1a)

At AS (Foundation Portfolio) I created the opening two minutes of a new feature film. I chose the genre of Social Realism and the narrative of the film was about a teenage girl (roughly 15) who ended up pregnant but who then after having her baby got in with the wrong crowd of people who then lead her astray, causing all sorts of problems for the young girl, her family and her baby. The main issue we wanted to raise and explore through the world of media was teen pregnancy and the problems/issues that come with it.

The main character in this film was a young girl (15 years of age) and her name was Linda, there was also another main character who was Linda's best friend, another female character called Courtney; These characters were the binary opposition of each other.

At the A2 (Advanced Portfolio) I created a teaser trailer for a new feature film, soon to be released. I changed the genre of this production from AS work to the sub genre of slasher from the genre of Horror. I did this because I wanted and was capable of a whole different challenge.

The Teaser Trailer was about a young couple (aged between 17 and 18) who started off their relationship well and full of love, until the arguments began they end up splitting up while the young female is moving on with her life, tutoring a guy from her class, her best friends start to disappear (and are murdered). The young girl thinks its her ex-boyfriend, killing her friends out of spite but the twist actually is that it's the guy who she it tutoring who has a huge obsession with the girl. However the trailer doesn't show this and it portrays her ex-boyfriend as the killer.

There are a few main protagonists/antangonists throughout this production. To start with there is 'Carie' the main protagonist (young girl) and 'Ben' the main protagonist but the audience think he is the antagonist when really 'Paul' is the main antagonist (the killer). Lastly there is 'Carie's' best friend 'Hannah' who ends up getting killed but she is a binary opposite to 'Carie'.

I carried out a lot of research into real media texts, using digital technology such as websites (eg. www.imdb.com); this website was very useful when carrying out research into real media texts as I was able to research texts that would help me to develop my creativity from my own productions: I used this website for research for both my AS and A2 productions and it was very helpful. This researched had a big impact into my own production work because I was able to find out what the key codes and conventions were from real media texts and artificially inject them into my own productions.

A real media text I researched a lot in my AS production was 'wish you were here' starring Emily Lloyd and set in the seaside town of Brighton. This film had the same genre as my AS piece (social realism) and it was tackling the same issues (teen pregnancy). From this research we decided to give our main protagonist the same name as the main protagonist in 'Wish You Were Here' which was 'Linda' so the name our main protagonist was informed by research into real media texts as we wanted to intertextually link our production in with 'Wish You Were Here' which inspired me greatly. I used research methods such as the internet for 'Wish You Were Here' (www.imdb.com).

At A2 we worked on the genre of Horror (the sub genre of slasher) as this genre was completely different to our AS genre we had to do all our research from scratch. One

way in which my production has been informed by research into real media texts is taken from the film 'Psycho', we were really inspired by 'Psycho's' famous shower seen, which we researched through 'YouTube' and watched many different clips of. We wanted to intertexualy link this in with our production so we challenged this convention and added a bath killing scene into our montage of killings. This basically was a close-up-shot of a girl in a bath with a high angle a medium shot of the mirror showing a dark figure which could trigger a narrative enigma next to another shot of a shadow of a knife coming down. This is how proved that a killing was taking place without showing any nudity or blood.

Research into real media texts was a lot easier as we had more resources and our knowledge of where to find different resources was greater we were able to have acess to a wide range of dvds in the library that were linked into our genre that were not there when we were completing our AS productions.

At A2 we were also able to acess a wide range of books in the library which weer linked in with our genre which we didn't have at AS. So at AS we were very limited with what resources we could actually use and I do feel that if I had had the books, dvds etc that I had at A2, that my production at AS would have benefited.

It was harder to research for my AS task because we were looking at the openings of films which were a lot harder to find on the internet but for A2 we were looking at teaser trailers anf the web (including www.imdb.com and 'youTube') are absolutely full of trailers.

EAA 8
EG 7
T 3
(18)

1b)

For my A2 production (Advanced Portfolio) I created a teaser trailer in the sub-genre of slasher from the genre of Horror. The synopsis of this teaser trailer is about a young couple (roughly 17-19 years of age) who are in love in the beginning but the relationship turns sore and they split up, the girls moves on with her life and the boy doesn't like this and starts to follow her; The girl starts tutoring a guy in her class who is struggling but who is a complete binary opposition to her ex-boyfriend in the sense that he is a bit of a geeky character and her ex-boyfriend is a Jock (both of these characters you will find stereotypically in horror films) one by one the girls friends keep disappearing or are murdered and the suspision lies in the hands of the ex-boyfriend due to spite. But the question is does he really love her enough to not kill her? Throughout the trailer the audience thinks the ex-boyfriend si the killer but actually as it turns out it's the geeky boy who has become very obsessive over the girl and wants her to himself.

The characters in this production are all very stereotypical of what you would find in an American 'slasher/horro' film. The two main female protagonists are 'Carie' and 'Hannah' Carie is your stereotypical 'final girl' which you would find in of not all, most horror films, this character is always brunette and seen to be 'innocent' we used this key code and convention of the genre horror from the film 'Halloween' staring 'Jamie Lee Curtis', As she is the 'final girl', she has brunette hair, the same as 'Catie' and she also wears the coulor blue as throughout our production 'Catie' is seen wearing the colour blue. For 'Hannah' she is our stereotypical 'scream queen' we looked at a film called 'Hell Night' and from seeing this their 'scream queen' was

wearing red, had red lipstick and had blonde hair, we chose our character of 'hannah' specifically so that she would have blonde hair and we also dressed her in a red costume and put red lipstick on her for her makeup. These two characters are complete binary opposites and are juxtaposed together.

From our research into 'Horror' teaser trailers we found that a common code and convention was a fast montage so we created a fast montage of all the killings throughout the film, however we also found that 'slasher' films portrayed someone else as the killer so that the audience don't actually know who the killer is, or the suspect that the wrong person until is revealed at the end of the film; this is strereotypically done in horror films to create tension, suspense and even a narrative enigma.

On some shots of the killings eg. When the killer is following 'Abby' one the girls friends down into an underground tunnel, you have a point of view shot in the perspective of the killer walking behind Abby with the view of her back, we also tried to create yellow tinted lighting, using colour filters as we also found that this was a common code and convention of 'horror' also with the colour blue.

Through using these different lighting effects I have tried to anchor the preffered reading so the audience can tell what the genre of the film would be but also to connote that something bad is about to happen to that specific character.

There were many more signifiers throughout our media production that would have signified the genre to the audience however it was difficult with having to create a piece that lasted between 60-90 seconds and due to the fact that we are young film makers we don't have big Hollywood film funding budgets. We only have small budgets to go on make-up and costumes. Had we had larger budgets though we would have been able to create a production a lot better. So there were limitations which could have had an effect on the genre.

EAA 6
EG 7
T 3
(16)

Total section A 34/50