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# 2

91251



912510



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY  
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

QUALIFY FOR THE FUTURE WORLD  
KIA NOHO TAKATŪ KI TŌ ĀMUA AO!

SUPERVISOR'S USE ONLY

## Level 2 Media Studies, 2015

### 91251 Demonstrate understanding of an aspect of a media genre

2.00 p.m. Monday 16 November 2015  
Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Demonstrate understanding of an aspect of a media genre.	Demonstrate in-depth understanding of an aspect of a media genre.	Demonstrate critical understanding of an aspect of a media genre.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

**You should write an essay on ONE of the five statements in this booklet.**

If you need more room for any answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–12 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

**YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.**

**Low  
Achievement**

**TOTAL**

**3**

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## INSTRUCTIONS

Choose ONE **media genre** that you have studied.

Write an essay discussing **an aspect** of your chosen media genre, by responding to ONE of the statements below.

In your discussion:

- describe an **aspect** of your chosen media genre
- explain how and/or why this aspect has an **impact** on the media genre
- examine the likely **implications** of this aspect for the media genre, and draw **conclusions** based on evidence
- include **supporting detail** from at least TWO media texts and any other relevant sources.

Use page 3 to write your chosen media genre, your chosen statement number, and to plan your essay.

Begin your essay on page 4.

## STATEMENTS (Choose ONE)

The statements below relate to aspects of a media genre.

1. When a society's preoccupations (e.g. expectations, hopes, concerns, fears, tastes) change, so does a genre.

Discuss a significant change that has taken place in a genre you have studied.

2. Genres thrive (grow, develop, change) when media producers modify conventions.

Discuss how and why this has occurred in a genre you have studied.

3. As an audience becomes used to a genre, they demand more from it.

Discuss to what extent this is true in a genre you have studied.

4. Audiences expect both familiar and original elements in media genres; too much or too little of either will lessen the appeal.

Discuss, in relation to a genre you have studied.

5. The familiarity of a genre provides economic benefits to media producers.

Discuss to what extent this is true in a genre you have studied.

Media genre: Dystopian science fiction

Statement number: 4

ASSESSOR'S  
USE ONLY

*Note: Responses made in this space may be used as evidence for assessment.*

### PLANNING

Description of an **aspect** of your chosen media genre:

How and/or why this aspect has an **impact** on the media genre:

**Likely implications** of this aspect for the media genre:

The suggested maximum for your essay is 800 words (6–7 pages). The quality of your writing is more important than the length of your essay.

Support your discussion with **detail** from at least TWO media texts and any other relevant sources.

Begin your essay here:

The genre of dystopian science fiction has evolved over time to remain relevant to society in the aspect of issues explored and discussed ~~and discussed~~. If the genre does not adapt and evolve it will become irrelevant.

A dystopia is an unhappy world; often plagued by global warming or poverty where a corrupt government rules. Only a small, elite group gain anything, everyone else lives in poverty, hungry, little to no health care, poor homes and conditions, overworked and underpaid. The people would fight back but the government often controls a militia or all the supplies. The sci-fi aspect brings in advanced technology often robots or a similar aspect. This tech is either used to repress the people or help grant them freedom.

Gattaca, a 1997 film directed by Andrew Niccol's looks at IVF and a fear of designer babies. In Gattaca babies are no longer naturally conceived, instead they are all created <sup>using</sup> in vitro fertilisation and are genetically modified due to the parents specifications, eg. Jerome was specifically given traits to become a gold medal swimmer. Babies conceived naturally are referred to as 'in-valids' and discrimination is now based off DNA, not skin.

colour, as Vincent says 'we now have discrimination down to a science'. This mirrors society's fears at the time of IVF, <sup>and</sup> designer babies. At ~~this~~ <sup>the</sup> time this film was made the first IVF baby was born, healthy and perfect. People became scared that scientists would be able to give children certain traits, instead of just screening for illness, and began arguing the ethics of 'designer babies'. Was it right to engineer your child to be a scientist, put all that pressure on them? What if they didn't like science? Or wanted to be a teacher instead? Gattica explored this fear and gave people a place to work out how they felt.

V1

Minority Report, a 2002 film directed by Steven Spielberg looks at a fear of technology and invasion of privacy following 9/11 and the P.A.T.R.I.O.T act. In the film John Anderson works in pre-crime, a division that can see crimes before they happen and intervenes to stop them, arresting the suspect for 'future' crimes before they are committed. After Anderson and his team stop a man from killing his wife, he says 'I haven't done anything yet!'. This looks at free will vs pre-determinism, did ~~they~~ he kill his wife because <sup>pre-crime</sup> they saw him do it, or did ~~they~~ <sup>pre-crime</sup> see him do it because he killed his wife? In Minority Report advertisements read your retinal scan and specify advertisements towards you and your ~~pre-crime~~ purchase history, at this time technology in society was evolving and nowadays web browsers track <sup>the</sup> your sites you visit and tailor advertisements to you. Minority Report also looks at invasion of privacy.

V2

with the pre-cogs seeing things, and the spyders. In the movie we see the spyders deployed into an apartment building, looking for John, the spyders job is to scan the retinas of everyone in the building to ~~make sure~~ <sup>determine if</sup> John ~~isn't there~~ is or is not there. They go through, interrupt intimate moments, and have no regard for peoples privacy or emotional state. This relates to the P.A.T.R.I.O.T. act, a bill that allows the FBI to monitor peoples mail, emails, phone bills, hack their phones, watch them through city cameras. At the time ~~peop~~ this movie was released in cinemas people were scared and angry about the government spying on them, and minority report expressed this fear and anger.

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Surrogates, the 2009 film directed by Joseph W. — looks at a fear of technology and social media. In the film people no longer leave their homes, instead they use robots (called surrogates), they connect their brain to a machine at home and live through their robot. This reflects peoples fear of technology taking over their lives, as people now interact through their surrogates, this relates to their fear that social media, texting, Skypeing, instant messaging, is going to make human interaction irrelevant, careless, cruel, encouraging us to behave like robots.

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Elysium, the 2012 film directed by David Blomkamp looks at our fear of over population and global warming/poverty. In Elysium humans have killed the Earth, most animals are extinct, and the rich have fled to live on a

spaceship that orbits Earth, called Elysium. ~~This~~ the Earth became so over populated we ran out of resources, we killed the Earth. This relates back to our fear of over-population and the idea that the Earth can only support so many life forms at any given time.

V4

In these movies we see the themes adapt as societies fears adapt, allowing them to stay relevant to society, as what scares us also interests us. It is important for the themes within these movies to evolve and adapt because they're a vehicle for social commentary and they need to adapt to survive and stay relevant to society as it changes.

<b>Low Achievement exemplar for Media Studies 91251 2015</b>			<b>Total score</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Q</b>	<b>Grade score</b>	<b>Annotation</b>		
	A3	<p>The candidate gives a very limited description of the aspect of the genre (change).</p> <p>Uses four examples, however these do not add to the description of the aspect.</p> <p>Very 'film-based' response, rather than a description of the genre as a vehicle of social commentary.</p>		



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High  
Achievement

TOTAL

4

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## INSTRUCTIONS

Choose ONE **media genre** that you have studied.

Write an essay discussing **an aspect** of your chosen media genre, by responding to ONE of the statements below.

In your discussion:

- describe an **aspect** of your chosen media genre
- explain how and/or why this aspect has an **impact** on the media genre
- examine the likely **implications** of this aspect for the media genre, and draw **conclusions** based on evidence
- include **supporting detail** from at least TWO media texts and any other relevant sources.

Use page 3 to write your chosen media genre, your chosen statement number, and to plan your essay.

Begin your essay on page 4.

## STATEMENTS (Choose ONE)

The statements below relate to aspects of a media genre.

1. When a society's preoccupations (e.g. expectations, hopes, concerns, fears, tastes) change, so does a genre.

Discuss a significant change that has taken place in a genre you have studied.

2. Genres thrive (grow, develop, change) when media producers modify conventions.

Discuss how and why this has occurred in a genre you have studied.

3. As an audience becomes used to a genre, they demand more from it.

Discuss to what extent this is true in a genre you have studied.

4. Audiences expect both familiar and original elements in media genres; too much or too little of either will lessen the appeal.

Discuss, in relation to a genre you have studied.

5. The familiarity of a genre provides economic benefits to media producers.

Discuss to what extent this is true in a genre you have studied.

Media genre: Gangster GenreStatement number: 1

Note: Responses made in this space may be used as evidence for assessment.

**PLANNING**Description of an **aspect** of your chosen media genre:

Significant change that has taken place in a genre you have studied.

Hays Code - 1930s - 1960s.

~~revised~~

How and/or why this aspect has an **impact** on the media genre:

It shaped the gangster genre.

Gangster films ~~should~~ minimise the portrayal of gangster glorification, where violent and criminal scenes decreased and gangster films ended with the gangsters either dead or behind bars. This therefore shows that you can't live a successful life through crime forever.

**Likely implications of this aspect for the media genre:**

Intro - Introducing the gangster genre and the event that ~~the~~ shaped this genre.

Paragraph ① - BEFORE the hays code was introduced.  
- Eg. The Musketeers of Pig Alley. 1912 - D.W. Griffith.

Paragraph ② - DURING - 1930s.  
- Eg. Film Scarface - Shame of the nation. changed the ending to suit the production code.

Paragraph ③ - After - 1960s.  
- Eg. Film - The Departed - 2006 - Martin Scorsese.  
The GodFathers - 1972 - Francis Coppola.

conclusion.

The suggested maximum for your essay is 800 words (6–7 pages). The quality of your writing is more important than the length of your essay.

Support your discussion with **detail** from at least TWO media texts and any other relevant sources.

Begin your essay here:

When a society's preoccupations change, so does the genre. This ~~was~~ statement was portrayed in the gangster genre when the Hays <sup>Production</sup> Code was announced in the 1930s by the ~~the~~ government. ~~The Hays Code~~ The gangster genre is a category that ~~shows~~ <sup>reflects</sup> on different aspects such as: the gangsters <sup>commits</sup> crime from a ~~young~~ <sup>showing wealth and status</sup> young age, rise to power through the use of crimes, conflict with society and eventually falls from power. The aspect Fall from power ~~is~~ links to the Hays Code because it was responsible <sup>gangsters in</sup> for gangsters' films ~~unsuccessful endings~~ and ~~deglorification~~.

<sup>Production</sup>  
Before the Hays Code was introduced to the public, gangster films were ~~gratified~~ displayed so many brutal and violent scenes. Gangsters were also glorified by the public and the act of violence was easily influenced. An example is the film 'The Musketeers of Pig Alley' directed by DW Griffin in 1912, where a lot of violent scenes were displayed and gangsters in this film were seen as successful individuals. This film showed gangsters using violence through weapons such as gun and easily got away with their criminal actions.

This influenced society, as they saw the life of violence and crime as a way to live a more successful life and earn money. So therefore, gangsters were easily glorified <sup>from society</sup> and ~~admired~~ <sup>admired</sup> society.

In the 1930s, the government decided to put a stop on gangster glorification where the Hays Production Code was a way to do this. The Hays code forced film directors and producers to minimise the scenes of violence and crime and portray gangsters as psychopaths who will always have a bad outcome/ending on their life of crime. Film such as the 'Scarface - Shame of the nation' directed by Howard Hawkes in 1932 portrayed this law and showed how it changed gangster films. ~~This is a film~~ In this film, it showed how the character / gangster Tony used violence at the end where he fought back at the police, shooting directly at them freely. This scene ~~we~~ I sense how much Tony loves the use of crimes as he laughs and seems happy <sup>just</sup> shooting freely at the police. He shows no mercy of giving up and turning himself in. Scarface was then remade to suit the production code, where this second remake showed less violent actions from Tony. In fact, the police seems to have more power and control of the situation, where as Tony had no chances of

overpowering them. The remake also did not show the scene where he grabs out his guns from the closet or scene where he shot back to the polices ~~were~~ <sup>for</sup> ~~off~~. The film maker ~~for~~ this film also added an extra scene to the ending, where the audience can see the consequences Tony faces for his violent crime. Tony faced prosecution where he was hung and the judge described him as a horrible person that don't deserve to live. This shows the audience or ~~the~~ society that gangsters ~~show~~ should not be glorified and the idea that ~~gangsters~~ the life of crime will never make you successful forever. This film also shows how the Hays ~~code~~ <sup>and shaped</sup> Production code changed ~~the~~ gangster genre. It also stopped gangster glorification from society, where they were seen as bad people who'll ~~end up~~ eventually face the consequences where they'll end up dead or behind bars.

In the 1960s, the Hays Production Code was then abandoned. Although the Hays code ~~does~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>no longer</sup> exist today, it still has an impact to the gangster genre today, which gangster films still ends with gangster's having an unsuccessful ending. Gangster films such as 'Goodfellas' directed by Martin Scorsese in 1990, which shows a significant downfall for the gangsters,

The gangster Henry Hill became sloppy with his drug dealing and was then caught by the F.B.I. where he was forced to give up names of his organisation (mafia), including his boss Paulie and ~~part~~ friend (partner in crime) Jimmy. This was so he could live a normal life which he didn't face long-term sentences behind bars, like how his organisation did, but instead, ~~Henry~~ Henry Hill lived under the Witness Protection Programme. For his friend Tommy (rising gangster), he faced death for the killing of Billy Bath (made-man). These ~~consequences~~ shows the kind of consequences these gangsters faced and how their life of success through the act of crime will eventually still lead to its down fall. Therefore, this links to the Hays Code, which could be responsible for this ~~ending~~ unsuccessful ending. This shows how ~~though~~ although the Hays code was introduced a long time ago and was abandoned in the 1960's, it still has a huge impact in the gangster genre where their act of crime is still not tolerated. ~~This links to today's society, where news paper articles don't glorify these kind of people such as gangsters like people do not tolerate the act of crime now-a-days.~~

Another film that was out after the Hays Code was abandoned was the film 'The Godfather' directed by Francis Coppola.

in ~~1929~~ 1977. This film shows how the Hays code did not <sup>have an</sup> impact on this as at the ending, gangsters

In conclusion, before the Hays Code was introduced, ~~gangster films~~ violence in gangster films were easily influenced ~~and~~ and glorified by ~~the public~~ society. Films showed gangsters living a successful life through their criminal and violent activities. This therefore got the government to introduce the Hays Production Code, minimising brutal and violent scenes and showed ~~of~~ the endings ~~of~~ for gangster in gangster films unsuccessful. Not only did this stop gangster glorification, but also changed and shaped the gangster genre. It still impacts films today, where gangsters end <sup>with an</sup> unsuccessful life. Gangsters in gangster films <sup>either</sup> ends up dead or behind bars.



<b>High Achievement exemplar for Media Studies 91251 2015</b>			<b>Total score</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Q</b>	<b>Grade score</b>	<b>Annotation</b>		
	A4	<p>The candidate demonstrates understanding of an aspect of the gangster genre (the change in censorship). This is supported with strong evidence from two texts.</p> <p>To achieve Merit, further discussion of how and / or why the Hayes Code impacted on the genre is needed, possibly including links to society.</p>		