

N5 MEDIA ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

What is the course content at National 5?

The National 5 Media course is divided up into Analysis and Evaluation, and Creation and Production.

Candidates will learn about the key concepts of Media and will then apply these to the analysis and creation of media texts.

The key concepts are –

- Categories
- Language
- Narrative
- Representation
- Audiences
- Institutions
- Society
- Role of Media

For analysis, candidates will study a main text, usually a fiction film, as well as a selection of shorter non-fiction texts. They will also prepare for unseen analysis, which is an exam element where they must analyse print media they have not seen before.

For creation, pupils will complete an assignment which involves planning, executing, and evaluating a storyboard for the opening of a film.

What apps and websites can I use to support my learning?

- [SQA - Understanding Standards: National 5](#)
- [National 5 Media Assignment Assessment Task \(sqa.org.uk\)](#)
- [British Board of Film Classification \(BBFC\) | BBFC](#)
- [Home - ASA | CAP](#)
- [Film, TV and broadcasting \(hse.gov.uk\)](#)
- [Google Images](#)
- [SQA - NQ - Past papers and marking instructions](#)

Are there important dates of which I should be aware?

Coursework

- Work on the National 5 Media Assignment will begin in December and is to be completed under supervision in class time. This gets uplifted by the SQA in the middle of March.

Formal Assessments

- Unseen Analysis and Role of Media - Sept
- Content in Context - Dec

How is the course assessed?

COMPONENT	DETAILS	LENGTH	MARKS	SCALED	%
FINAL EXAM:	<p>Content and Context (40 marks) – four questions based on the key concepts, about the main fiction text.</p> <p>Role of Media (10 marks) – question asks about how a media text either meets needs, achieves a purpose, or influences attitudes and behaviours – usually on non-fiction texts.</p> <p>Unseen Analysis (10 marks) – candidates are given a film poster– they identify purpose and audience and provide evidence from the text to justify choice</p>	2 hours	60	60	50%
COURSEWORK	<p>The Assignment</p> <p>Using the opening of a novel as stimulus, pupils must carry out research around the key concepts to plan the opening of a film, then produce a storyboard which they then evaluate.</p> <p><i>The storyboard is not marked but must be present and written content must relate closely to it.</i></p>	ONGOING SQA UPLIFT IN MARCH	48	60	50%

What resources do I need?

Resources from lessons (One Note and Teams)

Class Notes – try to ensure that these are up to date, catching up if you miss any class time through absence.

Access to texts for revision – useful to rewatch fiction film and revisit moving image/print media for Role of Media.

Google Images + Unseen Analysis Guide – useful to practise this part of the exam using any film poster generated through a Google search.

Where do I find more information about the course?

[National 5 Media - SQA](#)

What can I do to improve?

- Have a good understanding of the different question types – Describe and Explain – and how they are marked.
- REMEMBER – the only text you will have in front of you in the exam is the film poster you analyse in the Unseen Q. You need to know your other texts well and revise and learn key features in relation to the key concepts.
- For explain questions, always ensure that you make the relationship between what the media producer does and the impact this has very clear.
- Use bullet points in the exam and ensure you have made enough points for the number of marks available.
- Look over past papers and ensure you have a good understanding of the variation that can occur in key concept questions.
- Keep in mind that the storyboard in the assignment is not marked and therefore you should not spend too long perfecting this, focusing more on high quality written elements.