



Lesson Plans

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NewsBrands
Ireland

An Initiative from NewsBrands Ireland.



Photojournalism

Pages:

24 25 26 27



40-80 mins



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Analysing the
composition of a
photograph. PDF
to print/
photocopy

Material to be used

Read pages 24 to 27 in the workbook.

Photojournalism Tutorial:

Give the students time to look at the photographs on pages 24 to 27.

Using the following **prompts** (see **handout**) they can analyse a photograph of their choice:

1. Identify the main subject in the photograph.
2. Is the entire focus of the photograph on that subject?
3. Are certain things in sharp focus while others are less so?
4. What's in the background or the foreground of the photograph?
5. Are there areas of light or shade?
6. Do the colours on the photo contrast or complement each other in your opinion?
7. Could you describe the mood or atmosphere of the photo?
8. If the subject of the photo is human are their facial expressions, postures, gestures or their activity of significance and if so why?
9. Jot down your emotional response to this photo i.e. were you amused, shocked, bored, appalled, entertained etc.?
10. What do you think might have been the photographer's intention when taking this photo?
11. After the students have completed their analysis individually, they could be paired or put in groups to share this or they could feed back to the class group straight away.

Optional: Depending on class interest, you could now set an assignment for them to apply some of what they have learned by taking a photograph (see page Y in the workbook for tips). These can be brought back to the group for discussion or entry to the competition.



Analysing the composition of a photograph:

Choose one of the photographs from the Photojournalism section of the Press Pass workbook and move through the following questions. Not all of them will be relevant to the photograph you have chosen. Focus your answers on the ones which are.

1. What do you think is the main subject in the photograph?

2. Is the entire focus of the photograph on that subject? Is there anything else in the shot?

3. Are certain things in focus (sharp and clear) while others are less so (blurred or in soft focus?) Note these here. What's in the background or the foreground of the photograph?

4. Are there areas of light or shade? What is the effect of these?



5. Do the colours in the photo contrast with or complement each other in your opinion?

6. Could you describe the mood or atmosphere of the photo?

7. If the subject of the photo is human are their facial expressions, postures, gestures or their activities of significance and if so why?

8. Jot down your emotional response to this photo i.e. were you amused, shocked, bored, appalled, entertained etc.? Can you explain why?

9. What do you think might have been the photographer's intention when taking this photo?

Photojournalism



Keelin Molloy, Veronica Hanrahan, Kissandra O' Shea pictured 2018 Press Pass Awards. Photo by Andres Poveda,

Learn from last year's winner

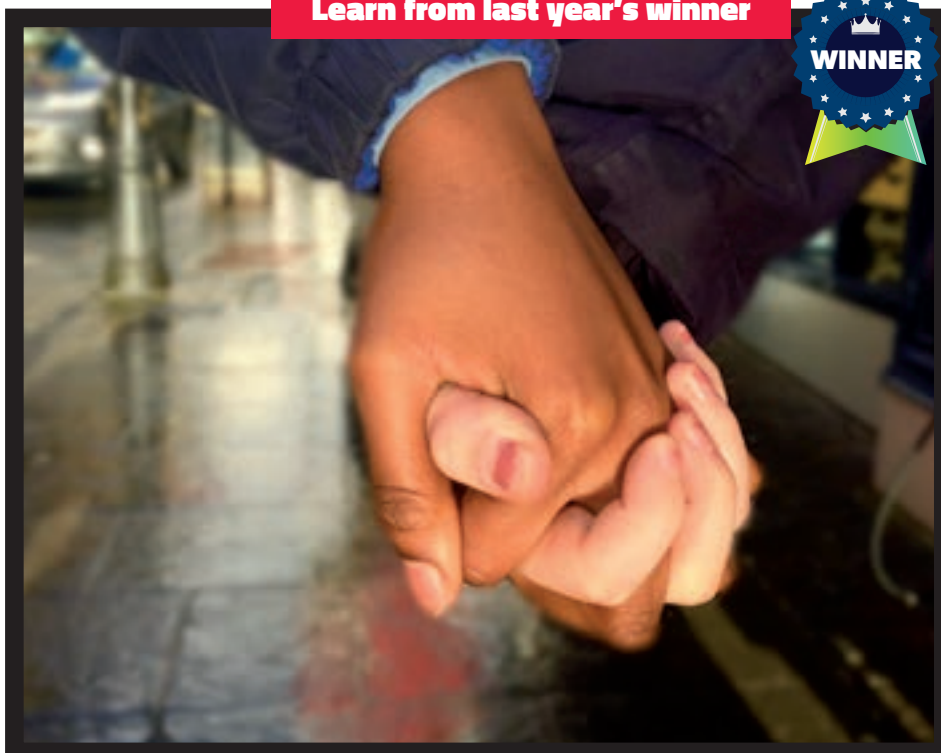


Photo by Veronica Hanrahan, Colaiste Mhuire, Ennis

STRIKE A POSE

An unfolding event, a portrait of modern Ireland, human emotion, a stunning landscape, a study of wildlife, children jumping on a trampoline, someone catching a fish — it really is a personal opinion as to what makes a good photograph.

More often than not it is simply a case of being in the right place at the right time — with a camera in hand, of course. Nowadays using a camera is much more simplified. With the automated features in pocket cameras and on phones, it really is a case of point and shoot.

Photographs communicate information in a powerful way and the key to analysing or reading the information a photograph communicates is simple. We use specific questions to decode, evaluate, and respond to photographic images.

When looking at a photograph we need to consider not only the content of the photograph but the intent of the photographer. It is important to think consciously and critically and to pay attention to all aspects of the image.



Photo: HAND MAID IN DUBLIN by Laura Hutton

SCRUM TIME by Dan Sheridan



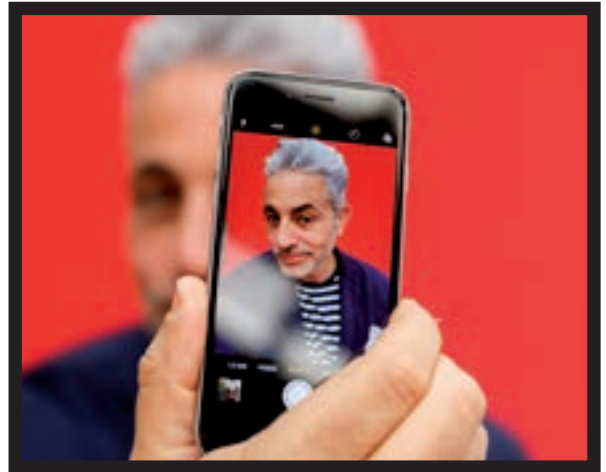
LIGHTHOUSE LEAP by Dara Mac Dónaill

Tips to taking a better picture



- Move in closer - fill the frame for a better shot.
- Be quick, and always be ready to take your shot as things change in front of you.
- Photograph the same subject from different angles and distances to get the best effect.
- Where is the light coming from? See how it affects your picture and think about how you can make the most of the light you have.
- Emphasise your main subject and avoid any unnecessary distractions.
- You have a maximum file size of 3MB for entries - you might also consider having a minimum size of 1 MB to make sure your photo is big enough.

HOLDING THE PARTY LINE by Gerry Mooney



'Bragger' by Andres Poveda



Murmuration Cloud by Cyril Byrne



STRONG RIGHT
by Stephen McCarthy



TAKE AWAY LUNCH IN THE GREEN
by Cyril Byrne