

Y13 PPE Media Studies Revision- Overview and suggested activities

PPE Dates: TBC
Between 7th and 18th Dec 2026
2 exams, 2h each.

• Typical question types per question

Paper 1, Media Messages

Section A- News

1. Use a theorist to ANALYSE representations presented on two newspaper front covers. (This could be screenshots of newspaper websites.) The theorist might be named or you can choose an appropriate one from a specified area. (10marks)
2. EXPLAIN, ANALYSE and EVALUATE the differences between different styles of newspapers as presented in the exam booklet. You need to know the differences between tabloid, broadsheet and middle-market tabloid. You will also need to know political affiliations of the different newspapers. (15marks)
3. EXPLAIN how social, political, economic contexts can affect the production and consumption of newspapers. You need your own facts and stats relating to the question from The Daily Mail and the Guardian and their online equivalents. (10marks)
4. EVALUATE the effectiveness in one of the following theorists. This is connected to news and any area could come up (often industry or audience.) (10marks)

Section B- Media Language and Representation

In this section you could be asked about **two** of the following topics:
One question will be EXPLAIN (10marks) ; one will be ANALYSE (15marks).

- Advertising and Marketing. One of our 3 set adverts or an unseen advert. You need to be able to show understanding of the conventions of advertising and how audiences are affected by the messages in the advert. You need to be able to make reference to specific uses of media language used in the advert. If asked to talk about an advert, it will be printed in your exam paper.
- The Big Issue. This will be an unseen Big Issue. You will need to show understanding of the brand; its style and ethos. How and why do they create

• Typical question types per question

Paper 2, Evolving Media

Section A- Industry and Audience

In this section you could be asked about **two** of the three following topics. It's likely one question will have an industry focus and the other an audience focus.
This is testing your knowledge. The command word is likely to be EXPLAIN.
(Both these questions are worth 15marks.)

- Radio. Your set text is the Radio One Breakfast show. You need to know facts and stats about the show and the way that the BBC is determined by the fact it is a PSB funded by the license fee. You need to have listened to a show and be able to use examples from that show. Music played- names of songs and arts, and why they are chosen; games; audience interactions with the host Greg James. Were there any guests on the show? etc...
- Animal Crossing. You need to understand the development of the game and the many uses of the game: from individual play to Youtubers making a living from the people watching them play the game. Why has the game been so successful? What ways can audiences interact through the game? The more specific examples the better.
- Disney: Snow White and Shang Chi. You will need to show your understanding of the evolving nature of the film industry from production – hand drawn to CGI; distribution – gradual to saturation (blockbuster) distribution to the prominence of streaming services with new films; marketing – trailers, TV endorsements to the dominance of the internet and social media.

Section B- Long Form TV Drama

Q3 is the long question. 30marks.

- You need to talk about both Stranger Things and D83.
- Be able to apply theory from across the framework: all 4 areas. Representation, audience, industry and media language.

representations in a certain way? What effect does it have? You may be asked to evaluate the impact. If asked to talk about The Big Issue, there will be a cover printed in your exam paper. • <u>Music videos</u>. You can refer to either Heaven by Emeli Sandé or Titanium by David Guetta. Typical <u>10 mark</u> questions may ask about how artists are presented, how audiences are engaged, any wider issues that the music video suggests and reference to stereotyping or intertextually. • If the music video question is <u>15 marks</u>, you could be asked to talk about both music videos.	- You need to make sure you can reference specific scenes from the episodes and talk about the media language used. - Fundamentally make sure you answer the question and conclude. Q4. EVALUATE <u>the usefulness</u> of a certain theory in <u>helping to understand</u> Long Form TV drama. You will have a choice of two. Make sure you use examples from the shows to say why it is and why it isn't useful. Any area of theory could come up. (10 marks)
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Theories to cover- some we might not have covered yet.

THEORY: Representation, <i>Stuart Hall- stereotyping</i>	THEORY: Audience, <i>Stuart Hall – reception theory</i>	THEORY: Media Language, <i>Neale- genre theory</i>
THEORY: Representation, <i>Judith Butler- performativity</i>	THEORY: Audience, <i>Shirky- end of audience</i>	THEORY: Media Language, <i>Levi-Strauss- binaries</i>
THEORY: Representation, <i>van Zoonen- feminist</i>	THEORY: Audience, <i>Jenkins- fandom</i>	THEORY: Media Language, <i>Baudrillard, postmodernism, hyperreality</i>
THEORY: Representation, <i>bell hooks- intersectionality</i>	THEORY: Audience, <i>Gerbner- cultivation</i>	THEORY: Media Language, <i>Barthes- semiology</i>
THEORY: Representation, <i>Paul Gilroy, post-colonial theory</i>	THEORY: Audience, <i>Bandura- media effects</i>	THEORY: Industry, <i>Curran and Seaton, power and media industries</i>
THEORY: Representation, <i>David Gauntlett- identity</i>	THEORY: Media Language, <i>Todorov- narratology</i>	THEORY: Industry, <i>Hesmondhalgh, risk</i>
Which theories do you know well? Which theories are useful for news? Which theories are useful for LFTVD?	Which theories do you know less well? Which theories are less useful for news? Which theories are less useful for LFTVD?	THEORY: Industry, <i>Livingstone and Lunt, regulation.</i>

▪ **Year 13 PPE Media Revision Plan 2026**

- There are a lot of tasks on this plan. We don't expect you to do them all. Be selective. A lot of this revision you will have done in preparation for Y12 PPEs, so go back to that work.
- It may be helpful to go through the tasks and highlight the ones that would be most useful for you. You may find that you need to do more revision in one area than another.
- Plan your time wisely and make sure you are doing something, however small, towards your revision every week.
- Good luck and ask for help if you need it.
- Your mocks start after on the 7th of Dec.

Week commencing- Covering in class	Subject Area Revision	Theory Revision	Suggested Tasks
5 th Oct	Music Videos	Van Zoonen – Feminist Butler – Gender Performativity Bell hooks- intersectional feminism	• Rewatch Emeli Sande's music video for Heaven. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=883yQqdOaLg • Go through this slide share on Emeli Sande, <i>Heaven</i> created by another teacher. Loads of background information and questions to answer. https://www.slideshare.net/Yvonne44/emeli-sande-heaven-revision-09-01-18iii • Rewatch David Guetta's music video for Titanium. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JRfuAukYTKg • Go through these slides to remind yourself about the key aspect of the video and wider messages and ideas. https://www2.slideshare.net/jjawwhite/music-video-analysis-44015449?qid=30f5afdd-2fa7-4624-9929-2ae22f0a8171&v=&b=&from_search=7 • Refresh your memory of van Zoonen's theory with Mrs Fisher's video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=73GzwfKFqXc

			- Look over your Instagram feed: how are the women pictured being represented? Does this conform to van Zoonen's ideas about how women are represented? What ideas about gender and women are we learning through the 'discourse' of Instagram? - Watch this 3min clip of Judith Butler talking about gender and performativity. https://www.openculture.com/2018/02/judith-butler-on-gender-performativity.html - Think about the female characters Stranger Things: Nancy, Eleven, Mrs Wheeler and Joyce. In what ways do their 'performances' of gender conform to and subvert Western society's expectations of the female gender?
12 th Oct	Radio	Hall – Reception Hesmondhalgh-industry	REMEMBER THAT IT IS GREG JAMES WHO PRESENTS THE SHOW - Listen to an excerpt from The Radio One Breakfast show that we've studied: this is on EStream: just search 'Radio 1'. Or go on BBC sounds - Find a quote from the show that demonstrates the following: that the show is aimed at 15-29 year olds; that the show is on a Public Service Broadcaster (PSB); that the show follows a zoo format; that the show is adopting a more multi-platform presence. - Read through the following infographic statistics about Radio listening from Rajar: https://www.rajar.co.uk/docs/news/RAJAR_DataRelease_InfographicQ12020.pdf - Use the above information and your knowledge of Radio to explain to a family member or friend how Radio has changed over the years and the adaptations it needs to survive in a Modern Media Landscape. - Watch the following <i>Media Insider</i> video, reminding you of Stuart Hall's Reception Theory: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yJr0gO_-w_Q - Make notes on the three different ways the audience can read a text (preferred, negotiated and oppositional). - The following is an excerpt from a feature of Greg James's Breakfast Show 'Unpopular Opinion' https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/DQzLxxlzz8TQnQcPKLypdP/niall-

			horan-says-harry-styles-is-made-for-the-big-screen . Watch the extract and for two or three of the opinions shared, jot down the preferred, negotiated and oppositional reading of this opinion. By doing this, you're applying Stuart Hall's Reception Theory to the Media text.
Half term	Big Issue Advertising and marketing.	Barthes – Semiology Baudrillard - Postmodernism	• Search for Big Issue front covers (you will have some of these in your folder or look at the Big Issue website for loads of examples https://www.bigissue.com/magazines/) • Annotate the cover exploring the following: Media Language; Representation; examples of Ideology; signs of Audience; Intertextual references. • Use your notes to explain to a family member or friend how the Big Issue is a niche magazine and how this differs from mainstream. • Watch the following clip from <i>The Media Insider</i>: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SlpOaY-HMk • Create a mini A5 revision card with bullet points explaining Barthes' Semiotics Theory (look back at your notes to help you). • Revisit your Big Issue front cover (or choose another if you think you've exhausted the analysis) and apply this theory to 2/3 signs. Make sure you've referenced the <u>denotation</u> and explored the <u>connotations</u>. • Remind yourself of Baudrillard's Postmodernism theory from your notes. You may also like to watch Mrs Fisher's video on this: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1glttxEEVul • Create a mini A5 revision card with bullet points covering the main points of Postmodernism. • Make sure you are familiar with the 3 set texts for the advertising and marketing question. River Island, Dove and Shelter. Go back over the adverts. What messages are being given through the media language?
2nd Nov	Stranger Things D83	Neale – Genre Theory Todorov – Narratology Levi Strauss	• Re-watch the opening to Series 1 Episode 1 of Stranger Things: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CKtq-bZgS8I • <u>R</u>ewatch the opening of D83 on the school Sharepoint.

			• Pick out 6 different examples of Media Language used for effect and describe the impact on audience. • Identify 3 examples of 1980's America and 3 examples of Intertextuality in the opening episode. Why do you think the Duffer brothers chose to use this? Write a short response exploring this. • Remind yourself of Todorov's Narrative Theory using your notes and the following video from <i>The Media Insider</i>: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f7AfnJd55PI. • Looking at the following Stranger Things guide (which has some great info in – definitely worth a read in its entirety before the exam) https://mrsblacksmedia2.files.wordpress.com/2019/03/stranger-things-study-pack-pdf.pdf I'd like you to read pages 5&6 and explore Todorov's Narrative Theory in relation to the opening episode. • Draw a simplified storyboard of the episode. Once you have done this, annotate the storyboard, with reference to the key points of Todorov's theory. • Remind yourself of Neale's Genre Theory from your notes and by (re)watching https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hNaDStRuPdl. • Make brief notes on <u>repeated conventions</u> and <u>different conventions</u> in Stranger Things. • Using these notes, decide whether you think ST is overall a stereotypical Sci-Fi Thriller, or unconventional. Discuss with a family member/friend.
9 th Nov	News	Curran & Seaton – Power & Industry Shirky – End of Audience	• Access The Guardian and The Mail website for today. Make notes on the ways the same story is represented in different newspapers. You should focus on: representation, media language, ideology, audience and narrative. • Imagine you are reporting a story in your own village/ family/ neighbourhood. Mock up a front cover/homepage for this story for the Mail, and another for The Guardian. Once completed, annotate these covers/ homepages and account for the differences.

			- Remind yourself of Shirky's End of Audience Theory from your notes, or by rewatching his TedTalk: https://www.ted.com/talks/clay_shirky_how_social_media_can_make_history?language=en - Imagine you are a citizen reporting one of the stories you looked at in the first activity. Choose 2/3 examples of how you might report this story and draft them (e.g. a Tweet; Facebook post; report for <i>Vice News</i> etc.). - Curran and Seaton state that power lies with big global conglomerates. Explore the companies behind The Mail and The Guardian. Make notes on these as a spider diagram/ family tree. Annotate this for interesting links you find. - Imagine you are the owner of The Mail or The Guardian and you are giving advice to a new editor who has just joined your corporation. Imagine a family member or friend is this new Editor and give them advice for how to write their articles, the level of detail and what, if any, slant (bias) you want them to take. After you've done this, explain why you made these recommendations.
16 th Nov	Animal Crossing	Hesmondhalgh – Cultural Industries Jenkins – Fandom	'Brain Dump' – jot down everything you know about the History and development of Animal Crossing. Share this with a friend from your Media group and add any points you have missed that they remembered. - Write a short response to the following question: <i>Why are video games such a good example of digitally convergent Media? Give one or two examples.</i> - Remind yourself of Hesmondhalgh's Cultural Industries Theory. Look back at your notes and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xD4LDiDAmIM. - Create a mini A5 revision card with bullet points explaining the main points of Hesmondhalgh's Theory.

			- Hesmondhalgh states that corporations duplicate successful concepts in order to maximise profit and minimise risk. Research how many similar sandbox style games you can find. Discuss with a family member or friend why you think this is such a successful product. - Remind yourself of Henry Jenkins' Fandom Theory https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eo3_q9KFY0U.
23rd Nov	D83	Hall – Representation Bandura - Effects Gauntlett – Identity	- Albert Bandura's Effects Theory explores people's behaviour based on what they see: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zerCK0IRjp8 - Read the page 1-6 of the attached revision booklet to remind you of the narrative of the first episode. Complete the quiz on page 13 to test your knowledge. https://mrsblacksmidia2.files.wordpress.com/2019/03/deutschland83-study-pack-pdf.pdf - Look over your character work on D83. How are all the different characters represented? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HxK5CXfKSCI remind yourself of Stuart Hall's theory of representation. - Look at the front pages from the Guardian, The Sun and The Mail today. Who is on the front? How are they being represented? Can you apply Stuart Hall's theory of stereotypes or white, male dominance here? - How can we apply Gauntlett's theory of identity to D83? Watch https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tTRk3Y6BnqA Mrs Fisher to remind yourself.
1st Dec	News	Livingstone & Lunt – Regulation Gerbner - Cultivation	Do some wider reading – representation of women in the news and female consumption of the news. Read the following article: https://www.theguardian.com/news/datablog/2012/oct/23/women-media-representation-online-news. Try to find examples of women in front page/homepage news. Annotate focusing on representation.

		Gilroy – Ethnicity & Post-Colonial	- Attempt the following Quizlet for theories applicable to News: https://quizlet.com/gb/412877057/ocr-a-level-media-studies-theories-for-newspapers-flash-cards/. - Remind yourself of Livingstone and Lunt's Regulation Theory – look back at your notes and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hanh0Lwl8UI to remind you. - Wider reading: read https://www.southcraven.org/force_download.cfm?id=1036 Page 66 & 67. Discuss with a family member or friend why regulation is relevant in News today. Should regulation be statutory or independent? - Revise Gerbner's Cultivation Theory, looking back at your notes and https://revisionworld.com/a2-level-level-revision/media-studies-level-revision/cultivation-theory. - Based on Gerbner's Theory, can you find articles you could hypothetically apply the 'mean world syndrome' to. What would this look like? Write a brief monologue from the perspective of someone in a Nursing Home how they would view this story. - What do you think bell hooks would have to say about the people who took on Amazon: read here. https://www.wired.com/story/meet-the-immigrants-who-took-on-amazon/ - Look at the lady on the cover of Wired. How is she represented? Link bell hooks. Who's side is Wired on? - Have a look at this front page from the Guardian with Marcus Rashford on the front. What do you think Paul Gilroy would say about it? Do you think he would be pleased? Does it signal change? https://twitter.com/guardiannews/status/1272997629245489152
Overall	- Look through what we have done in class. - Read through essays you have written - Make sure you know what you are doing for each part of the exam.		

