

VOGUE (JULY 1965)

Component Two: Section B Magazines Historical product

	COMPONENT 1				COMPONENT 2		
		Section A	A		Section B		Section B
Sector	Marketing	Advertising	Music Video	Nev	vspaper	Film	Magazine
	Kiss of the	Tide	Formation	The	e Times	Black Panther	Vogue (1965)
Text	Vampire	WaterAid	Riptide	Dail	y Mirror	I, Daniel Blake	The Big Issue
Media Language	Υ	Y	Y		Y		Υ
Representation	Y	Υ	Υ		Υ		Υ
Industries					Υ	Y	Υ
Audiences		Y			Υ		Υ
Media Contexts	Υ	Υ	Υ		Υ	Y	Υ

CONTEXT RESEARCH

Task 1: THE UK MAGAZINE INDUSTRY TODAY

Task 2: VOGUE INDUSTRY RESEARCH

Task 3: THE HISTORY OF VOGUE AND THE 1960S

Task 4: AUDIENCE LONGIEVITY

BRITISH VOGUE - BACKGROUND

The British edition of *Vogue* was the first international edition of the brand, launched in 1916 and is widely known as 'the fashion bible'. The magazine is seen as linking fashion to high society and creating an aspirational world within its pages.

Women's magazines became very popular in the post-war period and in the 1960s sales of women's magazines reached 12 million copies per week.

British Vogue's success is based upon its advertising rather than its sales revenue, and is considered to be the most commercial of all the Vogue editions. While magazines generally have been in decline in the last decade or so, Vogue is bucking the trend and British Vogue is the 3rd most profitable, after the US and China editions.

Alexandra Shulman (top right) edited the magazine for 25 years, leaving in June 2017. The current editor is Edward Enninful (bottom right), the first male to take up the role.





TASK 1: THE UK MAGAZINE INDUSTRY TODAY

- 1. What do magazines need to consider in order to compete in today's marketplace?
- 2. What type of magazines are still succeeding today?
- 3. Summarise the Huffington Post article
- 4. In 2012 how much was the UK magazine industry valued at?
- 5. How many consumer magazines are there in the UK?

BBC Radio 4 Today Programme on Women's Magazine Market

TASK 2: VOGUE INDUSTRY RESEARCH

- 1. Is the publisher a large/mainstream organisation or an independent publisher?
- 2. Is the publisher part of a media conglomerate?
- 3. What other products (magazines or other media products) does the organisation produce?
- 4. How is this significant for the magazine?

CONGLOMERATE: CONDÉ NAST

Vogue began as a weekly newspaper in 1892 in the US, before becoming a monthly magazine a few years later. Its publisher is the American mass media company Condé Nast.

Condé Nast International is the international arm of the New-York based publishing company which produces many of the world's best known magazine brands, including Vogue, Glamour, Gentleman's Quarterly, Architectural Digest, Wired, House & Garden, Condé Nast Traveller, Tatler and Vanity Fair.

With headquarters located in London, Condé Nast International publishes 124 magazines, close to 100 websites and more than 200 tablet and mobile apps.



VOGUE: INDUSTRY AND OWNERSHIP

PRODUCTION

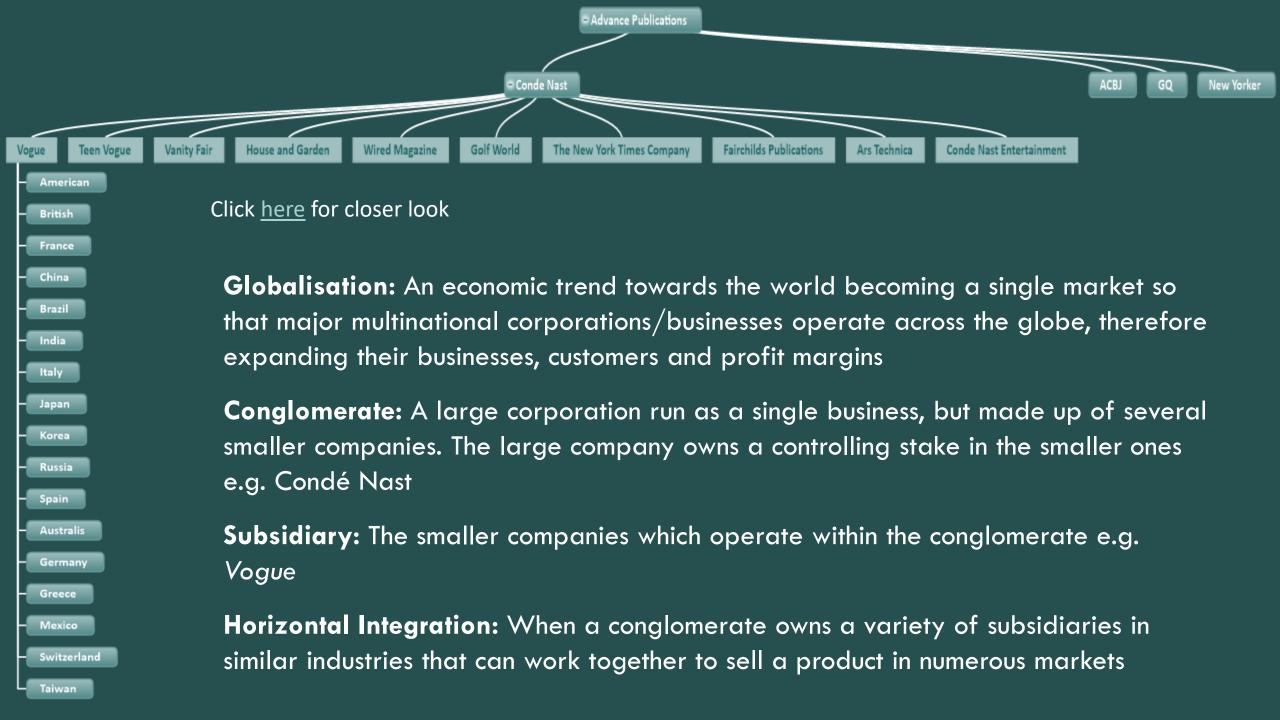
Conde Nast

DISTRIBUTION

- Printers (separate company, Sun Engraving Company)
- Collected and sent out to retailers
- Digital and Print Distribution

CIRCULATION

- International Editions
- Monthly
- Print + Digital Subscription / Digital only



MEDIA LANGUAGE AND MAGAZINES

https://www.thinglink.com/scene/1123983805586079747

https://www.thinglink.com/scene/1124050858909106178

Match the terminology to the definition...

LAYOUT	The design of a page of a maga- zine, including the composition of written text, images, graphics etc.	SIDEBAR	A brief article related to the main story on a page — may be placed in a box or written in a different font to separate it from the main article.
MAIN IMAGE	A key visual element of the front cover that usually dominates the page. It could be a model/celebrity or other picture that is relevant to the magazine content.	STANDFIRST	Short piece of written text between the headline and main article, to give more information about the article.
MASTHEAD	The title of the magazine, usually positioned at the top of the front cover and on the contents page, it establishes a sense of the magazine's brand identity.	STRAPLINE	Short phrase encapsulating the essence of the magazine, usually positioned below the masthead.
PULL QUOTES	Key phrases from an article that are featured in a larger font to attract attention.	TYPOGRAPHY	The visual appearance of written text, including the font style, size, spacing etc.

ANCHORAGE	Where written text is used to 'pin down' the meaning of an image.	COVER LINES	Used on the front cover to give readers an insight into the content and main articles in the magazine.
IDENTITY	This communicates a clear message about the magazine to the target audience, it includes the image of the magazine (masthead, style, design etc.) as well as its ethos and values.	FEATURE	A main article or story, often an extended article (two pages or more).
CAPTION	Words that accompany an image and explain its meaning.	HEADLINE	Written text that indicates the content of an article, usually in a large font, and positioned at the top of the page.
СОРҮ	The written text in an article or feature.	HOUSE STYLE	Consistent use of stylistic features (e.g. fonts, layout, colour palette) throughout the magazine.

HOMEWORK

Read The Ideal Woman by Jennifer Holt and Betty
 Friedan

• Pg 26- 30 in the Appendix by Monday 27th January

TASK 3: THE HISTORY OF VOGUE AND THE 1960S

What makes the Vogue brand unique?

2. How has the brand changed over time?

3. What changes at Vogue occurred in the 1960s?

4. How did the role of women change in the 1960s?





More than a wife or mother?

VOGUE, 1965

Beatrix Miller was Vogue's editor from 1964-85, and it was under her editorship that the magazine became known as 'the glossy bible to high fashion'.

She was credited with starting the careers of ground-breaking photographers such as David Bailey, Terry Donovan and Antony Snowdon (husband to Princess Margaret).

Vogue became the go-to place for royal portraits, and cover stars included Princess Grace of Monaco, top models and actresses of the period such as Audrey Hepburn and Twiggy.

Price: 3 shillings (36 old pennies)







Social/Cultural P

Political

1960s

Industry

Economic

- The 1960s are generally believed to have been a decade of rapid change in British society
- Women <u>attending university</u> = intellectual and financial freedom and greater expectations.
- Advertisements criticised for offering a limited view of women.
- Betty Friedan (American feminist) 'women are shown solely as: men's wife, mother, love object, dishwasher, cleaner and never as a person'.
- Youth Culture, counter culture
- Sexual revolution/introduction of contraceptive pill
- Music

- Women's rights and women's liberation movement
- Women realised they were being badly treated not paid the same as men, for example. Demands for equal pay/ opportunities – protests/ marches
- Both Conservative and Labour Governments attempted a variety of experiments to boost Britain's economy
- Civil Rights movement and marches, including <u>CND</u>
- Vietnam War and protests resulting from that
- JFK From hope to despair

1960s

Industry

- Beatrix Miller Vogue's editor from 1964-85, 'the glossy bible to high fashion'.
- David Bailey, Terry Donovan and Antony Snowdon
- Connection to Royalty
- Responding to changes in gender roles
- Advertisers 'unsure how to react' to the women's movement

Economic

- Increased opportunities for women to have jobs be more than <u>wife or mother</u>
- Technology changing people's lives
- Low unemployment
- Teenagers having more spending power

REGULATION

The magazine industry is largely self-regulated (IPSO), however, the government can refer concerns about concentration of ownership to the Competition and Markets

Authority — a public body tasked with investigating mergers and takeovers. The main role of this organisation is to ensure that industries remain competitive and that consumers are not adversely affected by the emergence of monopolies or oligopolies in particular markets.

During the 1960s, when this set edition of *Vogue* was produced, this role was performed by the Monopolies Commission.

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2	MAIN IMAGE	The title of the magazine, usually positioned at the top of the front cover and on the contents page, it establishes a sense of the magazine's brand identity.	b
3	MASTHEAD	Key phrases from an article that are featured in a larger font to attract attention.	С
4	PULL QUOTES	The design of a page of a maga- zine, including the composition of written text, images, graphics etc.	d

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1 d

2 a

3 b4 c

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2	STANDFIRST	A brief article related to the main story on a page — may be placed in a box or written in a different font to separate it from the main article.	b
3	STRAPLINE	The visual appearance of written text, including the font style, size, spacing etc.	С
4	TYPOGRAPHY	Short piece of written text between the headline and main article, to give more information about the article.	d

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1 b

2 d

3 a

4 c

1	ANCHORAGE	The written text in an article or feature.	а
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3	CAPTION	This communicates a clear message about the magazine to the target audience, it includes the image of the magazine (masthead, style, design etc.) as well as its ethos and values.	С
4	СОРҮ	Where written text is used to 'pin down' the meaning of an image.	d

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COPY	The written text in an article or feature.

1 d

2 c

3 b

4 a

1	COVER LINES	Used on the front cover to give readers an insight into the content and main articles in the magazine.	а
2	FEATURE	Consistent use of stylistic features (e.g. fonts, layout, colour palette) throughout the magazine.	b
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1 a

2 c

3 d4 b

MAGAZINE FRONT COVERS

The front cover is vital in communicating a clear sense of the brand identity of the magazine to the target audience and in appealing to potential readers at the newsstand.

In such a competitive print market, magazine front covers need to stand out and attract the attention of potential purchasers. It is important that the front cover maintains a clear sense of familiarity for regular readers but also attracts potential new readers.

Front covers have a clear set of expected codes and conventions. Mainstream magazines tend to conform quite closely to these conventions while magazines produced outside the commercial mainstream are more likely to challenge or subvert these conventions.

SOPHIA LOREN - BACKGROUND

Sophia Loren is an Italian actress who started her career in 1950 at the age of 15, initially as a model; by 1956 her international acting career had taken off.

She won an Academy Award in 1962 for Best Actress for the film Two Women – the first actress to win an Oscar for a foreign-language performance. She went on to make several more films until the early 1970s and has been awarded five special Golden Globes, a BAFTA Award and many other film festival awards.

The 1965 Vogue cover was shot by David Bailey (the celebrity photographer of the 1960s) during the filming of Lady L in York. The character is dressed as a Turkish dancer for the film's masked ball scene (right) - providing intertextuality.





COVER, JULY 1965

Dominant central image - Italian actress, Sophia Loren, one of the most famous women in the world during the 1960s. A global star

Representation: celebrity as illusion

Low angle: she is looking down at us. Direct gaze/mode of address, but aloof (chin slightly raised, not smiling) – connotes star status, sense of mystery or mystique

Sophia Loren represents 'otherness'. She is not the average woman. Connotations of exoticism – Loren's character dressed as a Turkish dancer. This fits with Gilroy's theories of post-colonialism and 'otherness', evoking Western fantasies of the East (exoticism and imperialist superiority was still evident in Britain in the mid 60s)

Loren is an embodiment of a 'mythic' notion of femininity that is aspirational, potentially a sense of the 'desired self' that a reader wishes to become.

Colours and jewellery are exotic. Iridescent turquoise colour palette connotes glamour, luxury, wealth, emphasised by the shimmering scarf, feathers, pearls and jewels.

Make-up clearly emphasises Loren's dark brown eyes, stereotypical notions of female beauty

Progressive representation? Women's role in society undergoing lots of changes during 1960s

Iconic masthead (the same as now). Placed over Loren. French word connoting fashion/style.

Minimal cover lines used to sell the magazine (as focus mainly on dominant image of Loren). Unconventional list, lower case – more contemporary but unusual for 1965 – sense that *Vogu*e breaks conventions, individual, stands out – appeals to independent women

COVER CONT'D

Language: Aspirational words e.g. 'marvellous', 'sheiks', 'scintillate', 'sand, swim, sea, sun'

Connotations of 'mad midsummer' – breaking free of conventions/constraints, freedom – hints of the emerging freedoms of the 1960s

'sheiks sophia' — connotations of exoticism/'otherness' (representation theory)

'scintillate' – stereotypical norms of femininity/beauty – women need to be 'scintillating' in any environment

'even at a picnic' – sense that readers will not necessarily have access to glamorous or exotic seaside holidays but that the magazine is relevant for all summer occasions – links to a feature about picnics

As Liesbet Van Zoonen might suggest, the image of Loren as both 'woman' and 'star' constructs an ideology of female gender identity which is both commodified (will make money) and unrealistic

Elements of narrative: Enigmas – e.g. what is the link to sheiks?

How does this front cover reflect the social/cultural context? Sense of economic prosperity — luxury, glamour, decadence, 'mad midsummer'.

Cultural context – Sophia Loren, iconic film star of the 1960s

CONTENTS PAGE

International brand: issues published in Britain, US, France, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa

Rayne: shoe advert. Up-market brand – shoemaker to the Queen and the Queen Mother. Reflects readership

Codes and Conventions:

Language e.g. use of alliteration to appeal to audience, repetition of key words/phrases, play on words to link feature articles

Features on fashion, style, culture, food/ entertaining, travel – generic features of women's magazines



e shooting of her newest film Here, as Lady L dressed as a husband (David Niven) appears as Macbeth, her anarchist lover (Paul Newman) at Casanova. Adapted from Romain Gary's novel by Peter Ustinov, who also directs and plays the part of a Bavarian prince. Produced by Carlo Ponti for MGM, Lady

FASHION AND BEAUTY 29 Vogue's eye view of hypnoptical illusions

- op art breaking out all over Picnics probable and improbable: Nile terrace, riding, desert, caravan
- punt, beach, woods. Heatwave holiday: clothes new ir
- 68 Heat rave beauty: the face that starts at twilight
- Arabian nights: flighty new featherweights brilliantly flowered
- 72 Dolce vita: the sunset prints Midsummer white, resort looks
- Deauville scenery 100 Beauty: make-up, hair,
- by Elizabeth Kendall

- 9 Spotlight 14 Money: questions and answers,
- by Sheila Black
 22 Shop Hound finds two of every kind:
- picks picnic accessories 34 Picnics, adventurous, fictitious and
- romantic, by Antonia Fraser
- 52 Fi amman Allah, Abu Dhabi, by Polly Devlin
- 74 King of the pop painters: Polly Devlin talks to Andy Warhol
- 80 Vintage food for picnics, by Robert Carrier 86 Wines for a picnic, by Julian Jeffs
- 90 Entertaining: summer sweets, soup, services, by Elizabeth Kendall
- Travel: sun out of season-cruises Mediterranean impressions and Atlantic mages by Jenepher Wolff

NEXT ISSUE: OUT JULY 29

Robin Desertes House



BREEZY SUMMER ELEGANCE



of trellis-work into an ele reinforces heel and toe to make the delicate look hold its shape. In black, white, navy, beige, and a variety of





CONTENTS PAGE

Target Audience:

Fashion item 'op art' – art link presupposes cultured/educated reader

Assumed interests – fashion, entertaining, culture, image

Assumed to have high disposable income – consumerist focus – shopping, trends, travel – cruises

Cultural competence – assumes understanding of 'Dolce Vita' – Italian for 'good life', also a film

Reflecting social/cultural/historical context:

Focus on 'exclusive' places — Spain, Abu Dhabi, Deauville — this was a time when international travel was becoming accessible but still quite new and mainly the preserve of the relatively wealthy

Beauty — 'sun-tanning' article — culturally acceptable in the 1960s

Fashion reflecting the culture and trends of the 1960s – pop art/'op art'

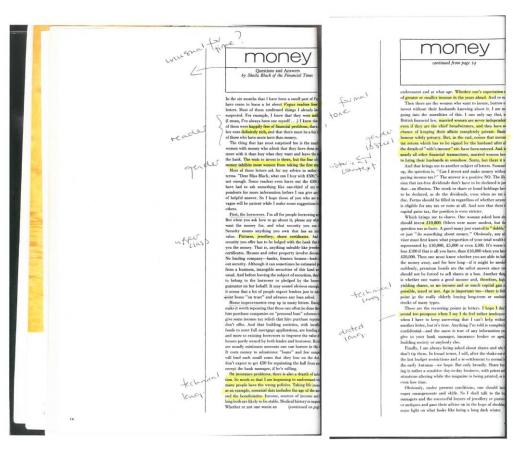
Female journalists – professional roles – not necessarily replicated in the assumptions about readers

MONEY: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FEATURE BY FINANCIAL TIMES JOURNALIST, SHEILA BLACK

Highlight the points in yellow that relate to social/historical context

Highlight construction of **female stereotypes** in blue

Highlight points relating to the audience/mode of address in green



REPRESENTATION TASK — MONEY Q&A

In the six months that I have been a small part of Vogue I have come to learn a lot about Vogue readers from their letters. Most of them confirmed things I already suspected. For example, I knew that they were intelligent (I mean, I've always been one myself). I knew that many of them were happily free of financial problems, that a number were definitely rich, and that there must be a fair few of those who have more taste than money.

The thing that has most surprised me is the number of women with money who admit that they have done no more with it than buy what they want and leave the rest in the bank......

Then there are the women who want to insure, borrow or invest without their husbands knowing about it. I am not going into the moralities of this.

I can only say that, in British financial law, married women are never independent even if they are the chief breadwinners, and they have no chance of keeping their affairs completely private. Banks honour wifely privacy. But, in the end, comes that income tax return which has to be signed by the husband after all the details of "wife's income" etc. have been entered. And, in nearly all other financial transactions, married women have to bring their husbands in somehow. Sorry, but there it is.

REPRESENTATIONS OF FEMALE BEAUTY IN WOMEN'S MAGAZINES

Women's magazines are often said to play a significant role in constructing cultural ideals of female beauty. In so doing, they continually impress upon the reader the importance of physical appearance as a defining aspect of female identity.

As academic Marjorie Ferguson (writer of Women's Magazines and the Cult of Femininity (1983) and Heath and Home: Images of Women in the Mass Media (1978) has pointed out, women's magazines constantly reiterate the need to 'Be More Beautiful', first telling their readers what they should aspire to look like and then providing them with the necessary tools to achieve the desired 'look'.

Readers are constantly encouraged to scrutinise and evaluate their own physical appearance, measuring themselves against the ideals of beauty that the magazines construct. Therefore, rather than simply promoting self-confidence and helping readers to overcome any insecurities they already have, it is often suggested that women's magazines play an instrumental role in creating and instilling these anxieties.

REPRESENTATIONS OF FEMALE BEAUTY CONT'D

This is generally seen to have a commercial purpose as, in order to measure up to the beauty ideal, readers are invited to buy various products – firstly, of course, the magazine itself, but also the array of hair, fashion and beauty products that are promoted or advertised inside. By turning readers into consumers, the magazines are able to keep their advertisers happy. This is particularly important as women's magazines generally depend on advertising for much of their revenue.

Readers are also invited to demonstrate their femininity by participating in the rituals of beautification. Femininity, like beauty, is therefore seen as something that has to be constantly worked at, as the magazines frequently suggest that should the reader fail to invest the necessary time, money and effort in her physical appearance she runs the risk of losing her femininity.

...CONT'D

A key question that needs to be addressed is, who is the reader being encouraged to make herself more beautiful for? While the quest for female beauty may be framed in terms of self-improvement, the need to win male approval is often an underlying theme. As Marjorie Ferguson points out, 'getting and keeping a man' is commonly seen as a primary goal in women's magazines. Making oneself more attractive is therefore presented as a woman's 'duty'.

When considering the representations within Vogue you should consider:

- What messages does the magazine convey about female beauty?
- How is female beauty defined?
- How is the reader positioned in relation to the representations that the magazine offers? Are the models, stars or celebrities who feature in the magazine constructed as aspirational figures? If so, how?
- To what extent does the magazine define a woman's value in terms of the way that she looks?

Stuart Hall	
David Gauntlett	
Liesbet van Zoonen	
bell hooks	

Stuart Hall	The idea that representation is the production of meaning through media language. The idea that stereotyping, as a form of representation, reduces people to a few simple characteristics or traits. The idea that stereotyping tends to occur where there are inequalities of power, a subordinate or excluded groups are constructed as different or 'other' (e.g. through ethnocentrism).		
David Gauntlett	The idea that the media provide us with 'tools' or resources that we use to construct our identities. The idea that whilst in the past the media tended to convey singular, straightforward messages about ideal types of male and female identities, the media today offer us a more diverse range of stars, icons and characters from whom we may pick and mix different ideas.		
Liesbet van Zoonen	The idea that gender is constructed through discourse, and that its meaning varies according to cultural and historical context The idea that the display of women's bodies as objects to be looked at is a core element of western patriarchal culture The idea that in mainstream culture the visual and narrative codes that are used to construct the male body as spectacle differ from those used to objectify the female body.		
bell hooks	The idea that feminism is a struggle to end sexist/patriarchal oppression and the ideology of domination bell hooks The idea that feminism is a political commitment rather than a lifestyle choice The idea that race and class as well as sex determine the extent to which individuals are exploited discriminated against or oppressed.		

IN GROUPS CHECK AND ADD TO YOUR NOTES ON:
CUTEX ADVERT
IMPERIAL LEATHER ADVERT
PICNICS ANALYSIS (PAGES - FRASER, NILE,
RIDING, DESERT, WOODS)

CUTEX 'BARE ESSENTIALS' ADVERT

Model looks like Brigitte Bardot – iconic French film star of the 50s/60s (bottom, right)

'Natural' beauty being aspired to

Independent women but still need to be attractive

Tapping into 'flower power' - the anti-war movement coming out of California

Colloquial language: 'The chalky-white look is o-u-t!' refers to the earlier years of the decade, when the look was heavily influenced by the popularity of American First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy. Makeup was restrained and similar in style to the 1950s. But by the mid 1960s, makeup was quickly changing to keep up with shorter skirts and brightly coloured clothing. This look, which was aimed at young women, rebelled against the heavily made up face of years past and favoured a more natural look with large eyes, and pale lips (Twiggy, top right)

Play on words — 'birthday-suit' hues — as model appears to not be wearing any clothes. Colours of lipsticks: 'honey, pink, naturelle, bare' have feminine connotations

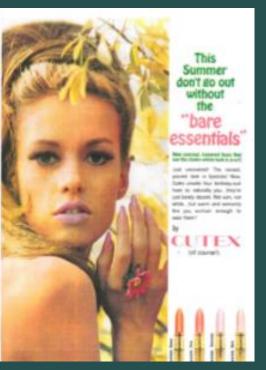
Use of alliteration 'honeyed hues'. 'Not wan, not white…but warm and womanly'. Generic for an advert

Pack shot, bottom right, a generic advert convention.

Twiggy, 'face of the 1960s'

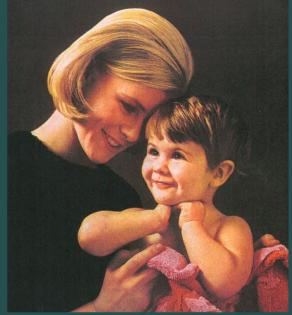






IMPERIAL LEATHER ADVERT

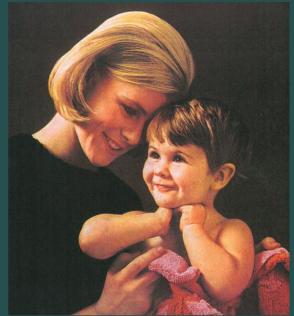




IMPERIAL LEATHER ADVERT

- -Is there a culture lag with this advertisement a more traditional representation of femininity?
- -Is this a throwback to the 50s notion of the idealised image of woman as mother in the home nurturing a young child, focus fully on the child, lighting highlights her hair and the baby's skin, she is smiling content in this role
- Imperial Leather uses the religious archetype of the 'Madonna and child' in its design, making a statement about femininity that possibly contradicts the bold and empowering cover shot
- -Woman choosing to buy soap not an important decision concern for image/complexion, and focus on youth skin like a child's
- Stereotypical notions of female beauty blonde, slender
- Use of language 'you want skin that feels soft' imperative, women being told what they want
- Repeated use of 'soft' and 'gently', 'safely' reinforces stereotype of women as weaker/dependent.





ANTONIA FRASER'S PICNICS, PROBABLE AND IMPROBABLE

Consider what stereotypes are being represented here:

Passive

Nurturing/maternal

Dependent on men

Housewife/domestic role

Romantic

Seductive

Beautiful

Extension task:

How far are the same stereotypes evident in other key articles in *Vogue*? Are there any examples of traditional stereotypes being subverted?



the next sixteen pages are strictly for addicts: picnics photographed in settings probable and improbable, from the Nile to an English country garden; plus the clothes to wear scintillatingly at each of them. Here, Tissot's view of a 19th-century picnic beneath the chestmut trees and

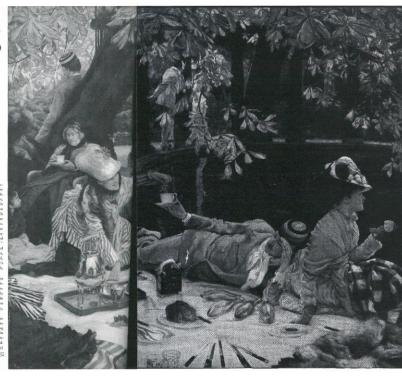
Antonia Fraser's account of some celebrated picnics,

account of some celebrated picnics, adventurous, fictitious and romantic

There are those who are pressured in prices at a me more 'twater and report', and there while the hela more 'twater and report', in the two-like the hela of the area of the control of th

It might, however, he politic to establish a few rough; rule for prients, for obly to convert more of the unhappy host of prients, for obly to convert more of the unhappy host order that are man is hosn free, prienders cought to such as the taken in chairs. I must have put a great many peop off prients forever by my enthulsants for them, my convicies that everyone is enjoying themselves as much as I am: said therefore, I plead for the picale voluntary.

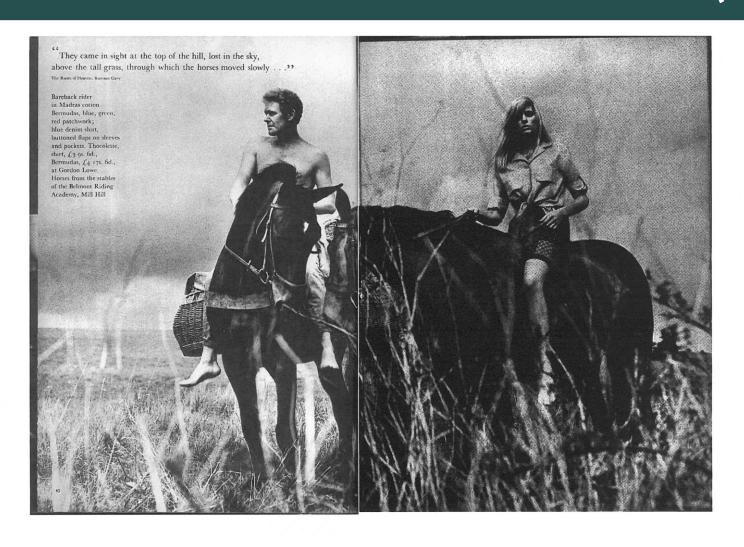
This is a rule which would have been appreciated in the past by the encourage of laby juvinitives or high rank: the Ludinvis-Waiting to Queen Victoria never coard measure at how they were enumpled to juvinit with her in Souland all weathers and all seasons. One feels that the picnic would are yet allulinous might have been ruther sparsely attended. Yet the Queen clearly brought a great (minimum in page 28).



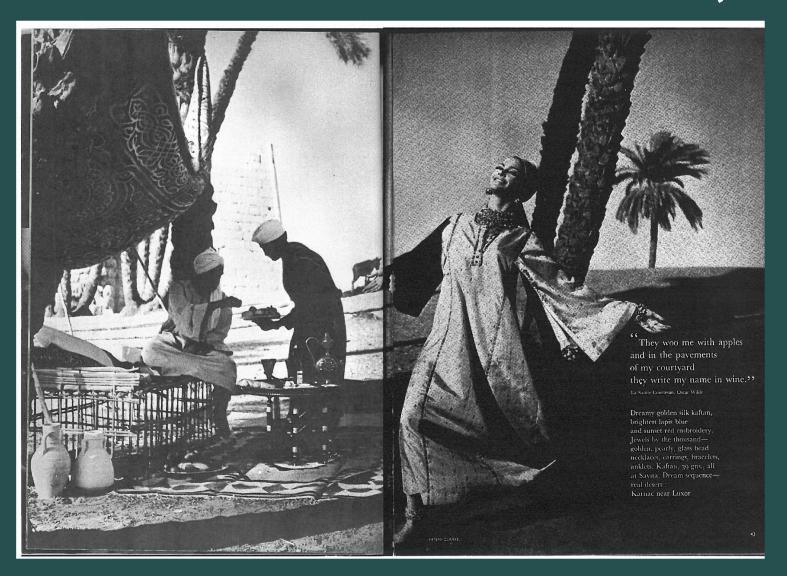
PICNICS, PROBABLE AND IMPROBABLE (NILE)



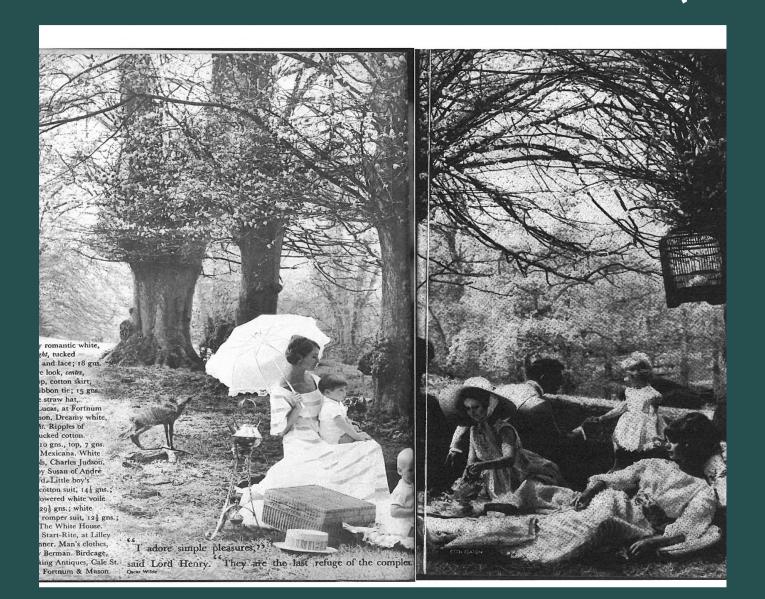
PICNICS, PROBABLE AND IMPROBABLE (RIDING)



PICNICS, PROBABLE AND IMPROBABLE (DESERT)



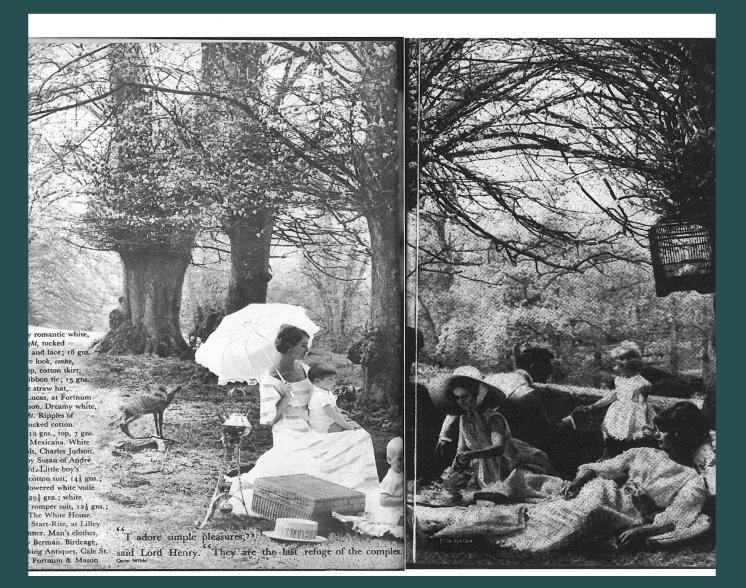
PICNICS, PROBABLE AND IMPROBABLE (WOODS)



PICNICS, PROBABLE AND IMPROBABLE (NILE)



PICNICS, PROBABLE AND IMPROBABLE (WOODS)



The costume and accessories mimic the overtly gendered styling of the Edwardian era: pure white dresses, parasols, floppy hats and children.

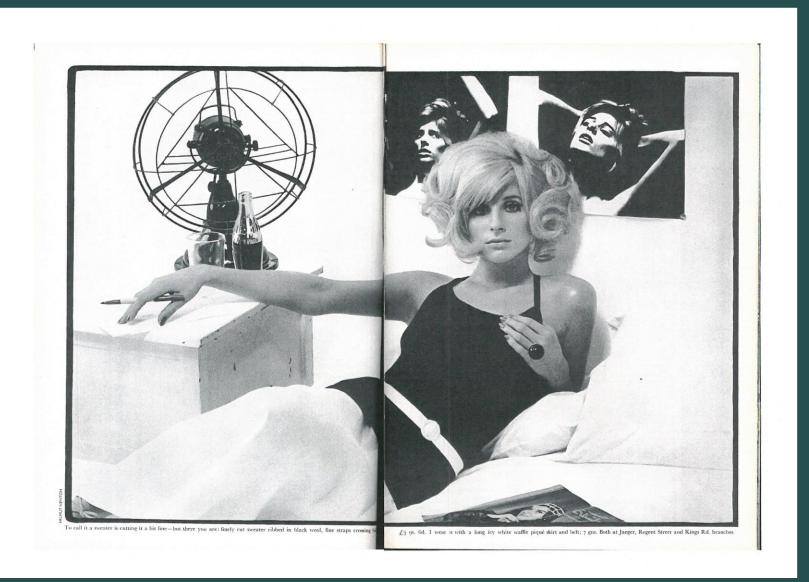
A fawn looks on, a visual metaphor for the notions of femininity being represented; beautiful/vulnerable, at one with nature but needing protection.

The lone man is in the background but in control, signified by his suit, as suggestive of his role and status as the women's clothing is of theirs.

HEATWAVE HOLIDAY



HEATWAVE HOLIDAY



HEATWAVE HOLIDAY



POWER AND MEDIA INDUSTRIES — JAMES CURRAN AND JEAN SEATON (*POWER WITHOUT RESPONSIBILITY*)

The idea that the media is controlled by a small number of companies primarily driven by the logic of profit and power

The idea that media concentration generally limits or inhibits variety, creativity and quality

The idea that more socially diverse patterns of ownership help to create the conditions for more varied and adventurous media productions.





THEORETICAL DISCUSSION — CURRAN & SEATON

How true is the idea that the media is controlled by a small number of companies primarily driven by the logic of profit and power in relation to Vogue?

Published by Conde Nast, a major mainstream publisher, established in the USA in 1909. In 1959 the company was bought by Samuel I Newhouse (a newspaper owner) as part of his media company Advance Publications. In the 1960s Conde Nast began publishing *Vogue* in a number of different countries (British *Vogue* had been published since 1916). Conde Nast now publishes 124 magazines, close to 100 websites and has more than 200 tablet and mobile apps.

The idea that media concentration generally limits or inhibits variety, creativity and quality

Conde Nast publishes other women's magazines such as Vanity Fair.

Vogue is a mainstream publication and, it could be argued, can be seen to uphold many traditional ideologies surrounding gender (in relation to motherhood, fashion and beauty for example) and perpetuates many narrow and stereotypical ideals of feminine beauty.

THEORY INTO PRACTICE:

Curran and Seaton state...

The idea that media concentration **generally limits or inhibits variety, creativity** and quality

Go to https://archive.vogue.com/ and look through the archive to find examples of historical and contemporary Vogue covers that support or challenge the view that conglomerates limit creativity and variety.

Are lots of the covers similar in layout, content, representation, ideology?

CURRAN AND SEATON TASK/HOMEWORK

To clarify task for Monday as don't want there to be confusion this time....

Visit https://archive.vogue.com

On a word document find 1 front cover from each decade

1920s, 1930s, 1940s, 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, 1980s, 1990s, 2000s

This link breaks it down by decade and you can click through ... https://archive.vogue.com/issues/1925

Then write 1 paragraph answering the following questions...

Are lots of the covers similar in layout, content, representation, ideology?

Using your examples to consider Curran and Seaton's theory do *Vogue* covers support or challenge the view that conglomerates limit creativity and variety?

THEORY GRID

Framework	Theorist	Notes on Theory	Application to <i>Vogue</i> , including front cover, features and adverts
Media Language	Roland Barthes		
	Levi Strauss		
Representation	David Gauntlett		
	Stuart Hall		
	Liesbet van Zoonen		
	bell hooks		
Industries	Curran and Seaton		
	Livingstone and Lunt		

EXAM QUESTIONS...

How does media language incorporate viewpoints and ideologies of the time? Use the front cover and Imperial Leather advert in the set edition of Vogue in your response. [15]

How far do the representations in the set edition of Vogue reflect social and cultural contexts?