

# Understanding Visual Media

## Student Worksheet

Information and entertainment comes to us in many different forms. Among these are print media, radio broadcasts and podcasts, and visual media such as Internet sites, blogs, television, and film.

Read the definitions and examples below to help you better understand the various types of television and film media.

### **Docudrama**

a fictionalized drama, especially a television film, based primarily on actual events

Examples: ABC's "The Path to 9/11"; "Into Thin Air"

### **Documentary**

pertaining to, consisting of, or derived from documents; depicting an actual event era, life story, etc., accurately and without fictional elements; a documentary film or television program

Examples: Ken Burns' "Civil War"; Steve James' "Hoop Dreams"

### **Fictional Film**

a work that is invented, imagined, or made-up; some common types of fictional film are action/adventure, comedy, drama, horror, romance, science fiction, and western; fictional films that are based on novels, stories, and other creative works are called dramatizations

Examples: "Star Wars"; "Romeo and Juliet"

### **News Broadcast**

a report of a recent event or information; a report on recent or new events in a newspaper or other periodical or on radio or television

Examples: CNN, Fox News, and other major television news broadcasts