

## Annotated Responses 2007

Guinea Pig 3, 5 and 8 were used.

Guinea Pig 3 gained Achieved  
Guinea Pig 5 gained Excellence  
Guinea Pig 8 gained Merit

These are a reasonable sample of responses and are reasonably straightforward. They are responses written in examination and under time pressure. I suggest the examiners report and assessment specifications be read in conjunction with these annotations.

### Guinea Pig 3 ACHIEVED

#### Question One: Conventions

Genre is named, Film Noir.

Convention is named, Femme Fatales.

Some explanation of convention use is given but it is limited and this weakens this response.

*"This new Representation brought in the idea that women might not be as innocent as they seemed and men weren't as clever as they seemed."* To gain Merit this student could have explained why this representation occurred. I.e. Film Noir dealt with the changing role of women after the war and Noir showed the mistrust that existed...

Response is not supported

Greater link to convention is needed to gain Merit. Holistically this student knows the genre and has an example from Double Indemnity.

This response is at an Achieved level.

Second Convention is named, Lighting.

## Level 2 Media Studies, 2006

### 90279 Demonstrate understanding of a media genre

Credits: Three

9.30 am Monday 20 November 2006

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

You should answer ALL the questions in this booklet.

If you need more space for any answer, use the page(s) provided at the back of this booklet and clearly number the question.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–10 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

**YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.**

<i>For Assessor's use only</i>	<b>Achievement Criteria</b>				
<b>Achievement</b>		<b>Achievement with Merit</b>		<b>Achievement with Excellence</b>	
Describe codes/conventions associated with a genre.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Explain codes/conventions associated with a genre.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Analyse codes/conventions associated with a genre.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Describe developments in the genre.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Explain developments in the genre.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Analyse developments in the genre.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Overall Level of Performance (all criteria within a column are met)</b>					<input type="checkbox"/> A

There is good description of the lighting that is used in Film Noir. While the convention is generic to film the student does link clearly to Film Noir.

The response gives a reasonable explanation here for a merit response.

*"The lighting was a major part of Film Noir as it helped create the tension..." partial response*

Text used here is Chinatown

Question one requires two conventions at Merit level. This has one at Merit and one at Achieved. The overall grade is Achieved.

## **Question Two: Developments**

Development is named -Sex and Violence

Two texts are used Brick and Double Indemnity

There are no reasons offered for the development in Sex and violence. This is a clear Achieved response.

Second Development is given.

Again two texts are given. Double Indemnity, Chinatown and a third, Memento. [The candidates, who discuss Genre, often refer to more than two texts.]

This response was a little problematic in that *undetectable* is the development. UNDETECTABLE ???

The final sentence of the response makes it clear. *Therefore I felt that over time Femme Fatales have grown more complicated and less see through.* Re-reading this response was necessary to see what the candidate was initially trying to put forward.

Again there is no explanation. Why did the complexity of character in Noir occur?

You are advised to spend 60 minutes answering the questions in this booklet.

Identify a media genre you have studied.

Media genre:

Film Noir. ①

### QUESTION ONE

Analyse the use of TWO codes/conventions associated with this genre.

You should describe each code/convention, explain its use, and analyse its effect in the genre.

Support your answer with at least ONE specific example for each code/convention.

Code/convention One

② Femme Fatale is one of the key codes/conventions of Film Noir. The idea of the Femme Fatale was a fresh change and surprising change from the typical body who was always a male. This new idea from having females play a bad role brought in the ability to have more storyline and fresh ideas as they could now play around with Romance, blackmail, betrayal, heartbreak, sexuality. A Femme Fatale was basically used as the trigger to the whole movie. Once the Cynical Protagonist meet the Femme Fatale he would fall in love with her straight away ~~as~~ because of her irresistible female powers and then she would manipulate him for her own use and good. This new representation brought in the idea that women might not be as innocent as they seemed and men weren't always as clever as they seemed. Which feels quite clever as this probably brought in some new target

Assessor's  
use only

- Genre named: ①  
Film Noir

- Convention/Code named: ②  
Femme Fatales

Vague Explanation  
not backed up by  
anything solid  
~~so little~~

audiences. e.g. Men to come see the Femme  
Fatale who was always beautiful and who  
was normally played by a top actress of  
the time. Femme Fatale were always beautiful  
women and always seemed to need help.

She would make the cynical protagonist  
think that if he helped her (mainly always  
to kill someone) he would get her. In "Double  
Indemnity" Walter kills Phyllis's husband in  
hopes that they can then live happily ever  
after with the money from her husband's 'untraceable'  
insurance claim. But as he states in the end "I killed  
for the money and the women, in the end I  
didn't get the money and I didn't get the  
women'. They both ended up dying. Also,  
after Walter had killed Phyllis's husband,  
she started seeing other guys also.

Conv 1  
described explanation  
weak

CI=A

Assessor  
use only

Has text and  
example of convention  
used. - convention  
is described in  
Double Indemnity (4)

Code/convention Two

⑤

Lighting was another ~~major~~ major code and convention. Lighting was used to create the mood and the tension in Film Noir. Low-key lighting was used to create un-even light and shadows perfect for the airy, tense atmosphere ~~and~~ which added alot to these Film Noirs. Venetian Blinds were another kind of lighting technique and are a classic reminder of Film Noirs. The slats would filter light through into the room creating lines of light and shadow. The lighting was a major part of Film Noir as it helped to create the tension that we are suppose to feel alot of the time, and it also creates a atmosphere of you never know's whats in the shadows or what could be ~~waiting~~ waiting for you. It could also have the Symbolism behind it of its ~~a~~ you against the dark, evil world around you. Also alot of Film Noirs, used night scenes which could play on surprises of bad guys leaping out and play around with shadows and the idea of hidden secrets more. In ⑧ 'Chinatown' Jake is at the water dam at night looking around for some kind of evidence of the scam that he is beginning to

Assessor's  
use only

Convention named ⑤

⑥

Good description ⑥

⑦

- gives reasonable explanation here for a Merit response ⑦

Text 'Chinatown' used and ⑧ explained

has been covered up. Suddenly out of the darkness, two men come out at him, and he ends up ~~be~~ being threatened to stay away and keep quiet and having his nose cut. When those men first appear it is quite sudden and shocking as they just seem to slide out from the darkness. Also the dim light in this scene makes it even more intense as you need to really look to see what is going on.

(M) better links to why  
conveys her is used  
but overall Achieved

This response at  
M but Qn 1 at A  
So Achieved  
overall.

## QUESTION TWO

Assessor's  
use only

"Genres, including their associated codes/conventions, develop in response to many influences, such as changes in society, audience tastes or technology."

Analyse TWO developments in the genre you selected on page 2.

For EACH development, support your answer with specific examples from at least TWO texts.

You could consider such things as:

- why/how these developments occurred
- how these developments have affected the genre
- ways in which changes in society, changes in audience tastes and/or changes in technology have influenced developments.

When you compare classic Film Noirs to Film Noirs that are being made now days, <sup>9</sup> sex and violence has become ~~see~~ something that they are willing to show, which is probably partly because audiences are more accepting of such things now days and understand it better. In 'Brick' <sup>10</sup> Brendon gets beaten up so much, and walks around most of the time with his face battered and busted. Compare that to 'Double <sup>10</sup> Indemnity' where the worst thing that happens is when Phyllis and Walter turn on each other and shot each other. Even with this, when you see Phyllis dead, even though she was shot around two to three times in the stomach she doesn't have any <sup>11</sup> visible wounds when her body is on the couch.

~~As in Film Noirs the Femme Fatales have~~  
As in Film Noirs the Femme Fatales have

↑  
Developments  
named  
- sex & violence <sup>9</sup>

- no reasons why  
sex & violence has  
changed -  
no explanation

Two texts  
described <sup>11</sup>  
- Brick <sup>10</sup> &  
Double Indemnity <sup>10</sup>



become more and more undetectable. In "Double Indemnity" (13) straight from the beginning we know that Phyllis is up to know good. It makes it obvious from the get go and she gets worse and worse as the movie goes along. In "Chinatown" (13) Evelyn is much more harder to see as the typical Femme Fatale. In a way her involvement in what happened throughout the movie was that of her being dragged into it through connections and relations. I ~~find~~ find that she wasn't a typical one. In "Momento" (13) Natalie is much more tricky in the way we are lead to believe that she is being kind and helping Leonard at the being but suddenly in a fast change of event we ~~see~~ see that she has just been using him the whole time, with her backing it up by telling him "I think I'm going to use you!" She is the most straight up in her intentions as he can't remember ~~them~~ anything new for very long, so Natalie is also a lot more complicated than Phyllis. Therefore I felt that over time Femme Fatales have grown more complicated and less see-through.

(2) clear

2nd Devit unclear initially - undetectable but final sentence is clear. (12)  
"Femme Fatales have grown more complicated"

Three texts used  
Double Indemnity (15)  
Chinatown (13)  
Momento (13)  
(two texts required)