***Fahrenheit 9/11***

**FILM SYNOPSIS**

*Fahrenheit 9/11* is a documentary about the political agenda surrounding America’s decision to wage war on Iraq. The film’s central premise is that US President George W. Bush is, and has been from the start of his term, unfit for office and does not act in the interests of the American people. *Fahrenheit 9/11* presents the idea that President Bush, as a result of his political and commercial allegiance to Saudi Arabia, deflects the responsibility for the tragedy of 9/11 and uses it as a thinly veiled excuse to go to war with Iraq.

Michael Moore is an established filmmaker with many documentaries to his name. His work is thought provoking, challenging and often controversial. Moore decided to forego the opportunity to have *Fahrenheit 9/11* nominated for an award, which would have meant delaying the release date, as he wanted it to be in cinemas before the US election in November 2004.

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What are your thoughts after viewing *Fahrenheit 9/11*? Are you shocked? Outraged? Disappointed? Bored? Scared? Can you say why, exactly?
2. a) The only story with which we become involved in any depth is that of

Lila Lipscombe, whose son was killed on active duty in Iraq. Why do

you think Lila and her family have been chosen in particular?

b) We meet Lila at two separate periods of her life, before the death of her

son and after. What impression are we given of her at each time and

how is this conveyed to the audience through what we see and hear?

Comment on Michael Moore’s attitude to her during the interview he holds.

1. What is the purpose of Moore’s requests to the Congressmen to send their children to Iraq? How does this make us feel as we observe?