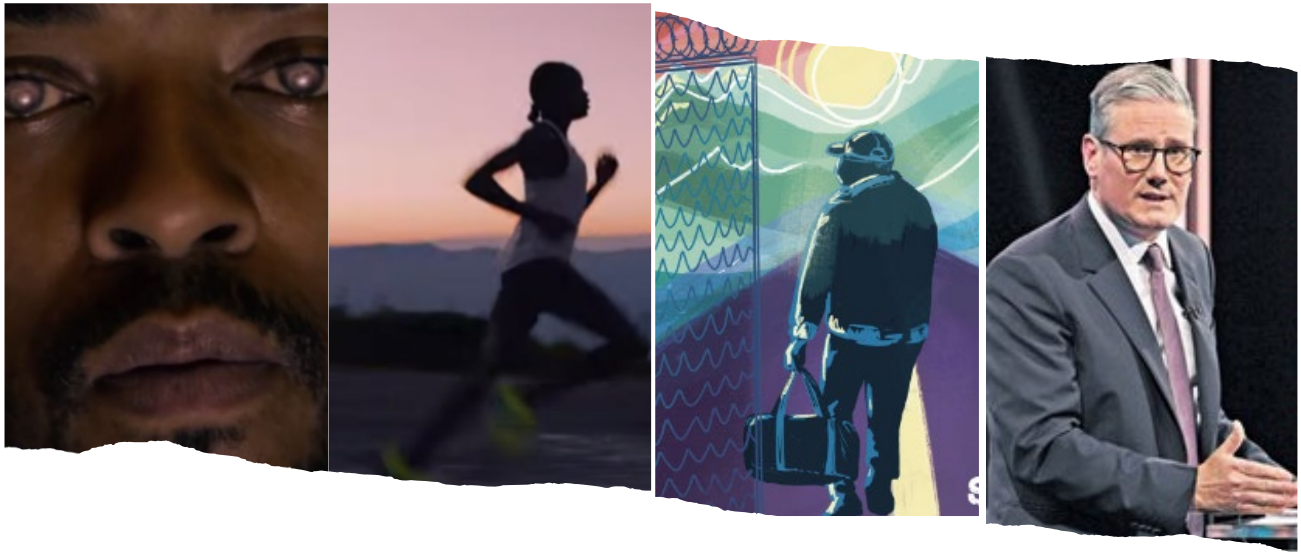


# A-level Media



Year 12  
Summer Tasks

# Task 1: Dystopian Films and TV

1) Watch these clips about the dystopian genre and write down at least 7 conventions of what makes a media product or artwork dystopian.

(This could include narrative types, characters, props, settings, themes, colour, costumes etc)

- [How to recognize a dystopia](#)
- [The Evolution of Dystopian Film](#)



2) What are some famous Dystopian films or TV shows you have heard of or watched.

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3) Watch an episode of Black Mirror or another dystopian TV programme or film and answer these questions.

a) What is the narrative? (Challenge: How far does it fit into Todorov's narrative theory)?

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b) Who is the 'hero', how typical do you think that is for the genre?

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c) Who (or what) is the 'villain', how typical is this for the genre?

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d) How typical are the other elements (setting, story, costume, lighting)?

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e) Who do you think the target audience are and why?

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4) Create a pitch for a new television show in the dystopian genre. This show needs to be aimed at people aged between 20-35-year olds, NRS Codes B-D. You must decide on the title of your series, at least two characters, and create a plot synopsis of your idea. Explain why your idea will be successful. Create a document / powerpoint / blog, feel free to add pictures / mood board etc.

# Task 2: Campaigning Adverts

Watch these campaigning adverts; consider how they challenge stereotypes.

## La Compil des Bleues



What stereotypes / audience assumptions are being challenged?

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How do they do they challenge these stereotypes through the use of :

Image (All elements of mise-en-scene + camera angles)	Sound (Music, diegetic and non-diegetic sound, silence)	Technical Codes (Editing, use of different kinds of footage (i.e. archive/ fan generated), special effects)

## Assume That I Can



What stereotypes / audience assumptions are being challenged?

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How do they do they challenge these stereotypes through the use of :

Image (All elements of mise-en-scene + camera angles)	Sound (Music, diegetic and non-diegetic sound, silence)	Technical Codes (Editing, use of different kinds of footage (i.e. archive/ fan generated), special effects)

## Watch Where We're Going



What stereotypes / audience assumptions are being challenged?

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How do they do they challenge these stereotypes through the use of :

Image (All elements of mise-en-scene + camera angles)	Sound (Music, diegetic and non-diegetic sound, silence)	Technical Codes (Editing, use of different kinds of footage (i.e. archive/ fan generated), special effects)

## Life Story | 60 Seconds



What stereotypes / audience assumptions are being challenged?

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How do they do they challenge these stereotypes through the use of :

Image (All elements of mise-en-scene + camera angles)	Sound (Music, diegetic and non-diegetic sound, silence)	(Technical Codes (Editing, use of different kinds of footage (i.e. archive/ fan generated), special effects)

# Task 3: Newspapers

a) Watch this episode from the **The Murdoch Dynasty** documentary and answer the questions below.

[BBC Iplayer: The Murdoch Dynasty Series 1: 1: Kingmaker \(1\)](#)

i. Which British media companies does the Murdoch family own?

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ii. How was the relationship between Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Rupert Murdoch mutually beneficial?

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iii. Why did Tony Blair visit Rupert Murdoch before the 1997 election?

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iv. How does Rupert Murdoch and other newspaper owners / editors use their power to influence government policies?

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v. From what you have seen do you think the media is too powerful? ,Why / Why not?

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vi. Do you think newspaper and the media are still as powerful as they were in the 1980s-2000s when this documentary is set– why / why not?

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b) Annotate these newspapers from the 2024 General Election, using these questions.

- How are Rishi Sunak (Conservative leader, right wing) and Keir Starmer (Labour leader, left-wing) presented using image, language, and layout?
- How do they try to influence their readers? How persuasive do you think these covers are?

The Mirror – A left-wing tabloid



The Express – A right wing tabloid



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The Guardian – A left-wing broadsheet

The Daily Telegraph – A right wing broadsheet

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# Tories' 'implausible' £17bn tax giveaway condemned

Labour accuses Sunak of 'copying Liz Truss' in Conservative manifesto

Peter Walker  
Pippa Grewar

Rishi Sunak has unveiled a £17bn tax giveaway as the centrepiece of the Conservative manifesto, an offer that was immediately condemned for being "implausible" and mainly benefiting wealthier voters.

The policy programme set out by the prime minister, seen by many Tory MPs as probably the party's last big chance to win over voters, contained few big surprises and was centred around cuts to national insurance and stamp duty, higher thresholds for child benefit and help for pensioners.

Launching the manifesto at the Silverstone motor racing circuit in Northamptonshire, Sunak accepted he faced an uphill task in convincing voters, not least after his early departure from D-day commemorations last week.

"I'm not blind to the fact that people are frustrated with our party and frustrated with me," the prime minister said. But in cutting taxes, he insisted, "we are the party of Prime Minister Thatcher and Nigel Lawson, a party, unlike Labour, that believes in sound money".

However, with the tax cutting £17.2bn a year by 2029-30 and much of the money coming from cracking down on tax avoidance and slashing the welfare bill by as yet uncertain means, thinktanks warned there was a big risk the sums would not add up.

Hours after Sunak launched the manifesto, Labour produced its own costings, which predicted a £17.4bn annual shortfall by the end of the parliament. Rachel Reeves, the shadow chancellor, said Sunak was "copying Liz Truss" and raised questions about his rise in mortgage rates.

Revealing the manifesto, Sunak announced another set of cuts to national insurance and contributions (NICs) and the



Rishi Sunak walks on stage for yesterday's manifesto launch at Silverstone motor racing circuit. Photograph by Victoria Hammond/Contrasto

# Biden's son guilty in cocaine gun trial

Robert Tall

Joe Biden vowed to "love and support" his son Hunter yesterday after he was found guilty on all three counts relating to buying a handgun while being a user of crack cocaine.

The jury reached its verdict after three hours of deliberation over two days. It followed a week-long trial in the Biden family's home town of Wilmington, Delaware, that featured sometimes excruciating testimony about the president's son's drug habit from some of his closest relatives.

Hunter Biden chose not to take the witness stand in his own defence. He received the verdict in court as his friends and family, including the first lady, Jill Biden - Hunter Biden's stepmother - stood in support.

After the verdict, he expressed gratitude for his wife, Melissa Cohen Biden, his family and friends. "I am more grateful today for the love and support I've received than I have ever received in my life," he said.

"Recovery is possible by the grace of God, and I am blessed to experience that gift one day at a time," Biden's attorney, Abbe Lowell, said by the verdict but respected the process and would "vigorously pursue all the legal challenges available".

Joe Biden said: "I will accept the outcome of this

# Deadly trade The migrant children used as foot soldiers by drug cartels in Europe

News Page 26 →

Wednesday 6 June 2024 No. 52,265 Telegraph.co.uk £3.00

# Starmer on the ropes over tax



Keir Starmer faced questioning over taxation plans from his opponent in the June 8 TV debate last night

Keir Starmer faced questioning over taxation plans from his opponent in the June 8 TV debate last night

Keir Starmer faced questioning over taxation plans from his opponent in the June 8 TV debate last night

# Rishi takes home a cash prize in a debate resembling a game show

Sketch

Rishi Sunak was the winner of a cash prize in a TV debate last night that resembled a game show. The Conservative leader, who was asked to name his opponent's weaknesses, won a £10,000 prize for his performance.

Keir Starmer faced questioning over taxation plans from his opponent in the June 8 TV debate last night

Keir Starmer faced questioning over taxation plans from his opponent in the June 8 TV debate last night

# Biden opposes 'Nato-isation' of Ukraine in blow for England

Sketch

Joe Biden has expressed his opposition to the 'Nato-isation' of Ukraine, a move that has been championed by some in the UK. Biden said that such a move would be a blow to England's interests.

Keir Starmer faced questioning over taxation plans from his opponent in the June 8 TV debate last night

Keir Starmer faced questioning over taxation plans from his opponent in the June 8 TV debate last night

# Labour accuses Sunak of 'copying Liz Truss' in Conservative manifesto

Sketch

Labour has accused Rishi Sunak of copying Liz Truss's policies in his Conservative manifesto. The Labour Party said that Sunak's plans were a direct copy of Truss's actions.

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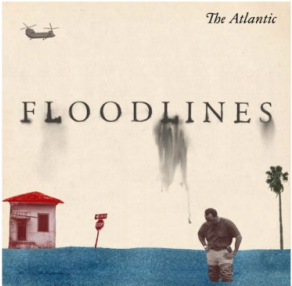


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## Task 4: Podcasts

Choose **one** of these podcasts to listen to, once you have listened to it respond the questions on the next page.

	<p><a href="#">Serial</a>. It's Baltimore, 1999. Hae Min Lee, a popular high-school senior, disappears after school one day. Six weeks later detectives arrest her classmate and ex-boyfriend, Adnan Syed, for her murder. He says he's innocent, yet within a year, he was sentenced to life in prison. Sarah Koenig, who sorted through thousands of police and court reports, and talked to everyone she could find, discovers that the trial covered up a far more complicated story than the jury ever got to hear. (Listen to Ep 1)</p>
	<p><a href="#">Floodlines</a> tells the full story of Hurricane Katrina which hit New Orleans in 2005, from the perspective of the ordinary people caught up in the disaster. In the aftermath of the hurricane, the government was criticised for focussing on policing the New Orleans residents to prevent looting rather than getting aid to the victims. This led to Kanye West claiming the government 'didn't care about black people' during a live TV fundraiser. Here the residents give their side of the story (Listen to Part 2)</p>
	<p><a href="#">Time &amp; Again</a> a searingly honest insight into the thoughts and experiences of six young men who have recently been to prison and built a new life away from crime with Switchback's support. This episode explains how after 70 arrests and four stints in jail, something sparked a change for Chris. (Episode 3 – Chris)</p>
	<p><a href="#">How the UK Changed Hip-Hop Forever</a> During the Grammy Awards in 2023 some of the greatest rappers of all time came together to celebrate 50 years of the genre. Onstage is Jay-Z, who although he was born and raised in New York City, during his verse he shouts out a street in west London... Harrow Road. Why? Ashley Walters explores why Jay-Z's trip to London in the 80s had such a profound effect on him that he is still rapping about it over 30 years later. (Episode 1)</p>

a) Why did you pick this podcast (from the title / description / artwork)?

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b) What is the podcast about? What story does it tell?

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c) How does the podcast use sound (music, sound effects, background noise)?

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d) Podcasts are usually more informal than traditional speech radio (like BBC Radio 4 and BBC 5Live) is this true for this episode? How is this tone created?

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e) Podcasts are usually more intimate / personal than speech radio (like BBC Radio 4 and BBC 5Live) how does this podcast make you feel like you know the presenters or part of the conversation / action?

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f) Write down three things you learnt from this podcast?

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g) Who do you think this podcast is for? Why?

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f) What do you think about the way this podcast represents the people / themes it covers?

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g) Create a pitch for your own podcast series. It could be on any topic of your choosing. This show needs to be aimed at students aged between 20-35-year olds, NRS Codes B-D. Create a document / powerpoint / blog, feel free to add pictures. Consider:

- The format: will it be a documentary, interviews, panel discussion?
- What topics will it cover?
- How will you use sound: will there clips from other media, music, archive, will it be recorded outside of a studio?
- Who will it appeal to, and how?