

# In A Level Media Studies you should....

## Read

- **Eduqas A-Level Media Studies – official spec & resources**  
Why: your blueprint for C1/C2 topics, set products and assessment. Start here, then use the factsheets. **Ofcom – Media Nations 2025 (UK report)**  
Why: current viewing trends, PSB vs SVOD, YouTube share — gold for industry/audience context answers.
- **Ofcom – Adults’ Media Use & Attitudes 2025**  
Why: up-to-date UK media literacy/audience behaviour (social, news, trust, harms) to evidence arguments.
- **IPA TouchPoints 2025 summary**  
Why: time-use proof (mobile vs TV) you can cite in essays on convergence/platforms/audiences.
- **English & Media Centre – MediaMagazine**  
Why: A-Level-pitched case studies, theory explainers, and exam-friendly angles.

## Listen

- **BBC Radio 4 – The Media Show**  
Why: weekly UK industry changes (regulation, platforms, commissioning) — perfect for C1/C2 industry context.
- **The Media Club with Matt Deegan** (formerly *The Media Podcast*)  
Why: UK-focused TV/radio/streaming/news analysis with practitioners.
- **Press Gazette – The Future of Media, Explained**  
Why: commercial news media strategy (subscriptions, video, platforms) for industry case studies.
- **Media Voices – The Publisher Podcast**  
Why: publishing economics, audience development, newsletters/podcasts — great for cross-media answers.
- **The Rest Is Entertainment**  
Why: how celebrity/culture/media intersect; sharp examples for representation/audiences.

## Online

- **Mrs Fisher – A-Level Media (Eduqas set texts & theory)**  
Why: clear, concise walkthroughs of Eduqas set texts/theory; great for retrieval practice.
- **Eduqas: “Component 1 Set Product Factsheets”**  
Why: quick, spec-aligned refreshers with the theoretical framework signposted.
- **BFI YouTube**  
Why: film/TV representation, industry and history features; strong for C2 context and exemplars.
- **Crash Course – Media Literacy playlist**  
Why: short explainers on encoding/decoding, media effects, algorithms — ideal for theory consolidation.
- **I Think Therefore I Teach – A-Level Media playlists**  
Why: structured lesson videos that map closely to Eduqas content.

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## After each lesson

- **Flashcards:** Revise 5–10 key terms or theorists (e.g. “hegemony,” Hall’s encoding/decoding). Use apps like Quizlet or paper cards.
- **Active recall:** Close your notes and write down what you remember about one set text. Then check and correct in a different colour.
- **Quick media log:** Note down one piece of media you consumed that day (TikTok, advert, trailer) and jot 2–3 observations using the Media framework (Language, Representation, Audience, Industry).

## Every week

- **Mind map building:** Pick one topic (e.g. Representation of gender) and expand a mind map linking set texts, theory, and wider examples.
- **Practice paragraph:** Write one PEED paragraph (Point, Evidence, Explain, Develop) on a past exam-style question. Keep it short but focused.
- **Compare and connect:** Choose two set texts and make a quick comparison table (e.g. similarities and differences in how they attract audiences).
- **Teach it to someone:** Explain a theory or set text to a friend, parent, or even to yourself out loud. Teaching is one of the best ways to learn.

## Every term

- **Timed practice:** Attempt at least one past paper or a full section in timed conditions. Don’t just write, review and highlight what went well and what didn’t.
- **Update knowledge organiser:** Add new facts, theories, and examples from lessons and independent study. Keep one page per set text.
- **Big picture check:** Revisit the Eduqas specification and tick off topics you’ve covered. Make a “traffic light” chart (green = confident, amber = some gaps, red = need help).
- **Group quiz swap:** Create a 10-question quiz for classmates and answer theirs — reinforces recall and exam phrasing.

## Throughout the year

- **Spaced revision:** Don’t cram. Revisit each set text/theory multiple times across the year (little and often works best).
- **Mixed practice:** Don’t just revise one component at a time — practise swapping between film, advertising, radio, and newspapers. This mirrors the exam structure.
- **Keep examples current:** Save news articles, campaigns, or media stories. Real, up-to-date examples impress examiners.
- **Healthy habits:** Sleep, hydration, and short breaks boost memory far more than all-night cramming.
- **Past papers or Practise Papers rotation:** Sit past or practice papers at home under the timed conditions that you would normally sit them.