GCSE Dance Knowledge Organiser – Within Her Eyes

Stimulus
Love story with a twist. Personal experiences/well known narratives.

Aural Setting
Electronic elements, strings and piano creates a haunting and emotive accompaniment.

Dance Style
Contemporary / Contact work

Choreographer
James Cousins

Costume
F – beige skirt and shirt
M – Khaki jeans and jumper
Everyday clothing

Performance Environment
Site-sensitive

Lighting
Natural light, daytime and night time

Themes
Love, loss, dependency, loyalty, longing and memory

Dancers
2
1 Male - Aaron
1 Female - Lisa

Choreographic Intention
The main intention is to convey the narrative of the two characters by translating the emotional intensity and visceral energy of the original stage show, portraying an abstract love story.

Choreographic Approach
Choreography used from stage production of 'There We Have Been'. Physical idea of the female dancer never touching the floor. Collaboration with the dancers through improvisation.

Use of Camera
Wide variety of shots including far away (secret observer), close up faces, long shots, panning, hand held camera used in the final section giving a raw and unstable feeling.

Locations
Graveyard, hilltop (vast/open), quarry, woods, long grass

Costume Contributions
Stimulus – everyday clothes portray everyday people go through love and loss.
Intention – the skirt's flowing nature is romantic but also wraps around the male at times, symbolising the romantic love story.
Mood – earthy and dull colours used in the costumes highlight the sad and depressing mood
Complements other components – earthy colours complement the earthy landscapes
Gender – female wears a skirt to highlight gender whilst the trousers signify the male's gender.
Sculpts body – jeans and jumper of the male dancer sculpt his body to clearly see lines
Highlights character – the skirt worn by the female highlights her feminine character
Historical context - clothes are modern stylised clothes.

Set Contributions
Stimulus– prologue sees the female dancer in a graveyard, emphasising loss.
Intention changing locations become progressively more intimate, highlighting the intimacy of a love story.
Mood – enclosed spaces highlight intense and passionate
Complements other components – dreary colours of the landscapes complement dull lighting and earthy colours of costumes.
Geographical context –literally set in a variety of geographical landscapes
Historical context – images in the prologue show an abandoned town and graveyard, which could be in modern day as the architecture although not modern, is still seen in towns today.
Narrative – the changing settings enhances the narrative of a relationship moving through time.

Aural Setting Contributions
Stimulus sounds create a sense of a sinister and sad story – depicting the emotions of the
Intention - use of piano and strings create a romantic feeling
Mood – haunting undertones of strings create sad and intense
Complements other components –haunting sounds of the strings and violins complement the haunting, dark lighting
Narrative – each section of the accompaniment matches the scenes of the narrative becoming darker and more twisted, sections previously heard are repeated but developed with lower notes to complement the narrative of a dark, twisted love story.
Structure – each section of the accompaniment flows seamlessly into the next highlighting the structure of the piece with a prologue and 6 sequential sections following.

Lighting Contributions
Stimulus – love story with a twist – impending darkness suggests a dark and twisted love story
Intention – intimacy and passion – growing darkness suggests growing dark feelings between the dancers
Mood – darkness suggests a deep, dark and passionate mood
Complements other components – dull lighting complements the dull colours in the setting and costumes
Time of day – Begins early evening, progressing to late evening