

Media Studies

Advanced GCE **G323**

Key Media Concepts (Radio Studies)

Mark Scheme for June 2010

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All Examiners are instructed that alternative correct answers and unexpected approaches in candidates' scripts must be given marks that fairly reflect the relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and the Report on the Examination.

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| Question Number | Answer | Max Mark |
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| 1 | <p>The purpose of these units is firstly to assess candidates' media textual analysis skills and their understanding of the concept of representation using a short unheard audio extract (AO1 and AO2), secondly to assess candidates' knowledge and understanding of media institutions and their production processes , distribution strategies, use of technologies and related issues concerning audience reception and consumption of media texts (AO1 and AO2).</p> <p>Section A: Textual Analysis and Representation (Audio extract)</p> <p>Extract: The Old Curiosity Shop, broadcast on BBC 7, 10.00 am Friday 9th January 2009.</p> <p>Discuss the ways in which the extract constructs representations of age using the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech • Music • Sound effects • Editing <p>Candidates will be assessed on their ability to understand how representations are constructed in a media text through the analysis of different technical areas. Assessment will take place across three criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explanation/analysis/argument (20 marks) AO1 Specific • Use of examples (20 marks) AO2 Specific • Use of terminology (10 marks) AO1 Specific <p>Candidates should be prepared to analyse and discuss the following: technical aspects of the language and conventions of the audio-radio medium, in relation to the unheard audio extract, as appropriate to the genre and the extract specified, in order to discuss the sequence's representation of individuals, groups, events or places:</p> <p>Speech</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accent, tone of the voice, expression of personality, mode of address/ direct address, voiceover, contribution to dialogue, use of dialogue, rhythm and cadence in speech/ speed of the speech and use of silence. <p>Music</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of soundtrack, incidental music, theme tune, stings and jingles, ambient sound, contrapuntual sound, mood/ stylisation. <p>Sound effects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diegetic and non-diegetic sound, sound mixing, sound motif, radio ident, use of sound effects as indexical signifiers. | (50) |

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| | <p>Editing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pacing of show, sound levels, use of silence, continuity, post-production effects, transitions. <p>Candidates' work should be judged on each of these criteria individually and marks awarded according to the level attained. It should be noted that it is possible for a candidate to achieve a different level for each assessment criterion.</p> <p>General Mark Scheme</p> <p>Level 1</p> <p><u>Explanation/analysis/argument</u> (0-7 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shows minimal understanding of the task Minimal understanding of the way that technical aspects are used to construct the extract's representations Of minimal relevance to set question or a brief response (under one and a half sides of answer booklet) <p><u>Use of examples</u> (0-7 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offers minimal textual evidence from the extract Offers a limited range of examples (only one technical area covered) Offers examples of minimal relevance to the set question <p><u>Use of terminology</u> (0-3 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal or frequently inaccurate use of terminology. <p>Some simple ideas have been expressed. There will be some errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar, which will be noticeable and intrusive. Writing may also lack legibility.</p> | |

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| | <p>Level 2</p> <p><u>Explanation/analysis/argument</u> (8-11 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows basic understanding of the task • Basic understanding of the way that technical aspects are used to construct the extracts representations • Some relevance to set question. <p><u>Use of examples</u> (8-11 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offers some textual evidence from the extract • Offers a partial range of examples (at least two technical areas covered) • Offers examples with some relevance to the set question. <p><u>Use of terminology</u> (4-5 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some terminology used, although there may be some inaccuracies <p>Some simple ideas have been expressed in an appropriate context. There are likely to be some errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar of which some may be noticeable and intrusive.</p> <p>Level 3</p> <p><u>Explanation/analysis/argument</u> (12-15 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows proficient understanding of the task • Proficient understanding of the way that technical aspects are used to construct the extract's representations • Mostly relevant to set question. <p><u>Use of examples</u> (12-15 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offers consistent textual evidence from the extract • Offers a range of examples (at least three technical areas covered) • Offers examples which are mostly relevant to the set question <p><u>Use of terminology</u> (6-7 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of terminology is mostly accurate <p>Straightforward ideas have been expressed with some clarity and fluency. Arguments are generally relevant, though may stray from the point of the question. There will be some errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar, but these are unlikely to be intrusive or obscure meaning.</p> <p>Level 4</p> <p><u>Explanation/analysis/argument</u> (16-20 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows excellent understanding of the task • Excellent knowledge and understanding of the way that technical aspects are used to construct the extract's representations • Clearly relevant to set question | |

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| | <p><u>Use of examples</u> (16-20 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Offers frequent textual analysis from the extract – award marks to reflect the range and appropriateness of examples• Offers a full range of examples from each technical area• Offers examples which are clearly relevant to the set question. <p><u>Use of terminology</u> (8-10 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use of terminology is relevant and accurate. <p>Complex issues have been expressed clearly and fluently. Sentences and paragraphs, consistently relevant, have been well structured, using appropriate technical terminology. There may be few, if any, errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar.</p> | |
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| 2 | <p>Section B: Institutions and Audiences</p> <p>What significance does the continuing development of digital media technology have for media institutions and audiences?</p> <p>Candidates focus on one of the following media areas, though they may make reference to other media, which they have studied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Film • Music • Newspapers • Radio • Magazines • Video Games <p>Candidates will be assessed on their ability to illustrate patterns of production, distribution, exchange and consumption through relevant case study examples and their own experiences as audiences.</p> <p>Candidates may cover the following material in their responses to the question:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The impact of new technology on media industries • The transformation of distribution and marketing strategies by media institutions • The use of new technology to facilitate more accurate targeting of specific audiences • How audiences embrace the use of new digital media technologies <p>Candidates should be given credit for their knowledge and understanding, illustrated through case study material, in any of these areas; there is no requirement that they should all be covered equally. Examiners should also be prepared to allow points, examples and arguments that have not been considered if they are relevant and justified.</p> <p>Topic Headings – these are general issues which may be raised by the question set.</p> <p>Film</p> <p>A study of a specific studio or production company within a contemporary film industry that targets a British audience (e.g. Hollywood, Bollywood, UK film), including its patterns of production, distribution, exhibition and consumption by audiences. This should be accompanied by study of contemporary film distribution practices (digital cinemas, DVD, HD-DVD, downloads, etc) and their impact upon production, marketing and consumption.</p> | (50) |

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| | <p>Music</p> <p>A study of a particular record label within the contemporary music industry that targets a British audience, including its patterns of production, distribution, marketing and consumption by audiences. This should be accompanied by study of the strategies used by record labels to counter the practice of file sharing and their impact on music production, marketing and consumption.</p> | |
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| | <p>Newspapers</p> <p>A study of the contemporary newspaper market in the UK and the ways in which technology is helping to make newspapers more efficient and competitive despite dwindling audiences. This should be accompanied by study of a specific online version of a national/local newspaper and the issues that are raised for the production, distribution and consumption of news.</p> <p>Radio</p> <p>A study of a particular station or media group within the contemporary radio industry that targets a British audience, examining its various production, distribution and exhibition practices, as well as audience consumption. This should be accompanied by study of the impact of DAB and internet broadcasting on radio production practices, marketing and (British) audience consumption.</p> <p>Magazines</p> <p>A study of a successful magazine within the contemporary British magazine market, including its patterns of production, distribution, marketing and consumption by audiences. This should be accompanied by study of the use of online magazine editions and the issues that they raise for the production, marketing and consumption of a magazine brand.</p> <p>Video games</p> <p>A study of the production, distribution and marketing of a specific game within one or across various gaming platforms, along with its reception by a variety of (British) audiences. This should be accompanied by study of the impact of next generation capabilities (HD, Blu-Ray, online services etc) on the production, distribution, marketing and consumption of games.</p> <p>The above list is not intended to be exhaustive. It is acknowledged that most media industries are characterised by cross-media strategies, production and promotion; candidates will be expected to focus on a particular medium but should make reference to related media where relevant.</p> <p>General Mark Scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explanation/analysis/argument (20 marks) AO1 specific • Use of examples (20 marks) AO2 specific • Use of terminology (10 marks) AO3 specific <p>Level 1</p> <p><u>Explanation/analysis/argument</u> (0-7 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows minimal understanding of the task • Minimal knowledge and understanding of institutional/audience practices – general opinions or assertions predominate | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal argument evident, with little reference to case study material • Of minimal relevance to set question or a brief response (under one and a half sides of answer booklet) <p><u>Use of examples</u> (0-7 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offers minimal case study material • Offers a limited range of or inappropriate examples • Offers examples of minimal relevance to set question. <p><u>Use of terminology</u> (0-3 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal or frequently inaccurate use of appropriate terminology. <p>Some simple ideas have been expressed. There will be some errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar, which will be noticeable and intrusive. Writing may also lack legibility.</p> <p>Level 2</p> <p><u>Explanation/analysis/argument</u> (8-11 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows basic understanding of the task • Basic knowledge and understanding of institutional/audience practices – factual knowledge will have some accuracy • Basic argument evident, with some reference to case study material • Some relevance to set question. <p><u>Use of examples</u> (8-11 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offers some evidence from case study material • Offers a partial range of examples from case study and own experience • Offers examples of some relevance to the set question. <p><u>Use of terminology</u> (4-5 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some terminology used, although there may be some inaccuracies. <p>Some simple ideas have been expressed in an appropriate context. There are likely to be some errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar of which some may be noticeable and intrusive.</p> | |
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| | <p>Level 3</p> <p><u>Explanation/analysis/argument</u> (12-15 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows proficient understanding of the task • Proficient knowledge and understanding of institutional/audience practices – factual knowledge is mostly accurate • Some developed argument, supported by reference to case study material • Mostly relevant to set question <p><u>Use of examples</u> (12-15 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offers consistent evidence from case study material • Offers a range of examples from case study and own experience • Offers examples which are mostly relevant to the set question <p><u>Use of terminology</u> (6-7 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of terminology is mostly accurate <p>Straightforward ideas have been expressed with some clarity and fluency. Arguments are generally relevant, though may stray from the point of the question. There will be some errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar, but these are unlikely to be intrusive or obscure meaning.</p> <p>Level 4</p> <p><u>Explanation/analysis/argument</u> (16-20 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows excellent understanding of the task • Excellent knowledge and understanding of institutional/audience practices – factual knowledge is relevant and accurate • A clear and developed argument, substantiated by detailed reference to case study material • Clearly relevant to set question <p><u>Use of examples</u> (16-20 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offers frequent evidence from case study material – award marks to reflect the range and appropriateness of examples from case study and/or own experience • Offers examples which are clearly relevant to the set question <p><u>Use of terminology</u> (8-10 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of terminology is relevant and accurate <p>Complex issues have been expressed clearly and fluently. Sentences and paragraphs, consistently relevant, have been well structured, using appropriate technical terminology. There may be few, if any, errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar.</p> | |

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