Saving private ryan – the war d-day



The film saving Private Ryan is based on the war D-Day. Saving Private Ryan holds the genre 'war' as it contains many sceans of fighting, gun shots and killing. It was directed by a very famous film maker called Steven Spielberg he released this film on September 11th 1998. Some of the leading actors in this film are: Tom Hanks as Captain Miller, Tom Sizemore as sergeant Horvath, Edward burns as private rieben, Barry Pepper as private Jackson, Jeremy Davies as private Upham and Matt Damon as Private Ryan.

Overall the film is very gruesome and bloody. "Saving Private Ryan" has won 5 Academy Oscar awards including best director in 1999. There are a lot of handheld cameras in this film to make you feel as if you are actually there at the war. In scene one the director uses lots of different camera shots from present day to the past for example flashbacks. In this scene James Ryan visits the graves from the war that he was in with his family in Normany/ France, he then has a flash back to June 6th 1944.

The director uses a low angled shot on Private Ryan then a mid shot on all of his family that he is with, they zoom in on Private Ryan kneeling down looking at captain miller's gravestone this shows the audience that he misses captain miller and is thinking about the war that he was in fighting for his country. There is a mid shot on all of the flags that are there to show that they are in France even though captain miller and Private Ryan are from America.

When there is a show of all the flags there is patriotic music playing like the national anthem music. The last couple of camera shots were on Private Ryan with all the graves in the background which shows how many soldiers

actually died in the war and fought for their country. There is then a mid shot on Private Ryan crying and then goes into an extreme close up, this shows the audience that this is a very sad moment for Private Ryan as this foreshadows the beginning.

We are given the true horror effect on the war. The sound effects on this scene are very effective as it plays patriotic music at the beginning of the film when Private Ryan goes to see captain miller's grave, it plays this music as it is calm and shows the audience it is an important part of the film. Scene 2 is a very long scene and is about the instant chaos. When the soldiers are ready to fight for their country inside the boat, the doors open and they are all shot and killed instantly.

One of the first camera shots is a mid shot of all the soldiers in the boat before the doors opened, some looked very nervous, some being sick and some looked ready to fight, it then zooms out from them. After the soldiers have been shot in the boat they move to the beach, at this point they change the camerawork to tracking. One of the soldiers is running across the beach and looks as if they are holding the camera to make you feel as if you are actually there.

There is then a medium close ups in the water as some of the soldiers go into the water so the opposite country couldn't see them, at this point the camera is bobbing up and down in the water to make it seem as if the camera is one of the soldiers hiding in the water. There is then a wide shot of soldiers running and shooting in the background and moves to a mid shot of a soldier in pain on the floor with his guts surrounding him. This shows the

audience what can happen in the war and how gruesome it is, there is also a soldier looking for his as it had been blown off.

The main part in this scene is where a camera looks over a Germans shoulder as his perspective; this shows the audience that the Germans have a lot of power in them. The sound work in this scene is very important; it is a very loud scene and is full of soldiers shouting and lots of shooting with some grenades. The sound effects give a good atmosphere to the film, it also keeps the audience attracted and interested to the film if there is a lot of sound. Scene 3 is where it shows us about captain millers confusion to the war as he staggers out of the sea and we see everything from his perspective.

The first camera shot is a close up in captain miller looking very confused, the colour on this shot was a little bit faded. At this minute captain miller can only hear muted sounds as so can the audience and everything around captain miller is going very slow to him. Next still focusing on captain miller there is a mid shot on another soldier trying to get his attention and finally he comes back to normal again this shows the audience that he was thinking about everything that was going off around him.

After that there is a wide shot on everything that is happening on the beach. Right at the end of this scene there is a shot of captain miller picking up his helmet from near the water, putting it on his head as bloody water washes down his face, he doesn't seem at all bothered that this happened because he knows that soldiers have been blown up and shot dead. This scene is all about captain miller and him actually realising what is going off around him.

The sound effects were very useful in this scene as when we see everything from captain millers perspective the sounds go very muted and if this didn't happen then we wouldn't really realise what was happening to him. In scene 4 it is at the end of the battle when we are shown vast numbers of dead soldiers that are lying on the beach and when the sea starts to wash them away. One of the first shots is a close up on a hurt soldier then turns to an extreme close up of a helmet but no soldier wearing it this shows the audience that soldiers are missing and most likely dead.

The next camera shot went to slow motion mode for a couple of minutes showing what was happening but a little bit slower, and then went on to tracking following the soldiers across the beach. Lots of soldiers ran into the water to try and hide from the bullets but some soldiers were unlucky and were or blown up, there is a long shot of the bloody water to show the watchers of this film how the water and the beach looked at the end of the battle, it also shows a long shot of the beach.

Lastly the camera pans slowly left then zooms in on the wording on the bag of one soldier Ryan'. The sounds in this scene are interesting as all you can mostly hear are bullets splashing in the water, soldiers shouting and screaming and a sense of hope at the end of the battle. Saving Private Ryan has many different sound effects and camerawork which make the audience want to watch the film more. In conclusion, I think that Saving Private Ryan is a good film because it is very realistic and very effective because there are soldiers getting there arm blown off and shows historical content.

It sends out a message to the audience about what D-Day is actually about. Saving Private Ryan has got a positive approach to what D-Day would have been like in the 1940's because of the violence and the bloody battle field that the soldiers would have experienced. They had good close ups of people dying and the sound effects of blood splashing everywhere for people not just to look at the film as entertainment but to realise what D-Day was actually about.