



## **Capturing the Lives of Ordinary People: Albert Maysles and Direct Cinema Interview Notes**

**Directions:** As you view the “NOW with Bill Moyers” interview with Albert Maysles, answer each of the questions below in as much detail as possible. Include specific examples, ideas, and information from the interview. Be prepared to share your answers in class discussion.

1. How is Maysles’ filmmaking different from typical Hollywood-produced films?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What technical changes did Maysles’ filmmaking help to pioneer?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. How does Maysles’ style allow the subjects of his films to be genuine rather than putting on a performance for the camera?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Why does Maysles choose to focus on the common man more than those who are already well known in the media?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Much of Maysles’ work has never been seen on television because it is neither news nor entertainment, yet he persists. What is his driving force?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What life lessons does Maysles attempt to provide to his viewers in this interview and in his body of work?

Include other information and observations in the space below.