

A LEVEL MEDIA STUDIES

SUMMER TASK

As part of the Media A level, you will be expected to research into existing media products and generate some creative ideas for your own work. To give you a taste of what you might complete later in the first year of the course, we have put together a small project for you to work on. This will help develop your research skills, as well as your planning and production skills.

TASK: Using the title 'Lockdown', we would like you to plan and hopefully make a product that represents your experience during this time.

Please choose **ONE** of the following:

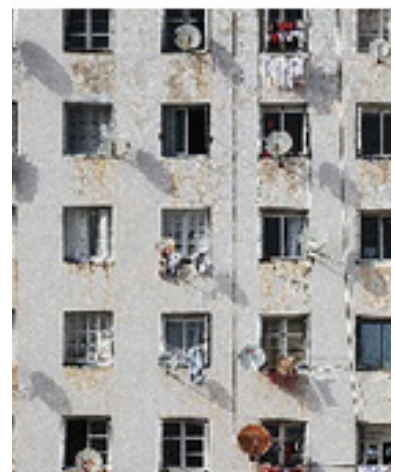
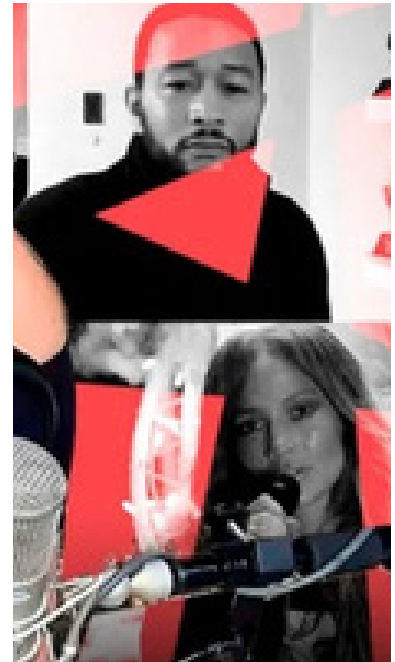
- **OPTION 1: A 3 minute documentary for a YouTube channel**
- **OPTION 2: An article for a magazine of your choice**
- **OPTION 3: A feature article for a newspaper of your choice**
- **OPTION 4: Marketing materials for a new feature film called Lockdown**

RESEARCH

You will need to find out how to construct your product by looking carefully at 1-2 similar examples.

- How are they created?
- What type of language/colour scheme/camera shots/font style are used?
- Why do you think this is?

For example, if you're planning on exploring the documentary option, what elements would you include to make it look like a documentary? You may want to use a presenter and interview people. You will need to think about backgrounds to use such as bookshelves and plants or perhaps a garden? You could even interview people and film using a platform such as Zoom but please ask everyone's permission.



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GENERATING INITIAL IDEAS

How has the lockdown experience been for you? What has been your daily routine? Have you been surprised by anything? What are you planning to do once the lockdown restrictions have been lifted? Do you think you will want to keep any of the aspects of lockdown moving into the future?

PLANNING

This is a very important stage and the way you plan will depend on the product you choose. Media Studies is a creative subject and it is always useful to have a notebook and jot down ideas for themes, characters, locations, experiences that are interesting, stories including new angles on an existing story etc.

You might find a mind map or thought shower useful too.

There are different ways to plan each type of media product and you can find more information by looking at the following:

1. The Documentary: this link may be useful but tends to focus on fiction.
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z2vrhv4/revision/1> For a documentary you will need to plan an outline structure including elements that you choose such as an introduction by a presenter or voice over and links or narration to explain your ideas (you will need a script for this). If you interview people (obviously only people in your household or on a digital platform to maintain social distancing) write some questions.
2. The Magazine article: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z27cmnb/revision/1>
3. Newspaper article: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z2yycdm/articles/z2gk9qt>
4. The Film Poster: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zr9s6v4> You could have a look at this software and use photographs that you take with a mobile phone or images that are available to you online. <https://www.canva.com/search/templates?q=film%20poster&organic=true>

It is **VERY IMPORTANT** that you only use images that you can take in your home or garden and ensure that you are following the Government's guidance on **SOCIAL DISTANCING**. Only do what you can depending on your individual circumstances at home. This will hopefully give you a flavour of what we do in Media Studies at A Level and we hope you enjoy it. The most important thing is to **STAY SAFE**.