

Women in Animation

CS 198T Fall 2007, Hampshire College

written analysis 1

Wells defines “developmental animation” as follows:

Developmental animation operates as a mode of expression combining or selecting elements of both [orthodox and experimental animation], representing the aesthetic and philosophic tension between the two apparent extremes.

- Paul Wells (from *Understanding Animation*, page 35)

For Wednesday, you are to write a paper analyzing the film *Second Class Mail* (Alison Snowden, 1984) using Wells’s multi-faceted definition of orthodox and experimental animation (see table 2.1 on page 36). After you consider each of Wells’s “terms and conditions” (for example, configuration versus abstraction, etc.), make an argument for categorizing *Second Class Mail* as an orthodox, developmental, or experimental film.

As you craft your analysis, be sure to draw examples directly from the film. Recall that Wells promotes *formal analysis* as opposed to *contextual analysis*, so you should restrict your focus to the formal qualities of the work itself.

Be sure to touch briefly on each of Wells’s terms and conditions, but if the film necessitates you emphasizing some over others, that is perfectly appropriate. Spend more time on those areas that need the most consideration.

Approximate length: 5 pages

Be sure to hand in a hard copy that has been double-spaced and proofread carefully.

DUE Wednesday October 3rd at the beginning of class