

VCE Media Written examination – November

Examination specifications

Overall conditions

The examination will be scheduled at a time and date to be set annually by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority.

There will be 15 minutes reading time and two hours writing time.

VCAA examination rules will apply. Details of these rules are published annually in the *VCE and VCAL Administrative Handbook*.

The examination will be marked by assessors appointed by the VCAA.

The examination will contribute 45 per cent to the Study Score.

Content

The *VCE Media Study Design 2012–2016* is the document for the development of the examination. All key knowledge and key skills that underpin Outcome 1 in Unit 3 and Outcomes 2 and 3 in Unit 4 are examinable.

Format

The examination will consist of three sections.

Section A: Narrative – students will be required to write on at least two narrative texts, as defined in the study design (page 20).

Section B: Media texts and society's values – students will be required to nominate the texts being used for their response.

Section C: Media influence

Each section will include 2–5 short answer or extended response questions, and be worth 20–25 marks.

All questions will be compulsory.

The examination will be out of 65 marks.

The examination paper may include material such as stills, posters, script extracts, diagrams, newspaper extracts and illustrations.

The examination will be presented in a question and answer book.

Criteria

The following criteria will be used by the examination panel when writing questions and by assessors when marking the examination.

General

1. Understanding and appropriate use of media terms and terminology

Narrative

- 2. Knowledge of the nature and function of production and story elements in fictional media texts
- 3. Analysis of how narrative is organised and constructs meaning in fictional media texts

Media texts and society's values

- 4. Knowledge of the relationship between society's values, discourse and media texts
- 5. Knowledge of a social issue or discourse constructed and distributed through media texts
- 6. Analysis of the construction, distribution and interpretation of society's values as represented in media texts

Media influence

- 7. Knowledge of communication and audience theories and their application to media texts
- 8. Understanding of arguments relating to media influence

Advice

During the 2012–2016 accreditation period for the *VCE Media Study Design*, examinations will be prepared according to the examination specifications above. The examination will assess a representative sample of the key knowledge and key skills in Outcome 1 of Unit 3 and Outcomes 2 and 3 of Unit 4. The following sample questions, dealing with new content contained in the study design, provide an indication of the type of questions on this content that teachers and students can expect on the Media examination paper.

The VCAA does not provide answers for sample questions.

The following documents should be referred to in relation to the VCE Media examination.

- VCE Media Study Design 2012–2016
- VCE Media Assessment Handbook
- VCAA Bulletin VCE, VCAL and VET

Sample questions

SECTION A – Narrative

Name the texts you studied for narrative this year.

Question 1

Discuss how the setting in the narrative may assist with how audiences read one text you have studied this year.

4 marks

Question 2

a. Define the term 'mise-en-scene'.

b.	Compare the nature and function of 'mise-en-scene' in both narrative texts you have studied this year.
	Your response must make reference to how the mise-en-scene contributes to the narrative organisation
	and engages the audience.



SECTION B – Media texts and society's values

Name the texts you studied for Media texts and society's values this year.

Question 1

Identify and explain an idea, value, attitude or discourse evident in at least one media text you have studied this year.

Society's values shape the construction and reading of media texts. The values may be linked to particular moral, political or other views.

With reference to an identified idea, value, attitude or discourse that you studied this year, discuss the relationship between a specific text and the society that produced it.

4 marks

Society's values are constantly evolving.

Analyse the relationship between a dominant value and an oppositional value as reflected in a media text you have studied this year.

SECTION C – Media Influence

Question 1

Define the terms 'self-regulation' and 'government regulation' as they apply to the Australian media.

	4 marks

Question 2

Identify one example of an attempt at media regulation in the broadcast media.

1 mark

Compare one theory/model from the effects tradition with one theory/model from the cultural studies model. Your response must focus on how audiences are understood to use or be used by the media and should make reference to research or evidence. The space provided below may be used for diagrams or illustrations.



The following is an extract from a media release.

The Classification Board classified the forthcoming film Harry Potter and the Deathly Hollows – Part 2, M (Mature) with consumer advice of 'Fantasy themes and violence'.

The acting Director of the Classification Board, Lesley O'Brien, has reminded consumers that they should be aware that films classified M are not recommended for persons under 15 years of age even though there are no legal restrictions on access. Films classified M (Mature), are recommended for mature audiences and may require a mature perspective.'

Movie-goers urged to check consumer advice for Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows – Part 2, Australian Government Classification Board 4 July 2011, © Commonwealth of Australia 2011

With reference to the above media extract, together with other evidence, clearly outline the rationale for and arguments about various forms of media regulation.



