

91493



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SUPERVISOR'S USE ONLY

## Level 3 Media Studies, 2015

### 91493 Demonstrate understanding of a relationship between a media genre and society

9.30 a.m. Friday 27 November 2015  
Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Demonstrate understanding of a relationship between a media genre and society.	Demonstrate in-depth understanding of a relationship between a media genre and society.	Demonstrate perceptive understanding of a relationship between a media genre and society.

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 eight 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 2–11 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.**

**Not  
Achieved**

**TOTAL**

**2**

ASSESSOR'S USE ONLY

**INSTRUCTIONS**

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

Write an essay discussing a **relationship** between your chosen media genre and society, by responding to ONE of the statements below. You may agree and/or disagree with your chosen statement.

*Note: 'Society' refers to a community in a specific time and place, or the audience for a genre.*

In your discussion:

- explain the **relationship** between your chosen media genre and society
- explain the **impact** of this relationship on your chosen media genre and/or society
- draw conclusions about the **wider significance** of this relationship by including **relevant, specific supporting detail** from media text(s) and other sources.

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

Begin your essay on page 4, responding **ONLY** to your chosen statement.

**STATEMENTS** (Choose ONE)

The statements below relate to aspects of a media genre.

1. Genre provides mindless entertainment for the masses.
2. Genre allows us to see the world in a new way.
3. Genre shows us the truth about society.
4. Technology has a significant impact on genre.
5. Genre are evolving all the time.
6. Genre are often responsible for negative representations.
7. Genre teaches us about social history.
8. The boundaries between genre are often blurred.

Media genre: Film Noir

Society: 1940s - 1950s

Statement number: 3

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

**PLANNING**

Explanation of the **relationship** between your chosen media genre and society:

Film Noir representing pessimism and sadness of society during WWII and Great Depression.

Chiaroscuro

narrative

visual style

end of noir

shady side

what it represents

conclusion

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matte film

Sam Spade

Bridget O'Shanghassy

genre film

Shadows

Hog / censorship 1930-1960

The **impact** of this relationship on your chosen media genre and/or society:

The **wider significance** of this relationship:

The suggested maximum for your essay is 800–1 000 words (5–6 pages). The quality of your writing is more important than the length of your essay.

Support your discussion by **drawing conclusions with relevant, specific supporting detail** from media text(s) and other sources.

Begin your essay (responding **ONLY** to your chosen statement) here:

Film Noir is first recognised from around 1940-1958, it was a term given by French critics for American thriller and detective movies. These movies represented the state of society during the 1940's-1950's due to the effect of WWII and the Great Depression. The state of society is shown through the use of foggy isolated locations and shadowy characters. The emergence of femme fatale characters are also key for Film Noir as these female characters are attractive and seductive women who can feel for themselves and cause distress for men that get involved with them. These characters portray the new found independence for females during WWII. The anti-hero is still your normal protagonist-hero but goes against the normal "perfect" qualities of a hero. The anti-hero is not perfect and often goes against normal societal practices and laws and has many flaws.

Film Noir expresses the truth about society through the use of femme fatales, anti-heroes, fog and shadows, pessimism, isolation and themes that are current of the time period. The femme fatale represents the new independence of women during WWII. Women had to be independent during this time period due to the amount of men off fighting in battles. Many women took up jobs normally taken by men of the time period such as factory workers because if not the country would collapse. The femme fatale character is a very attractive female character who is

often jingle and uses her seduction to get her way with men. The Femme fatale causes distress for many male characters who get involved with her. The femme fatale is a very powerful strong woman who can stand up for herself and isn't afraid to use violence. The term anti-hero originates from film noir and is generally a male character who has qualities or takes actions that go against the normal characteristics of a "hero". The Anti-hero does things that go against normal social practise and laws but generally in a way to achieve their well meant goal. The Anti-hero character shows the morally ambiguous pessimism and dark side of society during the 1940's and 1950's. During WWII many atrocities took place that are morally questionable beyond all doubt. This anti-hero character portrays that as they will do morally questionable things throughout the movie. This character is still very popular and much used in film today as the character is relatable with his/her flaws and imperfect personality and actions. The location for film noir is generally foggy dark settings with city backdrops to create a sense of isolation and sadness. These feelings are felt during the time period especially post WWII and during the Great Depression where people are trying to recover and survive during these so called times where money was scarce and living conditions were poor. Chiaroscuro is the idea of shadows and harsh light in paintings. However this idea was given to film noir due to the use of shadows to obscure people of certain facial features. The use of shadows also exaggerated facial expressions. These shadows relate to society due to the darkness of society during the 1940's-1950's and the sadness felt by people. Film Noir was also heavily influenced by censorship the Hays films which started in 1930 and ended in 1968. Censorship was a set of guidelines for films during this time period and

restrained what could be shown in film. Film noir stretched the boundaries of censorship and found ways around the rules to portray what was desired. Low budget and poor technology was also an issue for film noir. Film noir started to fade away in 1958 when the world started to change. The Great Depression was starting to end and WWII had ended over 10 years ago. The emergence of Neo Noir still occasionally pops up when social atrocities hit such as War, terrorist attacks or socio-economic disaster. The main aspect of old film noir remain but themes change dependent on what is happening in the world to affect the film. I believe Neo-Noir films will always come around due to the never ending possibility of a disaster happening. These cause a negative effect on society and are then reflected through film until it has passed.

<b>Not Achieved exemplar for Media Studies 91493 2015</b>		<b>Total score</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Q</b>	<b>Grade score</b>	<b>Annotation</b>	
3	N2	<p>The candidate explains the relationship between the media genre of a film noir and American society for the chosen statement, however the candidate has provided minimal evidence.</p> <p>To achieve a higher grade, the candidate needed to include relevant, specific supporting details from media text(s).</p>	