Talking about cinematic devices

Camera shots, camera angles and camera perspectives play an important part when analysing a film scene.
Look at the following screenshots of Bye-Child. Identify the different camera shots and angles. Label them and give reasons for your decision.

Working on camera shots:

What kind of camera shot is it?

What does it show?

What does it express?

What kind of camera shot is it?

What does it show?

What does it express?
**Worksheet VI – Talking about cinematic devices**

**What kind of camera shot is it?**

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**What does it show?**

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**What does it express?**

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**What kind of camera shot is it?**

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**What does it show?**

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**What does it express?**

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**What kind of camera shot is it?**

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**What does it show?**

____________________________________

**What does it express?**

____________________________________
**Worksheet VI – Talking about cinematic devices**

**Working on camera angles:**

What kind of camera angle is it?  
__________________________________________________________

What does it show?  
__________________________________________________________

What does it express?  
__________________________________________________________

What kind of camera angle is it?  
__________________________________________________________

What does it show?  
__________________________________________________________

What does it express?  
__________________________________________________________

What kind of camera angle is it?  
__________________________________________________________

What does it show?  
__________________________________________________________

What does it express?  
__________________________________________________________
One of the main camera perspectives that is used throughout the film is the **point-of-view-shot**. Look at the screenshots and find out from whose point-of-view the scene is shown.

**Who is watching?**

____________________________________

**What does it show?**

____________________________________

**What does it express?**

____________________________________

**Who is watching?**

____________________________________

**What does it show?**

____________________________________

**What does it express?**

____________________________________

**Who is watching?**

____________________________________

**What does it show?**

____________________________________

**What does it express?**

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**Bye-Child**

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**Filming a scene: What cinematic devices are important?**

**Camera shots:**

- **Extreme long shot (Panorama)** = a view is shown from a considerable distance, e.g. a skyline of a city

- **Medium long shot (Totale)** = the characters and the surroundings are shown from a distance and in their entirety

- **Full shot (Halbtotale)** = The entire body of a character is seen and not much else

- **Medium shot (Nahaufnahme)** = A character is shown from the upper half of his/her body

- **Close shot or close-up (Großaufnahme)** = you can see a person’s face, shoulders and part of his/her arms

- **Extreme close-up (Detail)** = parts of the face (or object) are shown

**Camera angles:**

- **A high-angle-shot (Vogelperspektive)** = shows characters and objects from above, a bird’s point of view (it usually makes the viewer feel more powerful than the character)

- **A low-angle-shot (Froschperspektive)** = shows characters and objects from below (it usually stresses the importance of the character)

- **An eye-level-shot (Normalsicht, Augenhöhe)** = shows a character or an object from the level of a person’s eyes (often used to express objectivity)

**Other terms:**

- **Panning** = camera moves from left to right or vice versa

- **Point-of-view shot** = we look at something through the eyes of the character