**Heavenly Creatures – 2.4 Film Review Planner**

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| **Paragraph Content:** | **Example:** | **Your paragraph:** |
| *Opening paragraph –* Capture the reader’s attention with a snappy opening sentence and a brief opening paragraph. | “1917, France, World War One, two soldiers, one crying baby. What would you do? This animated short shows viewers the other side of war – the human side. With its brilliant lighting, CGI and camera work, this story will remind you what ANZAC day is all about…” |  |
| Introduce context of murder. | “The film is based on the murder of…” |  |
| More in-depth explanation of the plot (remember to avoid spoilers), introduce the main actors. | *“Poppy,*a short film directed by James Cunningham, is set on the western front in World War One. It is about …” |  |
| Discuss the director, writer, special effects designer, the plot briefly, any key aspects of the film you think make it unique/good/bad (briefly).  | “This true story was written by David Coyle, Paddy’s great grandson. He wrote this film as a task in film school when he was only 18. The fact that this film is a true story clearly brings it closer to home. After reading the script, Cunningham was certain that it would make a brilliant computer-generated image (CGI) short film. The decision of making this film with CGI, makes the production brilliant… “ |  |
| Discuss the quality of the acting – Winslet and Lynskey in particular. | Lynskey plays the moody Pauline… |  |
| Discuss the technical aspects of the film, especially music and SFX. How are these used to show the girls’ growing obsession with fantasy? Are they used effectively? Explain. | “The film was created using actors Paul Glover (Jack) and Mathew Sunderland (Paddy) over a 15-hour day at Peter Jackson’s Weta Workshop in Wellington. The post-production of the CGI took over 15 months to finish…” |  |
| Discuss the filming details ie. Which actual locations were used, which were not? Explain Jackson decisions for this. (A quote from Jackson is a good idea). | “In an effort to capture the events of 1954 accurately…” |  |
| Comment on the aspects of the film you enjoyed – explain your opinions.Comment on the aspects of the film you think could have been done better – offer any ideas you think could make these aspects better. | “Even though *Poppy* is excellent as a short film; I would have like to have learnt more background information about the characters, allowing us a deeper connection with them. On the other hand, the sparsely sketched characters emphasise the importance of the events that happen in the short 11 minutes changed the life of Poppy, Paddy and their families forever.” |  |
| *Closing paragraph-*Offer your verdict – should your readers see this film? Remember, you don’t have to recommend it. Sum up your reasons briefly and end with a catchy sentence. | “Overall, I believe that this short film is one of the most effective that I have watched in a long time. It has left me with a sense of compassion towards those who fought and lived through World War 1. It has changed my perception of war too. War is not just blood and destruction; it can also offer the chance to save another person’s life and your own also.” |  |