**LOG ENTRY ONE ; EXEMPLAR**

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| **Title:**  6th August 1945  **Author / Director:** Alison Fell  **Date:** |

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| **Brief synopsis of text:**  The poem tells of the tragic bombing of Hiroshima on August 6th 1945 when the Americans dropped the first Atomic Bomb. It describes the reactions of the pilot before and after the bomb was dropped and then the consequences for the people on the ground, in particular a child and also the effects on the environment. It is written in stanzas, each dealing with a particular facet of the disaster, and uses a variety of effective language techniques. |

**Ideas / Themes:**  Identify the main ideas and themes in the text, provide specific details from the text to support these, comment on the effect created and give your response

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| Idea / Theme | Evidence / Effect of | Response |
| * Condemns war and the callous disregard for human life shown * Expose the actual effects on people * Show how it is impossible not to be affected by the experience of war when one realises the part they have played. | * The pilot is described in the beginning as ‘whistling a dry tune” before he drops the bomb and the poet then goes on to show what horror it caused for the people. * One girl is described as having her whole skin stripped off by the blast and others are described as turning into ash, vapourised by the blast * The pilot at the end of the poem is described as “shrieking” and seeing the destruction in dreams. | * It is disturbing to think that individuals can commit acts so horrible and not really be aware of the consequences of their actions. Such acts occur in war and seem to be seen as OK. * Just by looking at what actually happened to one person in detail like the little girl the horror can be clearly seen. It is also incredible to think that the blast was so incredibly hot it vapourised people completely. * It is good to know that individuals can feel remorse for their actions and as a result we can assume they would be loathe to do such things again. |

**Audience and Purpose:**

Comment on the author’s purpose in the text and the intended audience. Provide evidence for your comments.

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| Audience and Purpose | Evidence |
| * To show us the effects of the atomic bomb first hand and to make us think about how appalling it was to cause such a huge amount of suffering to so many in an effort to dissuade us from promoting war in any form and to be aware of the need to stop the proliferation of nuclear weapons. * The intended audience is everyone. The audience needs to be as wide as possible so that as many people get the message as can. | * The themes of the poem are concerned with the effects of the bomb drop not only on the victims but also on the perpetrators. The rich descriptions of the horrible happenings, such as the little girl and her skin coming off, make the point clearly. * The poem is a long description of events with the poet telling us several times of what we would see if we had been there. She uses the word “Later” several times when she draws another description. |

**Structure:** Comment on the structure used by the author / director to communicate ideas and provide evidence and comment on the effect.

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| Structural feature | Evidence | Effect |
| * Verses each from a different perspective | * The first verse describes the pilot dropping the bomb and what it looked like * The second and third what happened on the ground * Last describes the later effects on the pilot. | * Allows us to get a detailed picture of what happened from several points of view; up in the air and on the ground. |

**Language Features:** Identify particular language features used by the author / director. Provide examples and comment on the effects of these.

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| Language Feature | Example | Effect |
| * Metaphor * Simile * Repetition * Vocabulary | * “whole blooming sky went up” * “he saw ladybirds, ladybirds” * “people are become as lizards and salamanders” * “went up like an apricot ice” * “ A scarlet girl, her whole stripped skin at her feet, like an old shoe sole or mermaid’s tail” * “Later.......   Later.........   * “ five minutes before impact the pilot **whistles a dry tune**” * **“hot white**  rhododendrons” | * Gives a clear picture of what the explosion looked like – a huge flower of smoke and steam. * The pilot saw the people on fire scurrying around in his dreams afterwards. * Lizards are camouflaged and the people are too now they have been vapourised and are all ash * Describes how the cloud looked, like an apricot coloured ice cream. Hideous to describe something so lethal in such a banal way. * Realistic detail of how the skin had been blown off and was only connected at her heel and flapped when she moved. Utterly horrific. * Effectively allows the poet to put further images of the horrible events before us. Rather like a picture is being painted and she is describing what is being added. * Before the bomb was dropped, this shows the lack of concern the pilot had, as he was able to whistle drily unaware of the consequences of his actions. Allows for a real contrast with the way he is at the end of the poem when he realises. * Suggests that not only were the flowers melting they were also radio – active as the word “hot” is another term for this. Gives a further dimension to the act. |

**Describe how the text relates to the theme you have chosen to explore.**

The theme I have chosen is conflict and the poem shows clearly what the results of conflict can be. In this case it is the use of the atomic bomb in the context of World War Two’s conflict. Ironically the use of the bomb was justified by saying it was going to prevent further conflict, although the people who were directly affected wouldn’t agree. The graphic descriptions clearly show the horror and allow the reader to understand fully what happened.