

Year 11-12 Transition Summer Task for Media Studies

The Media is everywhere in our modern world; in our homes, on our computer screens, on phones and even appearing on our wrists. Previously Media was based on an analogue environment, with TV, film and many written forms of media (like newspapers and magazines). But in the Digital Age, it's impossible to tell the difference between one type of medium and another.



Consider the importance of a question like, *what is 'television' now, in an age where we can watch anything, anywhere, anytime?* The growth of streaming sites such as Netflix and Amazon, both of which are producing their own original content, can also make us question; *What will television look like in another 10 years?*

The first summer task for Media Studies is to answer the question:

'Why study the Media?'

Your response can be in the form of an essay or PowerPoint presentation, consisting of approximately 750 words. In your investigation of the question you should refer to:

- ◆ Examples of media e.g. TV/the Internet/newspapers etc.
- ◆ Specific examples of media texts e.g. TV programmes/websites/films etc.
- ◆ Facts/statistics about the Media to back up your points
- ◆ Examples of events/news stories linked to the Media
- ◆ The views of important people who comment on the media about this subject

You can consider:

- ◆ The impact of the Media on young people
- ◆ The effect of too much Media on skills like communication and socialisation
- ◆ What it was like in the **past** and what it might be like in the **future**
- ◆ You need to:
- ◆ Write in a coherent and structured way
- ◆ Use Standard English appropriately
- ◆ Use technical terms about the Media correctly
- ◆ Write factually and accurately, backing up your points with well-referenced sources
- ◆ Include a bibliography

For your second task you should choose your favourite film.

As you can see mine would be the 1972 classic, The Godfather



You then need to describe what **GENRE** it is and **WHY** it is your favourite. Along with this information you will need to write a **500 word ANALYSIS** of the opening 5 minutes of your film.

Use the following sheets to help you with this analysis.

Please send all completed work to the following email; g.andrew@paget.staffs.sch.uk

Use the following terms to help with you textual analysis.

Camera movement

Comment on the use of:

- ◆ Panning shots (where the camera moves horizontally from a fixed point),
- ◆ Tilt shots (where the camera moves vertically from a fixed point)
- ◆ Tracking shots where the camera is put on a track to follow the action smoothly.
- ◆ Hand held camera work, if used.

Sound

Comment on the use of:

- ◆ Music
- ◆ Dialogue
- ◆ Sound effects
- ◆ Ambient sound (background atmospheric sounds)

Editing

When one shot stops and the next shot starts – this is called a straight cut

When one shot blends into the next shot – this is called a dissolve

When one shot pushes another off the screen – this is called a wipe

When a conversation is edited between shots which look at one character then the next character – this is called shot reverse shot

Comment on:

- ◆ The pace of the cuts from one shot to the next. Is it slow or fast?
- ◆ Any use of slow motion/ fast motion
- ◆ Use of shot reverse shot and what it tells us about the characters

Mise en Scene

This refers to costume/ props/ lighting/ set/location

Comment on what the above tell the audience

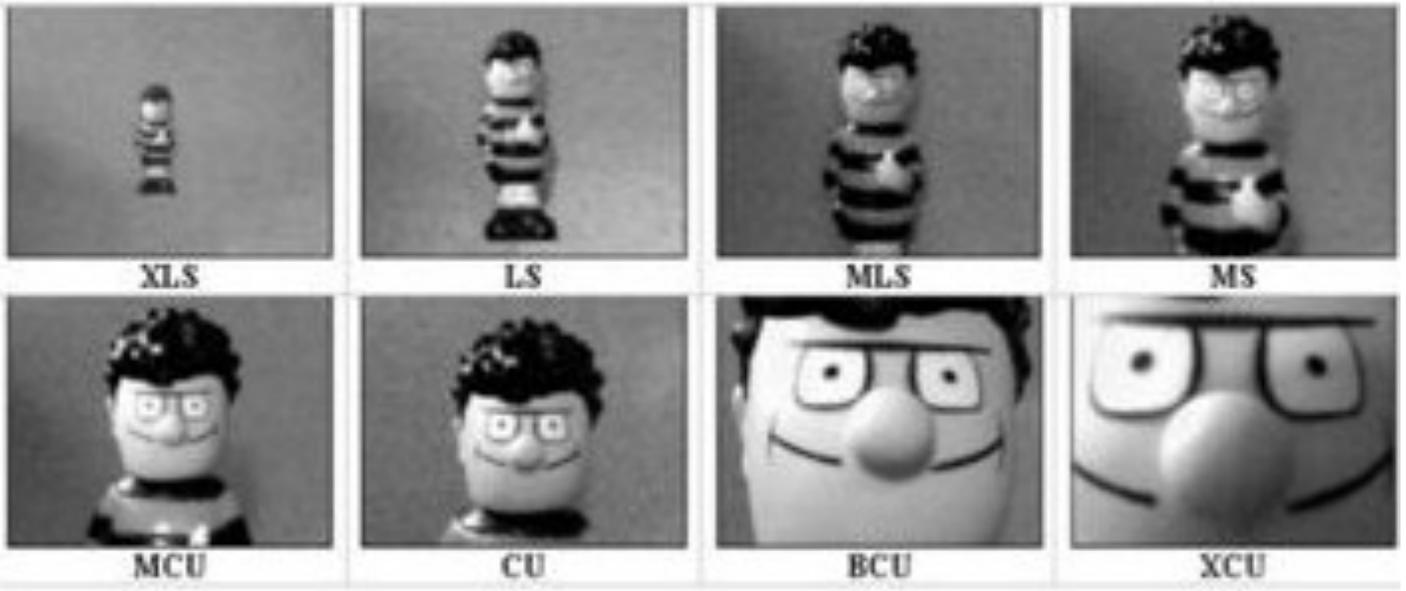
Representation

What do we learn about the characters from the way they are presented?

Comment on:

- ◆ Costume/make up/ hair
- ◆ Dialogue – what they say, how they say it and what others say to or about them
- ◆ Body language
- ◆ What they do/ how they act

Shot Sizes



Shot types:

XLS= Extreme Long Shot LS= Long Shot

MLS= Medium Long Shot

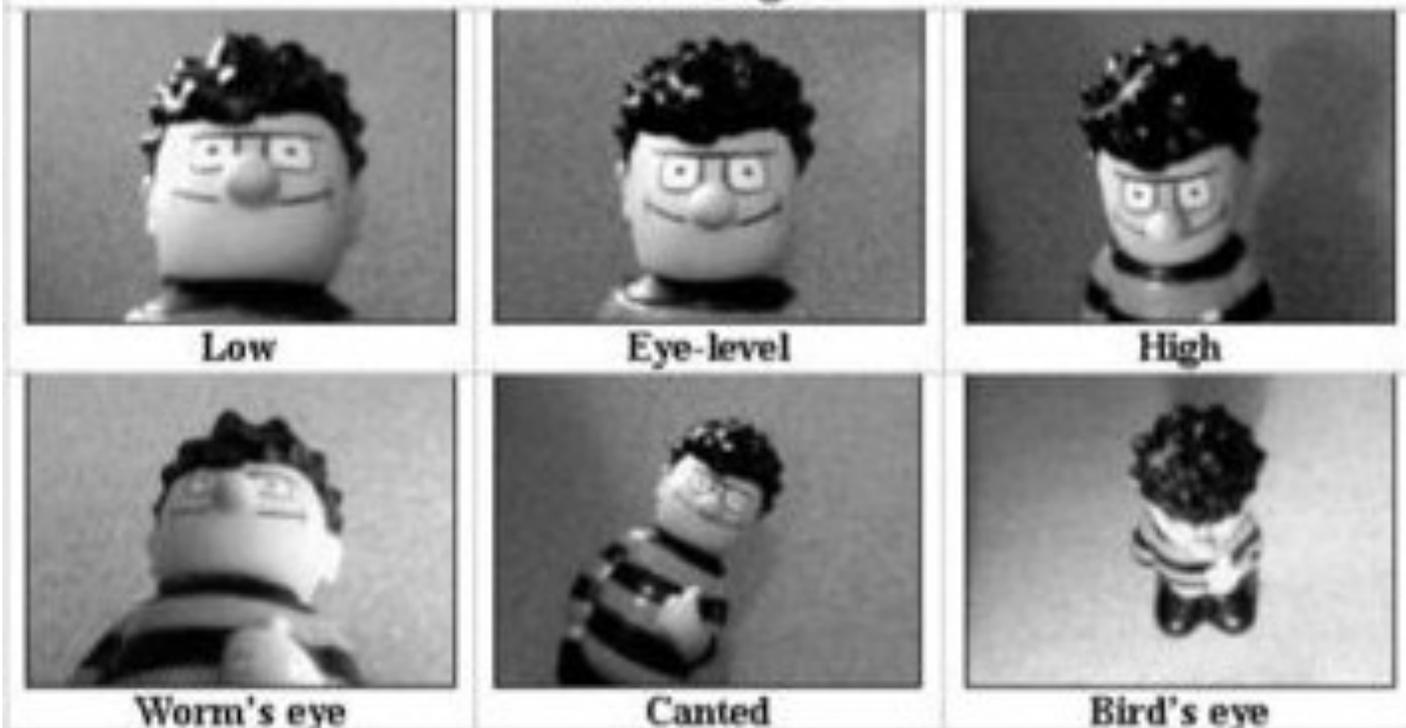
MS= Medium Shot

MCU= Medium Close up CU=Close Up

BCU= Big Close Up

XCU= Extreme Close Up

Shot Angles



Camera and Lens Movement



Pan Left



Pan Right



Crab Left



Crab Right



Track Out



Track In



Zoom Out [lens]



Zoom In



Ped Up



Ped Down



Tilt Up



Tilt Down