BTEC Assignment Brief

Qualification	Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Creative Digital Media Production(Film and Television Production)
Unit number and title	**19: Scriptwriting**
Learning aim(s) (For NQF only)	**A:** Examine the role of a scriptwriter **B:** Explore scriptwriting formats and conventions for media products
Assignment title	Investigating a documentary on Scriptwriting
Assessor	R. Agyeman
Issue date	September 12th 2022
Hand in deadline	2nd December 2022

Vocational Scenario or Context	Your first job as an intern for an educational television channel requires you to do the background work to find information for a two-part documentary about the role of scriptwriters within the media industries, which will include the different formats and conventions they use for different media products. On completion of your research you will be required to present all your materials relating to the roles and responsibilities of scriptwriters in different sectors of the media industry.

Task 1	**Research for part 1 of the Scriptwriting documentary; the role and responsibilities of scriptwriters** The documentary producers want you to research detailed examples focussing on the following areas: • Obtaining work as a scriptwriter in different sectors (e.g. radio, film, television, games) – this section of the documentary will focus on the different ways in which scriptwriters get work, from unsolicited submissions and competitions, to working with agents and with different commissioning bodies, writers, producers, directors and editors. • The demands and requirements of scriptwriters in different sectors, the different skills needed to address these demands and how different practitioners develop these skills. • The scriptwriting process • The legal and ethical considerations for scriptwriters in different sectors writing for different types of media products You must evaluate your findings, referring to contrasting examples of scriptwriting practices.

Checklist of evidence required	Research findings in an appropriate format, e.g. • written report • annotated portfolio of research with conclusions • video documentary
Criteria covered by this task:	
Unit/Criteria reference	To achieve the criteria you must show that you are able to:
19/A.D1	Evaluate the role and legal and ethical responsibilities of scriptwriters in the media industry, referring to contrasting scriptwriting practitioners.
19/A.M1	Analyse the role and legal and ethical responsibilities of scriptwriters in the media industry, referring to specific scriptwriting practitioners.
19/A.P1	Explain the roles and responsibilities of scriptwriters in the media industry
19/A.P2	Explain legal and ethical responsibilities of scriptwriters.
Task 2	**Research for part 2 of the Scriptwriting documentary; formats and conventions of scripts for media products** For the next section of the documentary you are required to present your research findings relating to the formats and conventions of scripts for different media products. The documentary producers want you to evaluate the purpose and effectiveness of the format and conventions used in existing scripts. You must present detailed examples from different media sectors and different genres focussing on: • The use of different script formats including layouts, styles, mode of address, etc. • Different considerations including information required, compliance with guidelines, branching scripts dependent on player interaction in games, support copy, ensuring scripts are readable. • Directions to production team relating to mise-en-scène and camera directions. • The use of different types of language to engage or persuade viewers, and imply meaning or ensure clarity • Use of conventions to structure and develop narrative • How scripts are produced to appeal or relate to different audiences
Checklist of evidence required	Research findings in an appropriate format, e.g. • written report • annotated portfolio of research with conclusions • video documentary

Criteria covered by this task:	
Unit/Criteria reference	To achieve the criteria you must show that you are able to:
19/B.D2	Evaluate the purpose and effectiveness of the format and conventions used in existing scripts for different types of media product.
19/B.M2	Analyse existing scripts for different media products, explaining the format and conventions used.
19/B.P3	Explain the format of existing scripts for different media products.
19/B.P4	Explain the conventions of scriptwriting for different media products.
Sources of information to support you with this Assignment	**Textbooks** • McGee R – *Story: Substance, Structure, Style and the Principles of Screenwriting* (Regan Books, 1999) ISBN 9780413715609. This is a guide to writing for screen or audio visual mediums. • Straczynski M J – *The Complete Book of Scriptwriting, 3rd edition* (Writer's Digest Book, 1997) ISBN 9781852868826. This gives a complete outline of the scriptwriting process covering many conventions. • Truby J – The Anatomy of Story (North Point Press, 2007) ISBN 9780865479517. This book gives an in-depth look into the construction of narrative for the scriptwriter. **Websites** • www.plotbot.com – This site provides free scriptwriting software. • www.scriptmag.com This site contains blogs, resources, events and links to useful information for scriptwriters. • www.bbc.co.uk/writersroom This site has excellent resources available free online with material that would be applicable to each learning aim.
Other assessment materials attached to this Assignment Brief	None