

Stranger Things Episode 1 – Scene by Scene Representation

Social Groups/Events and issues

	Who/what is the focus of representation in the sequence?	Is the focus of representation common within the media in general? Or, is the focus usually under-represented?	Are stereotypes used? Is the representation stereotypical or does it challenge stereotypes?	Does the focus of representation feel 'real' and 'truthful'? Is it mis-represented in any way? If so, how?	How is the representation constructed through use of media language? Camera/Editing/Sound/Mise-en-scène	What key signs and connotations are used in the sequence? What meanings do they offer?	
1 Abby, Molly B, Calvin	Opening Scene – Hawkins Laboratory - Scientist running down corridor - Gets into the lift to escape - Scientist snatched by	The representation is not common because scientist is scared and running away whereas usually he would be in charge himself.	Stereotypes are used when the scientist wears the white lab coat. It is stereotypical as scientists typically wear white lab coats and are male.	The scientist is being represented as the prey as he is being chased by a mysterious creature, the predator.	The camera shots are quick. this creates a tense atmosphere as we are unsure what is chasing the scientist as the scene keep changing quickly. There are flashing lights to represent the supernatural, reinforced by the footsteps and music.	There are flashing lights as the scientist runs through the abandoned corridor. This shows homage to ET. This shows that it is a 80s themed film.	

	unknown thing						
2	Boys playing Dungeons and Dragons • Mike is the DM and introduces the Demogorgon • The boys try to 'fight it' by rolling a dice to attack with a fireball	The representation is common, the young group of boys are geeky and play board games such as Dungeons and Dragons. The boys are desperate to find out the answer of a make believe game.	It is stereotypical of young children to play with toys and they are typical 1980s toys. They are nerds which makes you expect them to play with board games and toys rather than doing sports etc.		The shots are slow moving until when Will meets the Demogorgon in the board game and when everyone is shouting the camera shots change faster.	There is a demogorgon in the game they are playing and it is against Will. We find out he gets chased by a mysterious creature which is similar to the game they play at Mike's house.	
3	Mike talks with his mother • Game took ten hours • Disinterested of the mother	The representations are common, this is because the mother is very strict, also she is the typical mother by making dinner. Also, the father is also common as he agrees with the	Is stereotypical behaviour of a father to lack interest in his sons games. The disinterest of his mother is a counter type as usually mothers are caring towards their children.			A key sign in this is the static on the TV. The connotation of this is showing that it is a typical upper / working class home. Showing that they are wealthy.	

	Ignored by the father	mother by what she says.					
4	Boys find the dice - Boys find the dice – Will is ‘got’ by the Demogorgon - Encouraged to lie	This representation is common because the young boys encourage others to lie so they are not out of the game and do not lose.	They again show the stereotype of nerdy boys as they are interested in playing board games and monsters. Also the fact they lie about being caught shows their childish.			A key sign in this scene is the demogorgon toy. This is because it becomes important later in the series. It shows a hint towards what is going to happen later on.	
5	Dustin goes to Nancy - Nancy is on the phone to Barb - Dustin attempts to offer pizza - Nancy slams the door	The representation of the older teenage group is common. This is because she is chatting on her phone to a friend about boys and then is not interested in the young geeky boy so slams the door.	Nancy is a stereotypical 80s teenager as she has a pink girly room and she talks about boys in the scene. Dustin is also a stereotypical child as he looks up to older girls and tries to impress them.			The sign in this scene is the phone, it connotes to communicating, which will be essential later on.	
6 Rachel/Jack	Flickering porch lights	The representation of the underdogs group of boys isn’t really highlighted in this scene as it	yes the stereotype of the typical group of boys that are slightly outcasted due to	Yes the representations feel real as there are many instances in middle-schools up and	The slow moving panning extreme-close-ups of the boys facial expressions whilst playing the games shows how the boys act	The use of the flickering light icon has connotations of: warning, danger and panic which	

	- Will says “the Demogorgon, it got me” - Will cycles off alone and falls from his bike – he is pursued	shouldn't be an issue. Extreme cases of bullying due to children's hobbies and tastes have been highlighted in the media more and more in recent years through several social media campaigns.	their interest in the niche game of dungeons and dragons.	down the country of groups of boys just like this that have felt discarded by people their own age. However the use of the supernatural provides a fake 'constructed-ideology' that tests our concept of what is real or not.	slightly different to the normal. Also the use of the high angle long shot of Will falling on his bike represents how he is made to feel small by the supernatural creature.	foreshadows the issues that are going to be experienced throughout the episode and later in the series.	
7	- Chased through the house - Silhouette of the Demogorgon at the window - Telephone not working - Will pursued to the shed where he is taken by the unseen monster	This shows our stereotypical view of a 12 year-old running away from an unknown creature that he is scared of when he is home alone. However, it breaks stereotypes of teenagers that would usually run and hide whereas he stands up in the shed to face it with a loaded rifle ready to fight. It also could be a representation of children struggling when they are constantly left at home alone.	This shows our stereotypical view of a 12 year-old running away from an unknown creature that he is scared of when he is home alone. However, it breaks stereotypes of teenagers that would usually run and hide whereas he stands up in the shed to face it with a loaded rifle ready to fight.	The representation feels truthful as we suddenly feel deep sympathy with Will with the situation that he finds himself in so early in the series. However, the use of the mysterious creature and the boy being left alone to fight it makes it feel less real.	The use of the close up of the silhouette of the demogorgon at the window of the door also the low key lighting adds to the mystery of the representation of the creature and how we are still unsure of Will's powers and capabilities.	The use of the rifle has connotations of serious danger and crime that could be potentially portrayed in the series and also causes us to sympathise with Will as no teenager should be put in a position of that level of danger.	

8	- Flickering porch lights - Will says "the Demogorgon, it got me" - Will cycles off alone and falls from his bike – he is pursued	Who/what is the focus of representation in the sequence? Teenagers	Is the focus of representation common within the media in general? Or, is the focus usually under-represented? Common yet outdated representation of teenagers, coming home after dark on bikes from a friend's house	Are stereotypes used? Is the representation stereotypical or does it challenge stereotypes? Challenges modern day representations of teens as they are playing out on their bikes and having fun together playing a board game, no screens around	Does the focus of representation feel 'real' and 'truthful'? Is it mis-represented in any way? If so, how? Feels semi truthful as it's a true representation of young teens in the 80's, however it is quite late to be riding home in the dark considering how young they are. Most probably wouldn't let Will go off by himself	How is the representation constructed through use of media language? Camera/Editing/Sound/Mise-en-scène Lots of wide, long shot tracking scenes when they are on the bikes, fluid cuts to fit the movement in screen. Low key lighting to highlight the importance of the theme of light	
9	Hopper's Home - Hopper waking up and getting ready - Cigarettes, alcohol	Police officers in America are commonly seen as lazy and unhealthy (drugs smoking, drinking, eating fast food) so suits	Typical representations of American officers	It shows how a man is obviously struggling, but not wanting to show his feelings and get help, which is truthful as in the media men aren't	Lengthy, panning shots, jump shots, mise en scene is the police uniform, messy house, low key lighting, bright morning sky to show contrast	Police badge, uniform and hat, show typical American cop, messy, alcoholic cans everywhere	

	and prescripti on drugs	the general perception		seen to be as expressive. Messy, single man		suggest poor mental health	
10	Byer's Home - Joyce Byers also getting ready - Jonathan Byers cooking breakfast - Joyce Byers ringing Mike's mum	The focus and representation of a teenager doing the typical mum role and mum being frantic, struggling to get to work on time is under-represented in the media as this depiction of this family layout is more common than portrayed in media	Challenges stereotypes. Teenage boy cooking breakfast, getting brother up for school, working shifts to help the family's finances. Mum isn't as obviously caring and she struggles to be organised and maintain a structured family unit	Feels truthful as its more naturally family like ie. Not being organised and a perfect family...	Lengthy shots mixed with short snappy jump shots, mid shots, average dull clothing and interior decor	What key signs and connotations are used in the sequence? What meanings do they offer?	
11 Niamh/Bobby	Middle School - Boys confronted by bullies - Will noticed to be missing	Is the focus of representation common within the media in general? Or, is the focus usually	Are stereotypes used? Is the representation stereotypical or does it challenge stereotypes? Dustin embraces the stotype and doe	Does the focus of representation feel 'real' and 'truthful'? Is it mis-represented in any way? If so, how? It is truthful due to the typically	How is the representation constructed through use of media language? Camera/ Editing/Sound/Mis e-en-scène	What key signs and connotations are used in the sequence? What meanings do they offer?	

		under-represented? Nerdy boys typically get bullied.	what the bullies say with the arm move	nerdy kids being bullied by the cooler kids.	in the shade as people are overlooking it as its a normal . slow paced so ongoing and means the bullying don't stop, camera shot is behind the boys makes us feel like we apart of the geeky group being bullied.	bikes show adolescence, backpack shows youth,	
12	High School - Nancy and Barb talking dating - Nancy and Steve talking about tests and studying - Nancy and Steve in the bathroom	Typical nerdy girl doesn't normally have the popular boyfriend therefore not cliché so underrepresented.	Yeah as the nerdy girl fully covered up looking innocent with the light pastel colours.	The truthful part is that the girls are not popular However, the untruthful representation is of the of the geeky girl getting with the popular boy is normally untrue.	very bright and light, there for showing purity and innocence. however when the subtle hint of impurity with the sounds become more intense and mysterious. due to the note that nancy has been given links to romance and then impurity due the connotations to sex.	innocence, purity, then	
13	Police Station Local police	Usual for the media. Lazy cops.	Stereotype of lazy police officer but is	Yes because not all police officers are lazy,	natural lighting-normality.	Coffee- shows the morning/ lateness	

	offices – Powell and Callaghan Hopper interacts with his colleagues	Chief police officer has big ego.	contrasted by beginning representation of Hopper who has kids pictures.	it is a truthful stereotype but unrealistic in society.	many long shots to show all police officers and travel of Hopper to get a coffee. Lot's of clutter of papers and folders- disorganised.	of Hopper and his lack of care to begin working. Papers and files show disorganisation.	
14	Joyce and Hopper - Talking about Will's absence - Hopper's local knowledge - Joyce's concern for her son	there is a common representation of the hectic mother and the lazy policeman.	yes as the mother is very stressed and worried about her child and therefore creating the stereotype of a nutty mother. also the stereotype of the lazy policeman sitting around and almost having that non caring attitude.	no it feels untruthful with the policeman as, the police force are not lazy and are always busy and on the go trying to solve crimes. however the truthful representation of the mother i feel is correct due to the parent would be stressed and hectic due to the child going missing so would cause her to be worried and frantic	the zoomed in shot of the type writing creating the word of missing and the clicking intensity increases the atmosphere and intensity gets greater. then the lighting in the office is more dull than the rest of the office due to the scene now become serious.	the typewriters means serious and important. her cigarette stress and being nervous.	

15 Dan/Loom/ Oakley	Hawkins Lab • Dr Brenner's first appearance • Changing into Hazmat suits and arming themselves • Upside Down portal	The main focus is Dr Brenner and the scientists. The main focus in this sequence is trying to identify the extra terrestrial being that is in their presence.	how the scientists are represented is common within the media, typical representations of the scientists and the Doctor, have a sinister look to them	Stereotypes are not challenged as the scientists are rushing around in lab coats like a stereotypical scientist.		The representation of the scientists is constructed by the low angle shots looking up at the scientists to show their power and courageousness for going into the upside down. The camera also does point of view tracking to unveil the paranormal veins so the audience sees them at the same time as the scientists do.	
16	Benny's Diner • 11 arrives at Benny's diner and steals food • Is caught by Benny	The two characters represented in this scene, Benny and Eleven, we are not sure whether Eleven is a boy or a girl at the start of the scene.	Benny is represented as the stereotypical American Diner owner,			The camera pans up from Eleven's feet up to her head to reveal her, this represents her as extra terrestrial or alien-like. Eleven starts on the left side of the shot and then moves to the middle and we follow her through her discovery inside the diner to show her as the main character in	

						this scene, this makes the audience question her relevance and why she might be a part of the show and want to follow her story	
17	Middle School - Teacher introducing the AV Club - Boys talking to the teacher - Interviewed by Hopper			Are stereotypes used? Is the representation stereotypical or does it challenge stereotypes?	Does the focus of representation feel 'real' and 'truthful'? Is it mis-represented in any way? If so, how?	The boys are represented as inquisitive and excited in the AV club when the camera does a straight cut then tilt down. The camera also focuses on the bolts and knobs of the machine the boys are playing with, a similar shot to the one with the government listening to the town, this could mirror how the boys are doing what the government are doing but on a	

						much smaller scale.	
18	Castle Byers - Flashback to Joyce and Will talking - Back to present and he isn't here					Brighter lighting in flashback shows a reference to better times, the lighting shows a more vibrant and happier lifestyle and greatly contrasts to the situation that the Byers are currently trying to overcome	
19	Benny's Diner - Discussion with Eleven and her lack of speech - Benny phones 'social services' - Eleven reveals her powers	Who/what is the focus of representation in the sequence?	Is the focus of representation common within the media in general? Or, is the focus usually under-represented?	Are stereotypes used? Is the representation stereotypical or does it challenge stereotypes?	Does the focus of representation feel 'real' and 'truthful'? Is it mis-represented in any way? If so, how?	11 is wearing a hospital gown which immediately means that the audience is going to question what has happened to him/her. 11's shaven head confirms the audience's questions about her gender and identity.	
20 Georgia/Molly C	Woods Searching for Will	They are typical representations of the police officers	The representations are stereotypical due to their police and	The officers are not mis-represented within this scene, all	Slow pan downwards onto them searching to create a mysterious and	Police badge, walkie talkie, official uniform and	

	Byers in the woods Discovery of Will's bike	in America, they are focused on their job and Hopper is the strong leader of the group.	sheriff uniforms, badges, pistols, hats and police car that are all stereotypically associated with American police officers and sheriffs.	characters show a typical representation of the police.	suspenseful atmosphere. Close up of Hopper as he takes the medication to draw attention to his potential problem.	police car, all show the typical attributes of stereotypical police.	
21	Hawkins Lab - People listening on local telephone conversations - Implication that they are listening to Benny	There are no strong representations shown in this scene. We are unsure as to who the people are but we can infer they are working for the government.	Typical governments are meant to be protecting the community, the fact they are listening in to telephone calls and intruding on personal matters makes their representation seem to oppose the stereotype.	As there are no strong representations within this scene, so therefore it is undetermined whether the representations are misrepresented or not.	Slow pan of the back of the heads of the people listening to the phone calls creating more suspense, this is also created by the fact you are unable to see the faces of the people. There is dark lighting throughout, further adding to the mystery of who the people are working for. At the end of the scene you finally see the woman's face, it is a mid shot so that the audience is able to gain further understanding and context of this scene. Beeping sounds and short sections of telephone calls are heard in the background further representing the idea that they are listening to the phone calls.	Headphones, screens, notepad and pen shows they are observing, prying on phone calls.	

22	- Joyce Byers ringing ex-husband - Hopper brings Will's bike to the Byers household - Hopper checks the shed	Joyce is strongly represented as an unstable mother as she seems frantic and upset during the phone call to her ex-husband. Hopper is represented once again as a strong leader of the officers as when he turns up to the house he leads the group. Jonathan does not represent the typical teenager, he is under represented and is seen to look after his mother, which is not stereotypical of teenagers.	Jonathan challenges stereotypes as he is seen to be a fatherly figure within his family, he is helping to hold the family together by being supportive towards his mother. Hopper once again represents stereotypical sheriff by leading the search for will byers. Joyce is a stereotypical single mother who is often represented in the media as weak and emotionally vulnerable.	Joyce and Hopper are accurately represented as stereotypical characters. Whereas Jonathan is misrepresented and does not support the stereotype of a typical teenager.	Lots of cut shots of Joyce and Jonathan which represents her frantic and unstable emotional state. When Hopper arrives, tracking and panning shots are used to show how the officers and Sheriff bring an element of calm to the house as they are stereotypically known for helping society. In the shed, the light flickers and the sci-fi noises are heard which mirrors the same things will heard and saw before he was abducted.	Same uniform and props that belong the the police as seen before these shoe authority. Joyce has a name badge on suggesting she has a job in order for her to try and earn an income for her single-parented family.	
23	- Mike's house at the dinner table - Different family relationships	Mike's family represent a typical nuclear family. The parents hold the authority over the children, however the teenage children show stereotypical teenage characteristics by	The mother is represented as the typical housewife. She has cooked dinner for the family and their house is organised and clean. The father is authoritative over his children and he is the working member of	All members of the Wheeler family show accurate representations of stereotypical family members.	The scene shows lots of cut shots to show close ups of all family members. The cut shots are shorter and quicker when the family are arguing, adding to the tension between the family dynamic.	Dining table shows the middle class and strong family dynamic of the family. the house is well furnished and decorated suggesting the family are financially safe and are of a good	

		trying to oppose their parents (even though unsuccessful)	the family, therefore representing the stereotypical husband/father of the time. Nancy gives an accurate representation of teenagers of her age, she is focused on her studies but is also secretive about her social life and her new love interest. Mike is represented as a stereotypical teenage boy, he snitches on his older sister and gets defensive around his parents, yet is also adventurous and excitable.			income. The plentiful food on the table shows how the mother is a typical housewife and provides for the whole family	
24 Putt, Jen, Holly	Woods - Night search for Will Byers - Hopper's daughter discovered	Our representation of Hopper has changed as we find out that his daughter died a few years ago. Therefore, our initial representation of Hopper being lazy and careless has changed to being a	When searching for Will we see the police force shown in a very stereotypical way as they as Hopper searches for Will like you would expect a Sheriff to do, this juxtaposes with how Hopper was represented at the	stereotypical policeman, searching, helping to find the missing boy (will) in the woods. Hopper presents a sad attitude when he tells us that his daughter and wife died so is lonely.	Does the focus of representation feel 'real' and 'truthful'? Is it mis-represented in any way? If so, how? Hopper is represented as lazy and it feels real/ truthful. However in this scene we find out he has been mis represented	Torches use through the forest, the vision of flashing lights is a flowing theme throughout, links to the beginning of season 1 episode 1 in the hospital,	

		much more sensitive and caring character.	beginning of the episode.		because he is more sensible and cares more. This was done on purpose.	operation corridor.	
25	Boys Houses • Discussion on walkie-talkies • Plans to find Will • Setting off on bikes	Our representation of the boys remain the same throughout representing them as being sensible and wanted to help find their friend. Showing loyalty and compassion.	The boys fit the stereotypical early teens as they have met up and are playing games for hours.	Stereotypical boys, rebelling, going out at night to adventure and socialise.	I feel like the boys are represented as young, stereotypical teenage boys as they enjoy playing games and spending time with each other. This makes me feel as though their representations are truthful.	Walkie talkies-relating to the time period in which stranger things were set in (1980's) Bikes relating to youth- socialising with friends.	
26	Nancy's Room • Steve sneaking into Nancy's room • Study cards • Kissing	Our representation of Steve remains the same in this scene as he is showing a rebellious side meaning he fits the stereotypical 'bad boy teen'. Nancy is represented as a well educated, sensible teen obeying her parents rules.	Nancy fits the stereotypical studious teenager who tries hard in school, this remains the same when Steve tries to climb through the window showing his rebellious side.		The representation of Nancy is misrepresented so does not come across truthful. This is because throughout the episode she comes across as very studious but very easily influenced by 'steve'. She fits the stereotypical 'good student' teenager however changes throughout. Steve's character is represented truthfully because he fits the stereotypical 80's teen 'bad boy'.	Kissing connoting love and rebelling her parents rules. study cards representing her as well educated, stereotypical goodie two shoes student.	

27	Benny's Diner - Female 'social worker' arrives - Benny is shot - Eleven is pursued and escapes - Attacks the two government officials	Benny is represented as being kind and caring whereas when we first met him he seemed short tempered and protective over his restaurant.	Benny fits the stereotypical idea of what a diner worker would look like.	Benny's character seems truthful and genuine as he is presented as a caring individual.	Benny's character is represented truthfully because he comes across like he cares about his business when he sees Eleven eating his food. However we see his caring side when he calls the social worker and feeds her. The social worker is misrepresented because she walks in as a caring woman who wants the best for the child. However, she shoots Benny, chases for the child and brings her team in. Her representation is not real.	Gun, connoting violence, aggression and life taking. social workers are usually helpful and someone you can trust, however our opinion and trust is broken when a good character is shot. Eleven has powers and presents a vulnerable scared image.	
28 Lee/Liv	Woods Boys looking for Will	The scene represents the friendship of the boys as they are out in the night looking for their friend.	Stereotypically, this is what would happen. The boys would want to help their friend as they are the protagonists.	In reality, children of their age wouldn't be out their late and would rely on the police to deal with their missing friend.	They are presented as rebellious as they duck past the red danger police tape showing they are rebelling and going into the danger. To show that where they may go might be dangerous, the scene shows pathetic fallacy through the use of rain. This may show that danger could be ahead.	Bikes - youth Police tape - danger Rain - danger Bike lights - ominous, dark	

29	Nancy's Room - Moved from studying to kissing - Nancy argues with Steve - Nancy throws Steve out	Nancy is presented as the typical studious nice innocent girl contrasted with Steve - the rebellious, naughty, alluring guy.	Their relationship shows the stereotypical storyline of good girl gone bad as she used to be a nerdy character trying to study but Steve, the popular guy steers her away from studying by flirting.	This typically wouldn't happen as the popular guy would usually go for someone on his level of popularity. However it could happen as he may want the challenge.	Nancy is represented as your typical, plain girl shown through her room which is quite typical, pink, girly showing how she is a good girl. Steve is quite relaxed through his body language whereas she is quite anxious because they are rebelling. The close up shots convey their difference in emotion.	Study notes - Nancy is studious	
30	Byer's Home - Joyce and Jonathan Byers reminiscing - Will Byers? On the telephone	Jonathan is presented as a loving, mature brother that the family rely on as he is the male figure in the house and has responsibility to bring in income and do the chores. Joyce is presented usually as quite scatty but in the beginning of the scene she is shown as calm whilst reminiscing. She soon gets over emotional once she hears Will on the phone.	Stereotypically, we wouldn't see the older brother figure get so emotional about his brother in a sense that he cries but Jonathan does as he is presented as quite sensitive throughout the episode as he isn't very popular. Joyce is acting typically how a mother would in that situation.	The representation is truthful as a family would be emotional whilst looking at photos of a missing child. Therefore this scene is quite realistic at the beginning when the family are talking about Will. However, when the phone rings and the mother says she can hear Will, it brings in the representation of mystery as it causes enigmas making the audience think about where Will is.	We are shown Close ups of the two, especially Jonathan upset about the photos. This reinforces the representation that he is loving, caring and quite distraught about the situation. We can see that Will is a big part of the family through the love they have for him. Class is also represented in this scene as they are shown as quite poor so they have to rely on each other to keep going.	Photos - Connotes time, memories Phone - represents the time era	

31	Woods Boys discover Eleven	Mike is presented as the leader throughout the whole episode - in this scene he leads the search. Both Dustin and Lucas seem doubtful in their search as they feel defenseless if there is something bad. This represents them as quite weak. When Eleven is shown, she is presented as quite vulnerable and innocent as she is out in the rain on her own looking at the boys to help.	Mike is the stereotypical leader of the pack whereas the other boys are stereotypical nerds - weak, worriers etc. Eleven doesn't follow the stereotypical image of a girl in the 80s as she is out on her own in the rain looking scared.	Typically, you wouldn't find boys out looking in the woods as they would leave it to the police to solve. Also, you wouldn't typically find a scared girl in the woods. Lucas and Dustin's reactions are quite typical as they are discussing what would happen if there was danger out there and they have nothing to defend themselves with.	Mike is represented as quite brave as he is positioned at the front of the group whilst the others are behind him. Mike also shouts out for Will showing he isn't scared of anything that may be out there. The quick paced shots when they hear a noise show that there may be something out there to threaten them creating an ominous atmosphere. We are then shown an eye level mid shot of Eleven looking vulnerable and needing help. The only light on her is from the torches referencing ET.	Woods - dark, ominous, dangerous Rain - heavy, pathetic fallacy, something bad may happen. Torches - Only light, bright, search. dark, creepy.	
----	---	--	--	---	--	--	--