled:
- 1 to



4 activity mind maps (partially complete) for students to complete, labelled:





All mind maps are provided in both A3 and A4 formats.

# How to use this resource:

- The sheets can be handed out at the end of the course, or at the end of each topic for revision purposes.
- The mind maps can be printed out poster size and displayed on the classroom walls as the topic is being taught, so that students have a visual reminder of what they have been covering in their lessons.
- The resource also includes partially completed mind maps. Students could be encouraged to complete the exercises as a way of recapping knowledge from the topic at the end of teaching. More-able students could, additionally, be asked to think of further examples to illustrate the points, whereas lower-ability students could provide more illustrations, or colour-code the mind maps, to aid memory of the key topics.

October 2023

# Second Edition, October 2023

Changes have been made to the resource to account for the changes made to the set products, for assessment from 2024.

# **CINEMATOGRAPHY**

- Use of tracking shots to show characters' movements, e.g. Tommy's. horse ride through Birmingham, Campbell's taxi ride through Birmingham and Grace's arrival at The Garrison.
- Willise of the two shot to show rivally between characters, e.g. Polly and Tommy in the church, Tommy and Freddie in the pub.
- Will Mise en scene often lacks verisimilitude to create a sense of symbolism, e.g. the nightmarish city and the costumes to create a sense of hierarchy.
- Editing: an extreme close-up on Campbell's face when he is contemplating the possible perpetrators of the machine our theft and a high-angle shot of Tommy walking through the streets of Birmingham. creates juxtapositions between protaconist and antagonist. Tommy looks vulnerable but also a man very much at home in the nichtmensh environment of Birmingham. This sets up an enigma: will Tommy crumble against the power of Campbell or will Campbell struggle to defeat Tommy on home ground?



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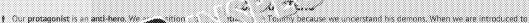
Nordic #

greaters

culture®

# MUSIC AND SOUND

- A Music is part of the postmodernism of the series. Whilst set in 1919. the soundtrack is modern. There is no effort at verisimilitude.
- Artists such as The White Stripes, Nick Cave and The Reconteurs are used to give the series a modern feel, creating a sense of hyperreality.
- If Distinctive non-diegetic music is used to enhance a scene e i music box, sounds as Grace arrives at The Garrison create 1.
- A Agant from the much criticised range of Birn. ve see a number of binary oppositions creat-38 Po... adopts a very masculine wer of to prig to the prigor john and John says very little, st. 11 st. elar , of of Polly vs John. Arthur also trie , were commy through dialogue. onto. s \_\_\_\_\_ally nothing, showing that it's not at vivio have the power.



Tommy, we do not see his face, evel, his relaxed body language as he rides the horse shows that he is confident and mse i ... at ease, which is juxtaposed to wha a Jorchim

Campbell is the antagonist, of ed against a scene of Trommy using the same stance and shot, identifying them as binary opposites. se-up shots to emphasise his power. As he arrives in Birmingham, he pauses in slow motion, creating a sense of mystery and strength. The series is full of archetypes:

and sadistic lawman; the family matriarch; the femme fatale.

# THEORY - POSTMODERNISM BAHDRII I ARD

The series presents a simulacrum of 1919 Birmingham (through sets in a variety of locations, the blending of modern and period, etc.).

# THEORY -NARRATOLOGY - TODOROV

Knight starts the narrative without a proper equilibrium to develop a sense of mystery. As a long form drama, we do not get to our re-establishment of the equilibrium as the characters are constantly facing threats, instead we get multiple disruption sequences.

# GENRE THEORY -STEVEN NEALE

Repetition and difference: Peaky Blinders is a historical drama, with elements of the western and gangster genres, its setting in the working-class streets of post-war Birmingham is what makes it stand apart from ot historical dramas.

# 'EAKY BLINDERS

# NARRATIVE STRUCTURE

- The series starts in medias res which raises many questions for the audience (Barthes' enigma code).
- As well as the main plot (the theft of the guns), there are a number of subplots established to create a complex narrative (e.g. Ava and Freddie's relationship and Danny Whizz-Bang).
- Unlike a typical crime drama, we are in a privileged position as we know more than many of the characters (e.g. Grace being a 'mole').
- The core narrative is typical of that of a western film; the power of the criminal family is consistently threatened.

# 

# **BINARY OPPOSITIONS (LEVI-STRAUSS)**

The criminal vs the lawman: Unlike many crime gramas, we are positioned with the criminal dang (which has parallels to gandster dramas such as Goodfellas and The Sopranosi. The lawman, Campbell, is seen as sacistic and brutal, which helps us side with the Peaky Blinders Men vs women is another binary opposition and links to the time period the series is set in. Aunt Polly, the matriarch, ran the business during the

war, but now she is marginalised because the men, came back.

### ICONOGRAPHY: SETS, PROPS AND COSTUME

Set: stylised set created using a variety of locations to recreate a hyperreat version of Birmingham 1919. Nightmarish, hellish references (use of fire from

the factories). The journeys Tommy and Campbell make through the streets show extreme poverty and immoral behaviour.

used \* \* \* 19 -31 /19 rung pss tife eet h espectable me' feel of the elby's house. Guns are the most significant prop in the set episode -- the theft of the machine guns, the gun left lying about by John, the gun filled with pig's blood - we see guns and violence as a way of life in the series.

Props: a variet ... s are

Costume: the costumes have become iconic - the peaked cap to maim enemies, and the crew cuts that link to the characters' roles in the war Polly is seen wearing masculine blazers, and Ada has the hobbed hair and dropped waist dresses linked with flappers, all connoting the increasing independence I of women in the period.

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### WOMEN

- Setting the drama in 1919 allows the show to reflect the growing independence of women in this time period. During the war, women enjoyed a more active role in society, working in factories and running businesses.
- Polly, the family matriarch, comments on this, saving she kept the business going while the men were away and showing her frustration that, now they are back, she is expected to slip back into her former role.
- Polly, Grace and Ada all show different aspects of the growing independence of women. Polly continues to show power over some members of the family led, lightly Grace is a trusted operative working for Campbell, and Ada defies her family by pursuing her relationship with Freddie Thome.
- The sense of the women as strong figures is shown through costume: Polly wears tailored pinstriped skirt suits with a masculine cut, and Ada scorts the bobbed hair and dropped waists of a typical flagger'.

# THEORY - BUTLER - GENDER "E. 1. 44 411

- . In the set episode of Peaks. ing a sangle and holding a gun in the In her argument with John Inability to make eye contact

  Men generally in Panta Pintal

  Men generally in Panta Pintal tance, Polly stands still and confident.
- seen to display the rituals of hypermasculinity: Men generally in Peaky Blinde they are extremely violent and often seem to revel in this (see Campbell's beating up of Arthuri: Tommy is seen as a thinker, not a talker (he is often silent and uncommunicative); men seem to regard women as 'virgins' or 'whores' (Tommy assumes Grace is a 'whore' because she has taken a job in The Garrison'.

# **GAUNTLETT & IDENTITY THEORY**

i.e. the 'pick and mix' theory - audiences select ideas from the media in order to construct their identity, such as:

- . The Peaky Blinders are the epitome of 'cool' in terms of their costumes, haircuts and sheer swagger.
- . There are strong, independent women.
- . There is a depiction of the working class.

s sion modern texts, and in ee a character who is both and futhless, brave and caring, troubled by demons.

# PEAKY BLIND

### THEORY - VAN ZOONEN - GENDER REPRESEN®

- Van Zoonen: 'femininity is about care, nurturance and compassion, and about efficiency, rationality and individuality.
- To some extent, this can be seen in Polly and Tommy: Polly cares about family, and many of her actions focus on this desire (including her mil to get rid of the stolen machine guns), and Tommy is desperate to imstatus and power (so he defies Polly and keeps the guns), However, Fig. uncompromising, frustrated at her relative lack of power in a man's w

# THEORY - BUTLER - GENDER PERFORMATIVITY

**GENDER NEUTRALITY** Helle Anker (the victim) was instrumental in opening a gender-neutral primary school.

Dialogue between Saga and Hanne establishes that this ideology is more accepted in

This theme is established as a source of debate and conflict throughout the episode

In The Bridge, Series 3, the idea of what gender means is part of the story and is actively explored by characters.

**GENDER** 

SOCIAL ISSUES #



SEXUALITY

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# ACCEPTA

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# REJECTION OF GENDER STEREOTYPES

★ Lead writer Hans Rosenfeldt intentionally reverses the gender stereotypes of the genre.

Sweden than in Denmark.

- Saga is shown to be the or detective, whereas Har & and anakive family-oriented and emotionally open.
- ★ Representation of gende nd more closely replicates the diversity of the real world

# THEORY - GAUNTLETT - IDENTITY

- To Gauntlett, media depictions of masculinity and femininity are more flexible than before.
- > The Bridge exemplifies this in how characters exhibit a range of both typically masculine and typically feminine traits, such as Hans being a sensitive husband, or Saga's toughness.



# THE TALENT BEHIND THE SHOW

- S. Hans Rosenfeldt lead writer and series creator, set out to write a noir television series that defied the stereotypes of classic film noir.
- Sofia Helin Swedish actress who plays Saga Norén, received critical acclaim for her performance throughout all four series of the show.
- Thure Lindbardt Danish actor who played Saga's partner Henrik in Series 3 and 4 and who has also played a number of minor roles in major TV series and films.

### **OWNERSHIP MODELS**

usty 🍩

- Like the BBC, the Danish and Swedish public service broadcasters operate on a vertically integrated as fowning companies up the chaling produced
- The show was broadcast
- ons have limited global distribution outside or scandinavia - whereas the BBC has BBC America, Asia, Australia, World Service, etc.

# COLLABORATIVE COMMISSIONING

- The Bridge was unconventional as it was a jointcommission for two different TV networks in Denmark and Sweden (DR1 and SVT1).
- Produced by Nimbus Films (Denmark) and Filmlance International (Sweden) with funding from the Copenhagen Film Fund.

INDEPENDENT PRODUCTION

The major role in production was played by Danish company Nimbus Films.

Nimbus is not a dedicated television production company and it has been a

major figure in the Danish independent cinema scene, producing over 30

The decision to hire a firm used to producing independent cinema mo:

have been to give the series a cinematic aesthetic quality, bef.

# THE BRIDGE PEAKY DIRECTOR STRATEGY

THEORY - CURRA

 As a public service broadcill deal of power in the British

This means that the med.

views of viewers.

degree of social influence

This is why the BBC is ob

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PRODUCTION CO

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Independent production ( strove the Nurse locke at As with most TV products

production between Land

Productions Screen York

that much of the series w

MARK®

W Funding to Screen Yorkship

W Distributed by Endemal V

Note that the second second

The BBC's vast resources n

advertised across platforms

TV trailers, magazine and 🖟 videos were used to target popularity of the show great

THEORY - CULTURAL

Peaky Blinders could be describe

1) GENRE - the show is a ble class Birmingham could have

2) STARPOWER - Cillian Mun

3) SERIALISATION - the show

necessarily celebrities with

an educated, niche audien@

that the show would have sug

💖 Carve Mandaback Proces

POWER AND

# BROADINASTING

- Public service broad astin

  - Scanding various track have higher
- television licence fees / taxes lacound
- The higher licence fee allows public Service to calculate the DR and ST to invest in the modern to disease their media outoid

# FUNDING

- Funding for the show was provided by the Danish and Swedish public service broadcasters - DR and SVT.
- The Bridge was also funded by the Copenhagen Film Fund as recognition of the show's cultural importance.

The global nature of the TV. industry can be seen line.

- 2-productions
- the rise of international remakes (The Bridge)

# **GLOBAL NATURE OF THE** TV INDUSTRY

# UK DI3

features by Danish directors.

'prestige television' label

- The show was picked u, and Series 1 was broadcas in early 2012.
- Series 3 was broadcast in late 2015, screened weekly at 9pm on BBC Four.
- The increased popularity of the show saw Series 4 being broadcast on BBC Two to larger viewing figures.
- The show has since been broadcast by Sky on the Sky Atlantic UK prestige television channel.

- Filmlance and Nimbus Films sold the. premise to broadcasters in the UK.
- The original series was also distributed in 188 countries alongside the remakes and adaptions.

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- ⇒ the risc of n FEngl
  - la e pro ∴ ∦nď international

# INTERNATIONAL ERANGHISING

- ⇒ Highly successful premise overseas France, USA, Mexico, Germany and

### **AUDIENCE PSYCHOGRAPHICS AND DEMOGRAPHICS**

- \* Crime fiction is targeted at a mature audience, through the depiction of violence, abuse, mental illness and other themes,
- Both men and women consume crime drama and related subgenres. with the split being roughly 50/50.

### NICHE APPEAL

- Crime dramas have mainstream appeal.
- However, foreign-language texts often gain only limited niche appeal outside their countries of origin.
- The success of the show internationally was surprising.

### **BLUMLER AND KATZ - USES AND GRATIFICATIONS**

- A domestic audience (Danish/Swedish) might consume the show for different uses and reasons compared to international audiences - e.g. they will be watching for entertainment
- \* Global audiences outside Scandinavia might be watching in order to learn and get a perspective on unfamiliar cultures using media for education as well as entertainment.

# SE KOINGE



# TARGETING AUDIES - 21 SLING

- (DR1 and SVT1) which are equivalent DOMESTIC: Available on: to BBC One, with the chip and the woadest audience demographics.
- er channel known for being the 'cultural' outlet of the BBC UK: Broadcast on BBC with a focus on obscur ed-appeal artforms and international TV and cinema.



# 

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# AUDIENCE

# PEHKY BLINDERS

MILLION AVERAGE

S PER EPISODE

# TARGETING AND SCHEDULING

- Initially considered a show with a relatively niche audience (due to its setting of working-class Birmingham in 1919), the show was originally scheduled on BBC Two."
- However, after the success of the show, it was moved to the late prime slot of 9pm on BBC One for series 5 and 6.



# DOMESTIC AND INTERNATION

- \* As a BBC commission, th to be successful domestic he BBC's remit to produce shows that refle importance of regions.
- \* The show became a **Netflix show** after the company bought the US rights on the collapse of the Weinstein Company and the rise of the #MeToo movement,
- \* Peaky Blinders has become one of the biggest shows on Netflix: the final season release increased its viewership with 904 million minutes viewed in 2019.

# JEURY - JENKINS - FANDOM

- The show cultivated a fandom due to its distinctive costumes and haircuts and its general sense of 'cool'.
- The style of the show spawned a 'Peaky Blinders look' and generated fans across the world.
- · The strong characters and compelling storylines inspired a great deal of fan fiction across social media, and immersive events, themed pubs and a spin-off dance show have increased the profile of the show beyond the TV screen.

# ATTRACTING AUDIE

- While there is much that is auther costumes, the props, etc.), much of the series exciting and relevant fo
- The sets are very stylised, creating contemporary music from artists s modern and cool feel.

- With its extreme violence and de contemporary audience who migh
- It was extremely important that or meant audiences were happy to be Tommy Shelby is ruthless and driv representation as a decorated war perfect protagonist for audiences f

# COPYRIGHT **PROTECTED**

NEDIA LANGU Complete the three boxes below with analysis of these elements of media language in Peaky Blinders. One point for each aspect has been completed for you CINEMATOGRAPHY MUSIC AND SOUND Willse of tracking shots to show characters' movements, e.g. Tommy's horse ride through Birmingham, Campbell's taxi ride through A Music is part of the postmodernism of the series. Whilst set in 1919. Eirmingham and Grace's arrival at The Garrison. the soundtrack is modern. There is no effort at verisimilitude. § Our protagonist is an anti-hero. We are positioned to accause we understand his demons. When we are introduced to Tommy, we do not see his face, or this relaxed body language as he nices the horse shows that he is confident and at ease, which is juxtaposed by Fill in the gaps below. What effect does the use of iconography have in Peaky Blinders' THEORY - POSTMODERNISM BAUDRILLARD ICONOGRAPHY: The series presents a INDERS SETS, PROPS AND 1919 Birmingham (through sets in a COSTUME variety of locations, the blending of modern and period, etc.). Fill in the gaps below. NARRATIVE STRUCTURE The series starts which raises many questions for THEORY the audience (Barthes' enigma code). As well as the \_\_\_\_\_plot (the theft of the guns), there are a NARRATOLOGY - TODOROV number of \_\_plots established to create a complex narrative (e.g. Knight starts the narrative without a Ava and Freddie's relationship and Danny Whizz-Bang). proper \_\_\_\_\_\_ to develop a sense of Unlike a typical \_\_\_\_\_ drama, we are in a privileged position as we mystery. As a long form drama, we do know more than many of the characters (e.g. Grace being a 'mole'). not get to our equilibrium as the characters are The core narrative is typical of that of a of the criminal family is consistently threatened. constantly facing threats. Instead we get multiple seguences GENRE THEORY -STEVEN NEALE and Blinders is a historical drama, with elements of the western and gangster denres, its setting in the working-class streets of post-war Birmingham is what makes it stand apart from oth historical dramas. Costume: TWARY OPPOSITIONS Gangster Explore the binary apposition used in Peaky Blinders. (LEVI-STRAUSS) The criminal vs the lawman: Men vs women In the space above, describe how Peaky Blinders can be said to be a western and a gangster text.

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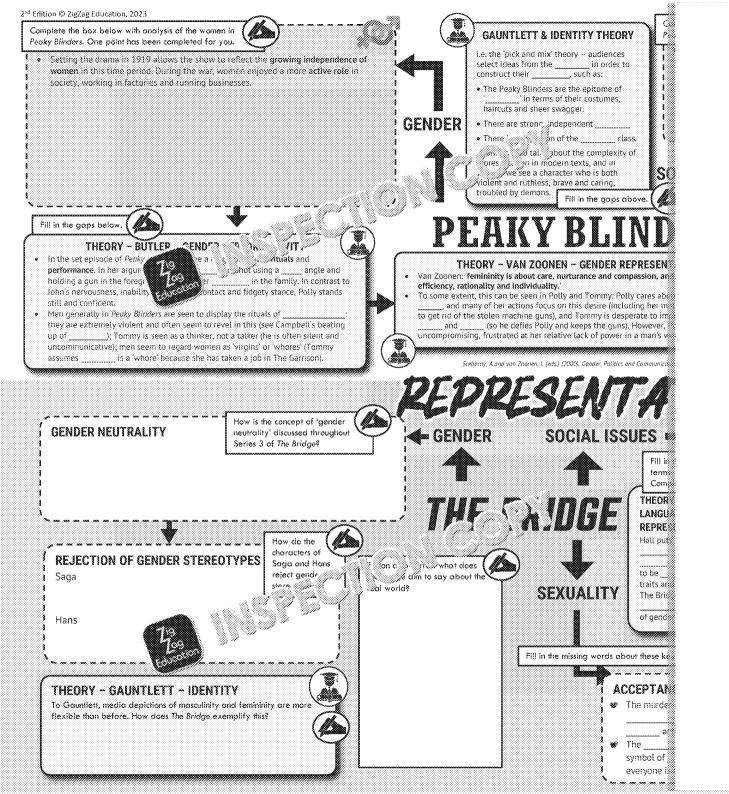
THEORY - ST 'Nordic noir' requi

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Zig Zag Education

# THE TALENT BEHIND THE SHOW

Hans Rosenfeldt

Sofia Helin

> Thure Lindhardt

# Fill in the gaps in the production chain below.

# OWNERSHIP MODELS

 Like the BBC, the Danish and Swedish public service broadcasters operate on a companies up the chain of pra The show was broadcast kly o

BBC One), as well as in No Unlike the BBC, these PSB d

(the Danish and

outside of Scandinavia - whereas the BBC has BBC America, Asia, Australia, World Service, etc.

Who are the following people behind The Bridge? What roles do they play in the production of the show?

# INDUSTRY

# THE BRIDGE

# PUBLIC SERVICE BROADIOASTING

4) Public service broadcasting



all was the smedia output Scandingvian countries have higher television from the feet of the second three times the UK rates

3) The higher licence fee allows public service broadcasters like DR and SVI to invest higher production audgets in disconnecte output

Who funded The Bridge?



# **FUNDING**

# **COLLABORATIVE COMMISSIONING**

 The Bridge was unconventional as it was a for two different TV networks in Denmark and Sweden (DR1 and SVT1). Produced by (Denmark) and International (Sweden) with funding from

# INDEPENDENT PRODUCTION

the Copenhagen Film Fund.

The major role in production was played by Danish company Nimbus Films.

Nimbus is not a dedicated television production company and it has been a major figure in the Danish features by Danish directors.

The decision to hire a firm used to producing independent cinem been to give the series a

**GLOBAL NATURE OF** THE TV INDUSTRY

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# **UK DISTRIBUTION**

The show was picked up is scribution by and Series 1 was broadcast in early Series 3 was broadcast in late screened weekly

on BBC Four. of the show saw Series 4 being

broadcast on BBC Two to larger viewing figures. The show has since been broadcast by prestige television channel.

# INTERNATIONAL ERANGEISING

- Highly successful premise overseas Flimlance and Nimbus Films sold the premise to broadcasters in the UK. France, USA, Mexico, Germany and
- The original series was also distributed in 188 countries alongside the remakes and

# THEORY - CULTURAL IN

Fill in the gaps below

degree of

THEORY - CURRA POWER AND

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This means that the med

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W Funding to Screen Yorkship

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How is Peaky Blinders

MARKETING

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Fill in the gaps b

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Peaky Blinders could be describe media text for maximum comm

1) GENRE -

2) STARPOWER -

3) SERIALISATION -

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# **BLUMLER AND KATZ - USES AND GRATIFICATIONS** AUDIENCE PSYCHOGRAPHICS AND DEMOGRAPHICS At which demographic is crime media targeted and why? Which uses and gratifications might a domestic audience be watching crime dramas for, compared to a global audience? Fill in the gaps below with the following terms: niche, mainstream, foreign-language, internationally NICHE APPEAL Crime dramas have S'ARINGE texts often gain only limited appeal outside their countries of origin. TARGETING AUDIENCES - SCHEDI!! I 3 40 6 5 1096 broadcast domestically in navia, and how was it shown in the UK? AUDIENCE THE IMPACT OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY ON AUDIENCES List three major developments in technology and how these have changed how audiences consume and interact with media. 1. BLINDERS MILLION AVERAGE Fill in the gaps below. TARGETING AND SCHEDULING S PER EPISODE Initially considered a show with a relatively \_ \_\_\_\_ audience (due to its setting of working-class Birmingham in 1919), the show was originally scheduled on However, after the of the show, it was moved to the late prime slot of ATTRACTING AUDIE for series 5 and 6. How does the historical accuracy of Peal JEURY – JENKINS – FANDOM DOMESTIC AND INTERNATION How does Peaky Blinders international audience app THE RISK OF ALIENATION 2<sup>rd</sup> Edition © ZigZag Education, 2023

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