

Sports Photojournalism lessons

Lesson 1:

Discussion: Which photo do you like best? Explain your answer.

*These photos are from the same race, the semifinal of the 100m at the 2016 Rio Olympics, from two different perspectives. I found both of these on the web very easily and inserted them into a Google Slide to share with the students. I also used this question to start our unit on shutter speed. It's a good primer on the differences between stop action and blurred motion. Photo A is a pretty famous photo and there are some hilarious memes that were created with it if you want to share those with your students.

A



B



Listen to the NPR interview with the photographer of photo A. Great perspective on shooting at the Olympics and also a superstar like Usain Bolt.

<https://www.npr.org/sections/thetorch/2016/08/15/490091457/how-an-olympics-photographer-captured-usain-bolt-s-cheeky-grin>

Lesson 2:

Watch this documentary about shooting the 2016 Rio Olympics. It's centered around Usain Bolt's race (above) and is packed with great interviews of the photographers and photo editors and interesting info on technical parts of the job including editing, transmitting photos to the world and equipment.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4gSptkAs8qk>

After watching the video, I had my students answer these questions in a Canvas assignment:

1. What are THREE things you learned about the technology/equipment used to take and send these photos all over the world?
2. What are THREE things you learned about how these photographers do their jobs at the Olympics?
3. One photographer said his goal was to be a "photographic gold medalist." Discuss THREE ways you think a photographer could win "a gold medal" (be the best) in sports photography at the Olympics.
4. A quote from the video says, "there's never been a great moment without a great picture." What do you think that means?

Lesson 3:

Watch this video about shooting the national championship football game. It follows three Sports Illustrated photographers as they shoot the game. It also offers info on editing, transmitting photos and competition for the cover.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZHrtmPAONbc>

After watching the video, I had the student answer these questions in a Canvas assignment:

1. What are TWO challenges to sports photojournalism?
2. What are TWO cool things or perks to the job?
3. What were TWO things that surprised you about the career of sports photojournalism?