
Six definitions of popular culture considered – discuss which definition(s) you agree/disagree with. You will be asked to justify your answer. You are encouraged to draw on your own experiences of cultural products e.g. music etc. and to give examples where you can.

1. Popular culture is simply culture which is well liked by many (evidenced by sales of products etc.)

2. Popular culture is the culture which is left over after deciding what is high culture

3. Popular culture is mass culture, commercially produced for mass consumption

4. Popular culture is the culture which originates from ‘the people’ rather than being imposed from above.

5. Popular culture is the site of struggle between the resistance of subordinate groups in society and the dominant groups in society and relates to hegemony

6. Popular culture, informed by postmodernism, is a culture which no longer recognises the distinction between high and popular culture. Hence, there is no high/low/mass culture – it is all popular culture.