

**TELEVISION STUDIES – OCW UC3M****Topic IV. Television and History.****Key to Exercises of Topic 4****Exercise of week 1 of the topic:**

Check that you included each element of the outline of the exercise in your short essay. Review the text carefully and watch some clips of the chosen media event again. See if your description was accurate and the role played by each participant was defined during the television coverage.

Compare your text with these reviews of relevant media events by the BBC according to each category:

“Heroic mission” – the visit of Pope John Paul II to Cuba in 1998:

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/january/25/newsid\\_4041000/4041643.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/january/25/newsid_4041000/4041643.stm)

“Occasion of state” – the wedding of Prince Charles and Diana in 1981:

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/july/29/newsid\\_2494000/2494949.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/july/29/newsid_2494000/2494949.stm)

“Contest” - England Win Rugby World Cup in 2003:

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/november/22/newsid\\_3747000/3747398.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/november/22/newsid_3747000/3747398.stm)

**Exercise of week 2 of the topic:**

Compare your own experiences with these by a group of students from the United States, “Why is the Sky Dark on the TV?: Students Share 9/11 Memories” (video and text): <http://college.usatoday.com/2014/09/11/why-is-the-sky-dark-on-the-tv-students-share-911-memories/>

**Exercise of week 3 of the topic:**

See this possible list of book for the TV series *Boardwalk Empire* and compare with your own findings:

*Last Call: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition* by Daniel Okrent. Historical context – The Prohibition Era.

*Battling Demon Rum: The Struggle for a Dry America, 1800-1933* by Thomas R. Pagram. Historical context – the political system in the United States, for the storylines about political figures.

*Flapper: A Madcap Story of Sex, Style, Celebrity, and the Women Who Made America Modern* by Joshua Zeitz. The sexual politics of the 1920s, relevant for the female characters of the series.

*Rothstein: The Life, Times, and Murder of the Criminal Genius Who Fixed the 1919 World Series* by David Pietrusza. A biography of one of the most interesting supporting characters of *Boardwalk Empire*.

*Places of Their Own: African American Suburbanization in the Twentieth Century* by Andrew Wiese. One of the main characters is African American, so a deep knowledge of African American History is mandatory for a screenwriter.

*Enemies: A History of the FBI* by Tim Weiner. A lengthy account of the history of the FBI, for the storylines about law enforcement.