Name:
Informational Documentary Worksheet
Read the questions before you watch the documentary so you will know what to look for while you watch.
Mrs. Looney will periodically pause the documentary so you will have an opportunity to make short notes in the spaces provided.
If you take notes while the documentary is playing, make sure that your note taking doesn't interfere with carefully watching the film.
1. State the title of the documentary and the year it was released.
2. Is this documentary a primary source documentary, a reenactment, or an animation? How can you tell? What are the features of the film that help increase our ability to learn the topic?
3. If the documentary is a reenactment, is the reenactment realistic and accurate? Was there anything that you saw or heard in the film that was unconvincing or which seemed out of place? What do you think would make the film more accurate?

4. Does the film include photos, paintings, diagrams and/or maps? If so, how do these features help you to understand the topic more clearly?
5. Identify the people, places, nature, or events that are the focus of this film. Describe and clarify the significance of each.
6. List six facts described in the film that impressed you.

7. Nonfiction can enrich viewers in several important ways. Describe an aspect of the documentary that showed you something you hadn't seen before, caused you to think in a new way, or helped you understand something more thoroughly than before.
8. What particularly appealed to you in the cinematic presentation of the film, such as the way in which particular scenes, images, or sounds were presented?
9. If the filmmakers were to ask you how the film could be improved, what would you tell them? Describe the changes you would suggest in detail and the reasons for your suggestions.

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10. If someone asked you whether you would recommend this film, how would you respond? Fully explain your reasons.
11. Summary of the documentary:
12. Additional notes: