

MEDIA STUDIES A LEVEL

Transition Material

During year 12 and 13, your Media Studies course will require you to study in depth a range of media texts that you were introduced to on the foundation day.

In September, the first two texts that you will study are:

- An advert for *Tide* washing power from 1950s America.
- An Episode from TV Crime Drama *Life on Mars* released in 2006 but set in 1970s Britain.

One critical aspect of studying these texts is to be able to discuss the social, cultural and historical contexts in which they were made/set. Essentially, what was life like during these time-periods?

Therefore your summer task is to conduct your own independent research into these two time-periods: **1950s America** and **1970s Britain**.

You can use your own knowledge, the internet, other media shows/films or even interviews with family members/ friends.

The aspects to include are (250-500 words on each bullet point below):

- Key political figures.
- Key social, cultural and historical events.
- Attitudes regarding different social groups.
- Attitudes regarding different genders.
- Attitudes towards different ethnicities.
- New technologies of the time.
- Music and Fashion.
- Key cultural figures (musicians, actors, presenters etc.).
- Key cultural Texts (albums, films, TV shows etc.).

To supplement this research, you may wish to also conduct research into the two set products: ***Tide Washing Powder*** and the TV show ***Life on Mars (UK Version)***.

Good Luck

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