

Name _____

ON ASSIGNMENT STUDY GUIDE — LIGHT

I. The Nature of Light

- A. How does a visual artist look at light?
- B. How should photographers think of light?

II. Direction

- A. The only natural principal light source is the _____. Therefore, how do people expect to see light always, whether day or night?
- B. Light travels in _____ lines.
- C. The angle of incident equals the angle of reflection. What does that mean?
- D. What is ambient light?
- E. By what three aspects does direct light define the objects we see?

III. Form

- A. Definitions:
 - 1. Hard light: What do shadows look like on bright days?
 - 2. Soft light: What do shadows look like on overcast days?

- B. What things does hard light produce in a photograph?
- C. What things does soft light produce?
- D. Why is medium source light the best choice for photography?

IV. Contrast

- A. What can increased contrast add to a picture? Decreased contrast?
- B. How do you measure contrast?
- C. Explain light contrast (range of brightness)
- D. Explain subject contrast (local or tonal contrast)
- E. How would you use an incident light meter to measure contrast?
- F. Light ratios — Fill in the ratio blanks and explain the visual effect of each light ratio. The first one has been done for you.

<u>Ratio</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Effect/Notes</u>
1:1	No difference	No highlights or shadows
____:1	1 stop difference	
____:1	2 stop difference	
____:1	3 stop difference	
____:1	4 stop difference	

V. Color

- A. To manipulate color you must know what three things?
- B. Why does the color of sunlight change throughout the day?
- C. What is “white light”?
- D. If you are using daylight film in a fluorescent setting, what type of filter should you put over your lens? Why?
- E. What are the primary colors of light?
- G. What are the complementary colors? Which complementary color corresponds to which primary color? Draw the color wheel if you want.