

How to Succeed in N5 Media

With the diversification of how we consume Media texts, skills in Media are being actively sought by companies. The ability to think critical about various media texts, identifying techniques used to manipulate audiences' attitudes and behaviours and then utilise these for our own purposes has never before more attractive. But how do we develop these essential skills.

Below are some strategies and ways to improve your skills in Media:

How do I improve my skills for the Question Paper?

Preparing for the Analysis of Media Content previously studied:

- Spend time watching films/television programmes that are from the same genre as the text you are studying, making notes of any similarities and differences between them.
- Watch the texts you are studying several times so that you know it very well.
- Use the formula to develop model/perfect answers for each of the key aspects.
- Use the department practice papers that are available on TEAMS.
- Practice timing.

Preparing for the Analysis of Media Content Unseen:

The question for this section of the paper remains the same every year; it is just the texts you have studied that will change. To help you prepare for this:

- Use the film posters available on TEAMS to practice your analysis.
- Pick posters for each different genre and practice analysis under timed conditions.
- Use model answers available on TEAMS to support your approach.

How to improve my skills for the Media Assignment?

- Take time for each section of research, using the formulas available to develop detailed answers.
- Spend some time practicing your film and editing skills: you can write this up as research for the production roles you take on.
- Plan your filming and editing time carefully – this will allow you to spend more time on your evaluation of the text you have created.
- Again use the examples on the SQA Understanding Standards website to see the exemplification of the standards you are required to achieve.

How to be a Good Learner

- BE ORGANISED - always come to class with a pen, pencil, and your jotter.
- If you are off, always be sure to catch up on any work you have missed.
- Try to find a quiet place to work when you have homework.
- Make use of your planner or phone calendar to note down homework.
- Pay attention to any feedback you receive – it is given to help you improve and provide guidance on how to progress.

How to Support your Child's Learning

- Please beware that they need to be watching television and film for the Media course. They need to have a wide knowledge of popular media and critically look at how these fulfil their role (meeting the needs of the audience, influencing attitudes and behaviours and achieve their purpose.
- Actively discuss the texts they are viewing with regard to how they impact an audience. Encourage them to debate the texts – particularly the adverts – in relation to audience's reactions and how they fulfil their role.

Useful Websites

- SQA past papers:
<https://www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm?subject=Media>
- SQA Understand Standards:
<https://www.understandingstandards.org.uk/Subjects/Media>

