



GCE AS/A level

1182/01

New AS

FILM STUDIES

FM2

British and American Film

A.M. WEDNESDAY, 13 May 2009

2½ hours

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

In addition to this examination paper, you will need:

- Resource material
- a 12 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer **three** questions, **one** from each section.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Each question carries 40 marks.

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question.

You are reminded that assessment will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.

Section A: Producers and Audiences

Answer **one** question from this section.

Either

1. Study the items in **Part A** of the resource material, which include:

- information on a radio/television film critic
- report from a US daily entertainment blog
- box office information for a US film (*Michael Clayton*).

Use this material, together with your own studies, to answer the following question:

Compare the different factors that contribute to the box office success or failure of a film.

[40]

Or

2. Study the items in **Part B** of the resource material, which include:

- pages from two film “official” websites (*Revolutionary Road* and *The Reader*)
- a page from the UK Film Council website
- a newspaper interview with the Chairman of the British Film Institute.

Use this material, together with your own studies, to answer the following question:

How important for the British Film industry is the use of UK ‘talent’ in films financed outside Britain?

[40]

Section B: British Film Topics

Answer **one** question from this section.

British Film and Genre

You should discuss a minimum of **two British** films in your answer and base it on one of the following: **Horror or Comedy**.

Either

3. How far are the storytelling methods used in the films you have studied for this topic typical of their genre? [40]

or

4. How is gender represented in the horror **or** comedy films you have studied for this topic? [40]

British Film and Stars

You should discuss a minimum of **two British** films in your answer and base it on one of the following: **Julie Christie or Ewan McGregor**.

Either

5. How far do the characteristic qualities of your chosen star contribute to the development of key themes in the films you have studied for this topic? [40]

or

6. In the films you have studied for this topic, how far does your chosen star represent similar messages and values in the different roles they play? [40]

British Film and Production Companies

You should discuss a minimum of **two British** films in your answer and base it on one of the following: **Ealing Studios or Working Title**.

Either

7. By reference to subject matter or style, how easily recognisable are films made by your chosen production company? [40]

or

8. What are some of the ways in which 'being British' is represented in the films you have studied for this topic? [40]

British Film: Cultural Study

*You should discuss a minimum of two British films in your answer and base it on one of the following: **Swinging Britain 1963-1973** or **Thatcher's Britain: the 1980s**.*

Either

9. What are some of the ways in which narrative is used to explore the theme of change in the films you have studied for this topic? [40]

or

10. What has knowledge of your chosen period contributed to your understanding of the films you have studied for this topic? [40]

British Film: Social-Political Study – ‘Living with Crime’

You should discuss a minimum of two British films in your answer.

Either

11. What are some of the ways in which ‘living with crime’ is explored through the narratives of the films you have studied for this topic? [40]

or

12. How far are the circumstances and choices available to key characters in the films you have studied for this topic related to their social class? [40]

British Film: Identity Study – ‘Borders and Belonging’

You should discuss a minimum of two British films in your answer.

Either

13. How far do the narratives of the films you have studied for this topic deal with uncertainty about identity and/or belonging? [40]

or

14. In what ways do the films you have studied for this topic represent the challenges of living in a particular place? [40]

Section C: American Film – Comparative Study

Answer one question from this section.

You should discuss a minimum of two American films in your answer.

Either

15. Compare the ways in which key themes in your chosen American films are presented. [40]

Or

16. With reference to your chosen American films, compare the extent to which their messages and values reflect the times in which they were made. [40]