

Focused Words Assignment

What: (Objective) Create photos showing shallow depth of field, composition, creativity. Student choice/voice in creativity and personal expression.

Why: To show mastery of camera functions by demonstrating control of aperture and shutter speed to achieve shallow depth of field. Also to show pre-planning, composition, and creativity.

How: Step 1: Think. Create a Google Document answering the following questions:

1. What issue in society is the most upsetting to you?
2. What is the hardest part of being a teenager or being in high school?
3. What experiences make you happiest?
4. In what way can you positively impact your future or your community?

Condense your answers into a maximum of 6-word statements to fit written on your hand or a small (4x5 inches maximum) paper that you hold.

Step 2: Collaborate. Find a partner to work with – you will photograph each other, each person displaying their own answers to the questions. List your partners's name on your Google Doc.

Step 3: Pre-Production. Brainstorm to plan your photos before you pick up the camera. Who are you going to photograph, where are you going to photograph them, what lighting will you use, what clothing will they wear, how will you pose them and what expressions will you direct them to show? Remember the composition tips for better photos learned in previous assignment. Consider the direction your subject looks – straight at the camera, up, down, or to the side; what do those differences convey? Choose a background that supports the subject and/or helps tell the subject's story. This planning is called pre-production, and is an essential aspect of efficiently completing job requirements. Add your pre-production notes to your Google Doc.

Step 4: Create. One photo for each question. Use a combination of portraiture, text and selective focus with shallow depth of field. Person's face should show, but be out of focus, as in example photos. If you stand too far away the person will be more in focus. Focus should be on the words and their hand or paper should look larger in the photo. Match their facial expression to the message. Write the text in black sharpie pen on subject's hand or on a small paper. Text should not be just one word. Paper should be held by subject. Post completed photos to Google Classroom.

