



GCE AS/A level

1182/01-A

FILM STUDIES

FM2

British and American Film

A.M. MONDAY, 16 May 2011

2½ hours

Resource Material for use with Section A

Resource material: Part A

Study the items in **Part A** of the resource material for use with **Section A, Question 1**.

Item 1: Article on streaming films using Playstation3

Sony and Netflix in deal to stream movies using PS3



Netflix, which lets members download films over the Internet or mails DVDs to their homes, has more than 11 million US subscribers. In 2008 Netflix and Microsoft reached a deal involving the US software giant's Xbox 360 videogame consoles.

In 2009, Netflix and Sony announced that PlayStation3 owners would be able to use the game console to stream movies and TV shows to their television sets or computers.

- *Relax News*, 27 October 2009

Item 2: Promotion for Consumer Electronic Show

At Consumer Electronics Show, 3D TV will take centre stage.

After the huge success of James Cameron's 3D blockbuster *Avatar* at the cinema box office, grab the popcorn and 3D glasses and get ready for the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, an important showcase for new entertainment technology. 3D TV is on its way.

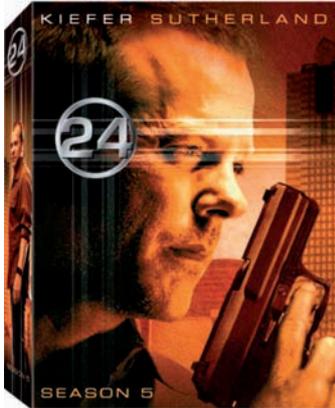


- adapted from an article by Dawn C. Chimelewski and Alex Pham, *Los Angeles Times*, 5 January 2010

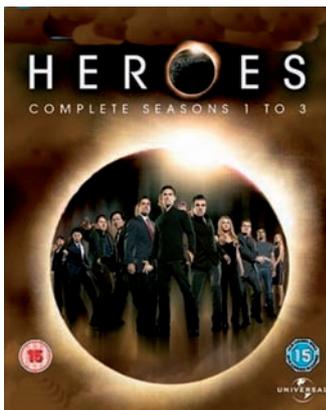
Item 3: Film fans' perception of DVD box sets of TV series.

TV Show or Film? DVD consumers say it doesn't matter.

Where did the big movies go? They have become mega-hit television series that in turn became mega-hit DVD box sets. Increasingly, the home cinema audience sees these TV series as being just like the best films.



'24 is so much more satisfying than any Action movie like Bond – it can do what no movie can do just because of its running time. And the suspense is all the greater for the cliff-hanger end to every episode'



'I love the comic Super-hero movies like Spiderman, but Heroes is something else. Like other TV series it has a large number of very different characters – and they all have superhuman powers!'



- adapted from Canwest News Service, 26 December 2009

Resource Material: Part B

Study the items in **Part B** of the resource material for use with **Section A, Question 2**.

Item 1: Article - 'The Rise and Fall of Star Power'

The Rise and Fall of Star Power

There has been a long list of recent star-driven films that have disappointed at the box office. Meanwhile the starless *Saw* and the *Final Destination* franchises hit big on high-concept gore alone. *Avatar* is the most high profile of recent blockbusters which sells itself on special effects rather than superstar appeal.

At least three factors can be identified in explaining the falling appeal of stars:

- celebrity overexposure in the media
- exhibition: very brief cinema releases for many star-driven films
- internet buzz becoming a greater influence than big marketing budgets.

- adapted from an article by Hannah McGill, *Sight & Sound*, February 2010

Item 2: UK Box Office List for 2009

Few "A" List Stars in UK Box Office Top Twelve Films of 2009

1	<i>Avatar</i>	Fox
2	<i>Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince</i>	Warner
3	<i>Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs</i>	Fox
4	<i>Up</i>	Disney
5	<i>Slumdog Millionaire</i>	Pathe
6	<i>Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen</i>	Paramount
7	<i>The Twilight Saga: New Moon</i>	E1
8	<i>Sherlock Holmes</i>	Warner
9	<i>The Hangover</i>	Warner
10	<i>Star Trek</i>	Paramount
11	<i>Monsters vs Aliens</i>	Paramount
12	<i>Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel</i>	Fox

- Source: *Box Office Mojo*

Item 3: New Stars – Two profiles



Katie Jarvis: *Fish Tank*

The Cannes Film Festival anointed a new star today. A teenager with no acting experience was discovered having a row with her boyfriend on a railway station platform in Essex.

Katie Jarvis, 17, is a raw and compelling presence in every scene of *Fish Tank*.

- adapted from an article by Ben Hoyle, *The Times*,
14 May 2009

Gabby Sidibe: *Precious*

Gabby Sidibe feels like she's living out a Hollywood dream. The 24-year-old, who grew up in Harlem and had acted only in college productions, won the coveted lead role in *Precious*.

Making her debut as the obese and abused teenage single mom was a challenge Gabby wasn't afraid to take.

- adapted from an article by Jeanne Wolf in *Parade*, 23 October 2009

