



GCSE MEDIA STUDIES

SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

SUMMER 2022 ONLY

Unit 1: Exploring the Media

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes

(60 Marks)

Section A: Representations – advertising, video games and newspapers

This section will assess knowledge and understanding of the **representation** of gender and events in relation to any of the media forms studied – advertising, video games and newspapers.

- **One** stepped question based on unseen print-based resource material related to advertising, video games **or** newspapers.

Section B: Music

This section will assess knowledge and understanding of **media language, representation, media industries and audiences.**

- **One** stepped question and **two** single questions.

Unit 2: Understanding Television and Film

Written Examination: 45 minutes

(30 marks)

Candidates to complete EITHER Section A OR Section B

Section A: Wales on Television (30 marks)

This section will assess knowledge of **media industries, audiences, media language and representation.**

- **One** stepped question based on the set 'Wales on Television' product chosen by the centre.

Section B: Contemporary Hollywood Film (30 marks)

This section will assess knowledge and understanding of **media industries, audiences and media language.**

- **One** stepped question and **two** single questions.

Unit 3: Creating Media

Non-exam assessment

80 marks

- A media production, including **individual** research and planning, created in response to **a choice of briefs set by WJEC**, and applying knowledge and understanding of key concepts.
- An **individual** reflective analysis of the production.

This adapted version of GCSE Media Studies is available for entry in **2022 only**. Candidates entering the qualification in 2023 should use the approved [specification](#).

Summary of changes for 2022

Unit 1: Exploring the Media (Written exam)

There are no changes to this unit.

Unit 2: Understanding Television and Film (Written exam)

Candidates will complete one of a choice of two Sections: Either Section A: Wales on Television OR Section B: Contemporary Hollywood Film

Unit 3: Creating Media (Non-exam assessment)

Learners to carry out the research and planning in full, as per the Specification.

Learners to carry out the reflective analysis in full, as per the Specification.

Learners to produce a reduced Production element:

1. Television
 - (a) Audio visual option – 1 minute (individual), 2 minutes (pair)
 - (b) Online option – Homepage (individual)
2. Magazines
 - (a) Print option – 1 page (individual)
 - (b) Online option – Homepage (individual)
3. Film
 - (a) Audio visual option – 1 minute sequence (individual), 2 minute sequence (pair)
 - (b) Print option – DVD cover front and back (individual)
4. Music
 - (a) Audio visual option – 1 minute extract (individual), 2 minute extract (pair)
 - (b) Print option – Website – one page (individual)
5. Advertising
 - (a) Audio visual option – 1 advert (individual), 2 adverts (pair) – (45 seconds – 1 minute per advert)
 - (b) Print option – 1 magazine advert (individual)

Further information

- Every candidate is required to sit all three Units, as identified above.
- The Unit 2 assessment time is reduced from 1.5 hours to 45 minutes.
- The weighting for all Units will remain.
- Unit 2 will have a total mark of 30 instead of 60.
- The deadline for presenting evidence for the NEA will remain on 5th May 2022.
- Centres should be aware that these rules apply to 2022 only and any candidates wishing to resit in 2023 would be expected to enter and complete all Units in full.

For qualifications where the total mark is lower than usual, the aggregation factor for the affected unit has been adjusted so that the unit carries the same weight as in previous exam series.

Carry forward of NEA marks to a future series is still possible even where the raw marks are different in 2022 to a normal series.

Title	Code	Total Mark	AAF	Weighting (%)
Media Studies	3680QS			100
Exploring the Media	3680U1	60	1.0	30
Understanding Television and Film	3680U2	30	2.0	30
Creating Media	3680U3	80	1.0	40

Rationale

The reduction of NEA will allow the prioritisation of the examined assessment. Learners' ability to complete the practical production element of the NEA for 2022 has been affected by the requirements of working remotely for significant amounts of time. Learners may not have access to specialist equipment and resources (e.g. editing software, DTP etc.). There have also been access issues within centres, e.g. schools working in 'bubbles', meaning lack of access to IT rooms/facilities, sharing of keyboards etc. Reducing the production element still ensures that all assessment objectives are covered, so the validity of the qualification is not compromised. Learners still complete 50% of NEA production work and most of the exam units so the rigour of the qualification is maintained, and learners are equipped for progression to further education.

Reducing the assessment in Unit 2 mitigates lost teaching and learning time for all centres, including centres who have already completed the NEA component. Offering learners a choice between the two sections counteracts any issues regarding the order that centres have made their way through the course content. Both sections assess the same AOs. The reduction of subject content in Unit 2 means a reduction in the breadth of subject content (one media industry from a choice of two), not the depth. This reduction allows learners to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key concepts of media studies (AO1) and apply knowledge and understanding of the key concepts of media studies to analyse media products and evaluate their own practical work (AO2), enabling learners to develop the skills needed to progress onto further education.