

Composition Scavenger Hunt I

Divide your self into groups of two. You will need to give me a minimum of 8 shots (this gives you three tries at each one) from the list below at or before the end of the period today. The purpose of this assignment is to let you experience a deadline and give you an opportunity to work with others under exasperating conditions.

Categories: level angle	high angle	low angle
vertical sidelight	horizontal	silhouette
direct light rule of thirds	diffused light	back light
repetition tight crop	framing	peak action
selective focus motion	texture	emotion
diffused light		

Each photo will be graded on:

Theme-does it fit the assigned topic
contrast-good color, not too gray or yellow
composition-the arrangement of objects in the frame
focus-the sharpness of the photo

Photo Tips

1. Plan before you take a picture. First ask yourself, "Why am I taking this picture?"
"Why this subject?"
"What is the person like?"
"What does this place mean to me?"
"What makes this scene so beautiful?"
2. Avoid posed photos—always try to find a candid shot. Try to help subjects feel relaxed and look natural, not stiffly posed nor staring directly into the camera. Show willingness to take time and make the picture right.
3. "Create a 3rd dimension by placing something in the picture foreground."
4. Get close to your subject. Fill the frame. If you don't have a telephoto or zoom lens, move closer.

5. Always keep the photograph simple. The less the photo the less to criticize.
6. "Lines are everywhere . . . to see to us and to enjoy."
7. " Pay close attention to the colors, shapes, patterns, and texture of the things around you they will give rhythm and harmony to your photos."
8. " To avoid blurry pictures, hold the camera firmly with both hands and keep your arm tucked in close to your body."
9. Just remember the one golden rule of photography: take your camera with you wherever you go and be on the lookout. Your camera should become an appendage. If you don't have it with you all the time, you will miss the best shots. The best pictures are spontaneous.
10. Limit yourself to one or two colors for a dramatic effect.
11. Use both vertical and horizontal shots.
12. You'll get better results if you limit yourself to one point of interest.
13. Make sure that you take more than one picture of your subject; you may waste a bit of film, but you'll increase your chances of success.
14. Make sure that your film is advanced properly: if the rewind lever turns by itself every time you wind the film, your film is being wound correctly on the take-up reel.
15. Limit the number of people in your photograph.
16. "Be patient, wait for the right moment, and be quick!" Pay attention to timing. Good photos seem to catch their subjects at a defining second that makes the shot say more. Be patient, be prepared, and wait for a good shot.
17. Don't take pictures of the same people. Do not take pictures of only your friends and classmates. Don't be afraid to approach people you do not know.
18. Improve a photo's composition by moving yourself and your camera to try varying angles, as well as by rearranging your subject. Don't stay in one place—move around.
19. Concentrate on a center of interest. Don't take pictures of large groups or wide landscapes — close in on one to three people per frame. Ask people to move out of the frame if they are creating clutter.
20. Do not take pictures of people's backs or partially blocked people. People are identifiable by their faces, not the backs of their heads.