

Oxford Cambridge and RSA Examinations
General Certificate of Secondary Education

MEDIA STUDIES
TEXTUAL ANALYSIS: MOVING IMAGE
FOUNDATION TIER

1918/1

Specimen Paper 2003

Additional materials: answer booklet
Candidates answer on the answer booklet.

TIME 1 hour 45 minutes (45 minutes to view the video extract and make notes. 1 hour to answer the question).

INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES

- Read the question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- This question paper has a single question. You must attempt all parts.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is 60.

Question number	For examiner's use only
1	
TOTAL	

Question 1

Unseen Moving Image Extract: from the film *Independence Day*

(Director: Roland Emmerich 1996 USA Twentieth Century Fox)

Advice – Viewing the extract

You will have 45 minutes viewing and note-making time.

Before the extract is shown you will have 5 minutes to read all of the questions.

First viewing:

You will watch the extract once without making any notes.

Second viewing:

You will watch the extract a second time and make notes.

Pause:

There will be a break of 5 minutes for looking at the questions and making notes.

Third viewing:

Watch the extract and make notes.

Fourth and final viewing:

Watch the extract again and make notes, then answer the questions.

You are to make notes on your answer paper and you should put a diagonal line through your notes at the end of the exam.

Answer all questions in full sentences, giving specific examples from the extract, as appropriate.

(a) Which features of this extract identify it as a science fiction film? **[6]**

(b) This film extract is made to create a feeling of excitement and suspense. Show how it does this, by choosing and explaining **two** examples from each of the following:

(i) the use of the camera **[8]**

and

(ii) soundtrack **[8]**

and

(iii) special effects **[8]**

(c) The title sequence itself (from the Twentieth Century Fox logo up to, and including, the 2 July caption) tells us about the film that we will be watching. Choose **two** examples from this sequence and explain how they help to introduce the film. **[6]**

(d) In this question you are asked to write about two science-fiction films.

You may **not** use the extract and the film from which it is taken as one of your choices.

(i) With detailed reference to two films, describe how they fit into the science fiction genre. **[12]**

(ii) Explain why you think this film genre is so popular with audiences. **[12]**

[Total = 60 marks]

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MARK SCHEME

Specimen Paper 2003

General Guidance

Examiners should bear the following points in mind when assessing the work of candidates. For some questions there are several right answers, so please award credit for any valid answer. This question-specific mark scheme gives detailed guidance for the assessment of candidates' examination performance and for the allocation of marks to ensure consistency across Centres.

However, examiners should remain flexible in marking the unexpected response and award marks for all appropriate answers. Credit should always be given for answers which show imagination and insight where appropriate. The mark scheme does not provide exhaustive examples of responses and examiners should use their judgement regarding responses not contained herein.

Textual Analysis – Unseen (Moving Image Extract Option)

Extract Source: Science Fiction films

Time: 1 hour 45 minutes (including 45 minutes viewing and note-making time).

Paper total: 60 marks.

Answer Question 1.

Question 1: Unseen Moving Image Extract: from the film *Independence Day*.
(Director: Roland Emmerich 1996 USA Twentieth Century Fox).

Advice – Viewing the extract

You will have 45 minutes viewing and note-making time.

Before the extract is shown you will have 5 minutes to read all of the questions.

First viewing:

You will watch the extract once without making any notes.

Second viewing:

You will watch the extract a second time and make notes.

Pause:

There will be a break of 5 minutes for looking at the questions and making notes.

Third viewing:

Watch the extract and make notes.

Fourth and final viewing:

Watch the extract again and make notes, then answer the questions.

You are to make notes on your answer paper and you should put a diagonal line through your notes at the end of the exam.

Answer all questions in full sentences, giving specific examples from the extract, as appropriate.

(a) Which features of this extract identify it as a science fiction film? [6]

2 marks for: one relevant feature with discussion.

4 marks for: two relevant features with discussion.

6 marks for: three relevant features with discussion.

Valid features and discussion points:

- explaining the genre in terms of codes and conventions of narrative (mentioning alien invasion) and mise-en-scène (moon surface, underside of evil spaceship etc./*Star Wars* reference) including title typography
- mentioning good examples of special effects associated with sci-fi
- futuristic models and sets
- satellites
- scientists in labs
- military
- heroes
- themes of good humans versus evil aliens
- narrative of space conflict.

(b) This film extract is made to create a feeling of excitement and suspense. Show how it does this, by choosing and explaining two examples from each of the following:

(i) the use of the camera [8]

and

(ii) soundtrack [8]

and

(iii) special effects [8]

For each of **(i)**, **(ii)** and **(iii)** award marks as follows:

2 marks for: one relevant example.

4 marks for: two relevant examples well described.

6 marks for: a good example, well described with explanation of its effect.

8 marks: candidates must select well, describe fully and explain clearly and convincingly their effects.

Acceptable examples include:

(i) the use of the camera

- Close-ups of dramatic details (landing plaque, radar, speakers, flashing red light etc.), slow tracking, zooms and pans create suspense.
- Close-ups of excited or concerned faces.

(ii) soundtrack

- Music - orchestral with military elements anticipate conflict.
- Sound effects - radar bleeps, alarms, ascending chords = suspense, sinister rumblings and tremblings.
- If dialogue is included here, candidates could refer to the anticipation of alien invasion which creates both excitement and suspense.

(iii) special effects

- Models and sets - futuristic spectacle.

- (c) The title sequence itself (from the Twentieth Century Fox logo up to, and including, the 2 July caption) tells us about the film that we will be watching. Choose two examples from this sequence and explain how they help to introduce the film.**

[6]

- 1 mark for: identifying an appropriate point.
2 - 4 marks for: describing well and providing justification of choice.
5 - 6 marks for: explaining with good examples; candidates must describe fully and explain clearly and convincingly.

Acceptable examples include:

- Major Hollywood film studio, therefore anticipation of: famous stars, entertainment, easy narrative, high budget therefore high production values, spectacle/glamour.
- An American film - Independence Day, American history/Civil War reference creates narrative enigmas - July 2 is two days before July 4, what will happen?
- News Corporation = Rupert Murdoch (do not expect many to know this at this level).
- Genre indicated by title typography, "hi-tech", sans serif typeface in silver.
- Futuristic sound effects of explosions.

- (d) In this question you are asked to write about two science-fiction films. You may not use the extract and the film from which it is taken as one of your choices.**

- (i) With detailed reference to two films, describe how they fit into the science fiction genre.**

[12]

- 1 - 6 marks for: a basic attempt at a description of two films.
7 - 9 marks for: more developed reasons identifying elements of genre and discussions of typicality in relation to two films.
10 - 12 marks for: an answer shaped into an argument, moving between detailed examples to general points about generic points about degree of typicality with varying degrees of ease and subtlety.

(ii) Explain why you think this film genre is so popular with audiences. [12]

1 - 6 marks for: a basic attempt at an explanation.

7 – 9 marks for: more developed reasons identifying elements of genre and saying why they appeal to audiences.

10 - 12 marks for: an answer shaped into an argument, moving between detailed examples from extract to general points about genre with varying degrees of ease, developing links between audience pleasures and success.

Acceptable reasons include:

- Sci-fi/action/adventure is exciting.
- Generic expectations/millennium zeitgeist.
- Interest in special effects.
- Triumph of good (human/Americans) over evil (aliens).
- Global appeal of the film, use of internationally recognisable cities and landmarks in the trailer.
- Big budget/spectacle/high concept.
- US cultural dominance.
- Hybrid genres, industry hedges bets to reduce risk of financial failure.
- High concept film making.
- High profile and confident campaigns.
- Conventional conflict-centred storylines, easy-to-understand narrative.

The elements overlap to some extent but this table is a guide to the points that could appear in each section of the question.

Genre	Audience
Adventure/ action/ narratives/often concerned about good and evil	Excitement / involvement / pace / resolution
Raises expectations	expects gratification
Examines the future or effects of technology and science/global concerns	Worries about the future or technology
Special effects/high production values	Offers a visual experience – extends the boundaries
US production/blockbuster	Target audience/US cultural dominance
Hybrid genres	Broadens audience – intertextuality – tie-in, spin-off
	Segments of audience – gender, age, interests, life-style, nationality